

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska ) Application No. 911-042.29  
Public Service Commission, on )  
its own motion, seeking to )  
administer funding for public ) ORDER AMENDING FUNDING  
safety answering points for the )  
implementation and provision of )  
Enhanced Wireless 911 service: )  
City of Hastings ) Entered: June 25, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 3, 2018, the City of Hastings ("Hastings") public safety answering point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase call handling equipment, plus first year maintenance and service, from Windstream Communications in order to join the regional network of PSAPs known as the South East Region. On October 22, 2018, Hastings submitted a revised funding application slightly reducing the total amount requested from \$105,416.69 to \$105,247.37. On October 23, 2018, the Public Service Commission ("Commission") approved Hastings's revised application and entered an Order approving the use of set-aside funds in the amount requested.<sup>1</sup>

On April 2, 2019, Hastings submitted request to the Commission to revise the October 23, 2018 Funding Order, due to the need to replace more equipment than originally expected. According to the revised request, the total equipment cost will now be \$126,551.37. In addition, Hastings wishes to use set-aside funds to pay in advance for five years of maintenance and support at a cost of \$5,400 per year, which is a total amount of \$27,000. Therefore, the total amount now being requested by Hastings is \$153,551.37, an increase of \$48,304.00.

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

The Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) adopted the permanent cost model to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service under Docket No. 911-019/PI-118.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 Hastings, Application No. 911-042.29, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (Oct. 23, 2019).

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Pursuant to Order adopted by the Commission on October 16, 2018, eligible costs incurred by PSAPs to join a region may be fully paid from monies in the 911 Service System Fund, including set aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.<sup>2</sup> However, subsequent PSAP expenses, such as future years of multi-year maintenance, support, service or license agreements, and equipment costs incurred after joining a region, remain subject to the wireless/wireline ratio.<sup>3</sup>

Set aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.<sup>4</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>5</sup>

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 under NEB. REV. STAT. § 86-1025(c) as costs that have been incurred or will be incurred for the acquisition of new equipment and related maintenance costs and license fees, and/or the acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications service required for the provision of 911 service.

However, as stated above, only the first year of maintenance and support costs requested by Hastings may be paid using set-aside funds, which in this case is an amount equal to \$5,400. This amount, when combined with the revised amount of \$126,551.37 requested for the purchase of call handling equipment, results in

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<sup>2</sup> 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).

<sup>3</sup> 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 (Dec. 4, 2018).

<sup>4</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>5</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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a total amount eligible for payment from Hastings set-aside funds of \$131,951.37.

Therefore, the Commission finds that the Hastings request to use set-aside funds for the purchase of upgraded call handling equipment (including one year of support and maintenance) should be revised to reflect a total amount not to exceed **\$131,951.37**.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the funding request for the use of set-aside funds previously approved for the City of Hastings is hereby amended as set forth herein from an amount to not exceed \$105,247.37, to an amount not to exceed **\$131,951.37**, an increase of \$26,704.00.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Crystal Lucado*  
*Paula*  
*Don Williams*  
*Tim Schraw*

*Mary Ridd*

Chair

ATTEST:

*Shirley H. D.*

Executive Director