

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.70
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
administer funding for public)
safety answering points for) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING
the implementation and)
provision of Enhanced Wireless)
911 service: EDS 911)
) Entered: May 14, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

EDS 911 operates a Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") that provides 911 service for the 308 area code section of Franklin County, including the communities of Hildreth, Franklin, Naponee and Bloomington.

On December 18, 2018, the Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued Orders approving the use of set-aside funds by EDS 911 for the purchase of call handling equipment¹ and Geographical Information Systems ("GIS") data development, software, and equipment², to enable EDS 911 to join the regional network of PSAPs known as the South Central Region.

On or about April 1, 2019, the EDS 911 submitted additional funding requests to purchase management information systems software and an additional internet protocol ("IP") telephone with automatic location information ("ALI") capability to serve a second telecommunicator position. As with the prior funding requests, these purchases will enable EDS 911 to join the South Central Region. The total cost supported by documentation, including the first year of any multi-year license, maintenance, support or service agreement, is \$6,590.26.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the combined request at its April 17, 2019 meeting and recommended that the requested funding be approved.

¹ In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service: EDS 911, Application No. 911-042.70, ORDER AMENDING FUNDING (Dec. 18, 2019).

² In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service: EDS 911, Application No. 911-042.70, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (Dec. 18, 2019).

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

Pursuant to the 911 Service system Act³ (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").⁴ The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.⁵ The Act provides that money in the fund may be used to pay for costs that are determined by the Public Service Commission ("Commission") to be eligible for funding, including costs incurred by PSAPs for acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications equipment and services required for the provision of 911 service.⁶ The funding mechanism adopted by the Commission permits PSAPs to set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software.⁷

Furthermore, eligible costs incurred by PSAPs to join a regional PSAP network, such as equipment and software costs and the first year of multi-year license, maintenance, support or service agreements may be fully paid from monies allocated to a PSAP from the 911 Service System Fund⁸, including set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.⁹ However, subsequent PSAP expenses, such as future years of such multi-year agreements, and equipment costs incurred after joining a region, remain subject to the wireless/wireline ratio.¹⁰ Any such future costs must be

³ Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

⁴ Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

⁵ See, e.g., Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-456, 86-456.01, 86-457, 86-459, 86-466, 86-904 and 86-1028.

⁶ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

⁷ *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to implement provisions of LB 1222 [2006] and to establish a permanent funding mechanism for wireless enhanced 911 service*, Application No. 911-019/PI-118, FINAL ORDER ADOPTING MODEL AND APPLICATION PROCESS (Feb. 23, 2010).

⁸ Formerly the 911 Enhanced Wireless Fund. See LB 993 [2018], § 20 (repealing Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86 463).

⁹ *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service: Chase County*, Application No. 911-042.50, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (October 16, 2018).

¹⁰ See, e.g., *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service: Keith County*, Application No. 911-042.25 ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (Nov. 27, 2018).

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. 911-042.70

Page 3

paid from a PSAP's annually allocated funds or other sources, rather than set-aside funds.¹¹

Based upon the request for funding, supporting documentation, and in consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the costs requested are eligible for funding as costs that have been incurred or will be incurred for the acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications service required for the provision of 911 service.¹² Moreover, all such costs will be incurred by EDS 911 to join the South Central Region and are eligible to be paid from set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funds by EDS 911 should be approved in an amount up to **\$6,590.26**.

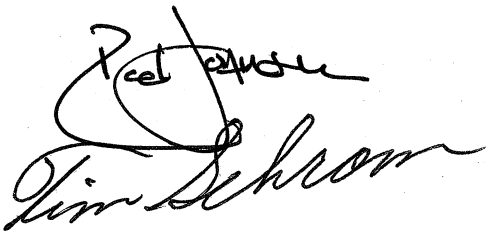
O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for EDS 911 is hereby approved in the amount of up to **\$6,590.26**.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 14th day of May, 2019.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



//s//Dan Watermeier


Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director

¹¹ In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service, Application No. 911-042, ORDER OPENING DOCKET (March 30, 2010).

¹² Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(c).