

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.48
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:)
Garden County.) Entered: August 27, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about July 16, 2019, the Garden County ("Garden County") public safety answering point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set-aside funds to purchase equipment and software, including three years of annual licensing costs, to establish an interface between the Garden County's Computer Assisted Dispatch system ("CAD") and its GeoComm Dispatch Map Software ("Dispatch Map"). According to the documentation provided, Garden County's cost to purchase the interface from GeoComm is a one-time charge of \$275.00, plus an annual licensing cost of \$1,778.00.

The above referenced costs will be incurred to permit Garden County to join the South Central Region of PSAPs. The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its July 31, 2019 meeting and recommended the request be approved.

D I S C U S S I O N

Pursuant to the 911 Service system Act¹ (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").² The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.³ 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.⁴ PSAP costs for the purchase and maintenance of software, including GIS systems and data, are also eligible for funding.

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

² Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

³ See, e.g., Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-456, 86-456.01, 86-457, 86-459, 86-466, 86-904 and 86-1028.

⁴ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

Eligible costs incurred by PSAPs to join a region, such as equipment costs and the first year of multi-year licensing, maintenance, support or service agreements, may be fully paid from monies in the 911 Service System Fund, including set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.⁵ However, future years of multi-year or licensing, maintenance, support, or service agreements remain subject to the wireless/wireline ratio and must be paid from sources other than set-aside funds, such as a PSAP's annual funding allocation.⁶

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

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 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.⁷ In addition, the requested costs will be incurred by Garden County to join the South Central Region and are eligible to be paid from set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.

Based on the information provided with Garden County's funding request, the amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds is \$2,053.00, representing \$275.00 for one-time costs plus \$1,778.00 for first year licensing costs.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Garden County should be approved in an amount up to **\$2,053.00**.

⁵ *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).*

⁶ *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: Boone County, Application No. 911-042.44, ORDER OPENING DOCKET (Jan. 8, 2019).*

⁷ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

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O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Garden County is hereby approved in the amount of up to \$2,053.00,.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 27th day of August, 2019.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Crystal Encades
Paul Anderson
Dee Williams
Tom Schran

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mary Riddle

Chair

ATTEST:

Shirley King

Deputy Director