

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska ) Application No. 911-042.39  
Public Service Commission, on )  
its own motion, seeking to )  
administer funding for public ) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING  
safety answering points for the )  
implementation and provision of )  
Enhanced Wireless 911 service: )  
Cass County. ) Entered: June 4, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about April 2, 2019, the Cass County Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set aside funds for the purchase of a GeoLynx Dispatch Mapping System from GeoComm. Although Cass County is purchasing an entire suite of public safety mapping software from GeoComm, only the GeoLynx Server Dispatch Mapping system is eligible for funding from the 911 Service System Fund pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism.<sup>1</sup> According to the information provided with Cass County's funding request, the cost of the GeoLynx Dispatch Mapping System, including the first year of support and maintenance, is \$42,863.00.

Cass County is also requesting to use set-aside funds to pay \$5,000.00 to Justice Data Solutions, Inc. ("JDS") in order to interface the GeoLynx Dispatch Mapping System with Cass County's existing JDS computer aided dispatch ("CAD") system. The combined eligible cost of the GeoLynx Dispatch Mapping System and the JDS CAD interface is \$47,863.00.

The requested costs are shared costs subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The wireless/wireline ratio for Cass County for the 2018-2019 funding year is 81 percent.

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

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<sup>1</sup> See 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 (February 23, 2010).

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

Pursuant to the 911 Service system Act<sup>2</sup> (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").<sup>3</sup> The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup> PSAP costs for the purchase and maintenance of software, including GIS systems and data, are also eligible for funding.<sup>6</sup>

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.<sup>7</sup> Set-aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.<sup>8</sup> However, set-aside funds may not be used to pay future years of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements. Any such future costs must be paid from a PSAP's annually allocated funds or other sources.<sup>9</sup>

Based upon the request for funding, supporting documentation, and in consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board,

<sup>2</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

<sup>3</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g., Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-456, 86-456.01, 86-457, 86-459, 86-466, 86-904 and 86-1028.

<sup>5</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

<sup>6</sup> 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: Clay County*, Application No. 911-042.03, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (October 31, 2017).

<sup>7</sup> *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).

<sup>8</sup> 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: City of North Platte*, Application No. 911-042.18 ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (August 29, 2017).

<sup>9</sup> 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: Dundy County*, Application No. 911-042.45, ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION (Dec. 4, 2018).

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the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the costs requested are eligible for funding as costs incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of 911 service.

The amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds is \$38,769.03 when utilizing the 81 percent wireless/wireline ratio of Cass County for the 2018-2019 funding year.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Cass County should be approved in an amount up to **\$38,769.03**.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Cass County is hereby approved in an amount up to **\$38,769.03**.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Mary Fiedler*  
Chair

*Crystal Quach*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
Executive Director

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