

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.37
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
administer funding for public)
safety answering points for the) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING
implementation and provision of)
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:)
Morrill County) Entered: September 10, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about June 17, 2019, the Morrill County ("Morrill County") public safety answering point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set-aside funds to purchase new VIPER call handling equipment and connectivity from CenturyLink Business, Dispatch Map software from GeoComm and computer equipment from E-Logic. These purchases are necessary for Morrill County to join the regional network of PSAPs known as the South Central Region. The total amount of eligible costs supported by documentation provided with the June 17, 2019 funding request, including the first year of multi-year maintenance, support, service or license agreements, is \$103,505.10.

On or about July 22, 2019, Morrill County filed an additional request to use set-aside funds. The purpose of the request is to pay the cost of joining the aggregated regional Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data hub previously approved for funding in the South Central Region (the "Data Hub").¹ According to the documentation provided, Morrill County's cost to join the Data Hub is a one-time charge of \$736.00 and an annual recurring maintenance cost of \$284.00. The July 22, 2019 funding request also sought to use set-aside funds to hire GeoComm to develop a geographic information system ("GIS") site/structure address point data layer for Morrill County. These purchases are also for the purpose of joining the South Central Region. The total amount supported by documentation provided with July 22, 2019 request, including the first year of multi-year maintenance, support, service or license agreements, is \$19,153.00.²

¹ 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: Buffalo County*, Application No. 911-042.10, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (June 12, 2018).

² According to documentation provided with the funding request, the amount requested with respect to the development of GIS site/structure address point data is \$18,133, which equates to a cost of \$5.77 per point.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered both Morrill County funding requests at its July 31, 2019 meeting and recommended that the requested funding be approved.

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 the 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

On October 16, 2018, the Commission issued an Order determining that eligible costs incurred by PSAPs to join a region, such as equipment costs and the first year of multi-year maintenance, support, service or license agreements, may be fully paid from monies in the 911 Service System Fund, including set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.⁸ However, future years of multi-year maintenance, support, service or licensing agreements remain subject to the wireless/wireline ratio and must

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 *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).

be paid from sources other than set-aside funds, such as a PSAP's annual funding allocation.⁹

On December 18, 2012, the Commission issued an Order determining that the development of GIS site/structure address point data is an eligible expense which may be paid entirely with wireless funds, including set-aside funds.¹⁰

On October 17, 2017, the Commission issued an Order adopting a 911 GIS Data Policy¹¹ which provides that GIS site/structure address point data must meet the following requirements in order to be eligible for funding:

1. The Site/Structure Address Points layer is created alongside the creation or update of the related Street Centerline Layer. This will insure accuracy and save time and money.
2. Each proposal submitted by a vendor for the creation or update of the Site/Structure Address Points layer must include a detailed breakdown of the cost per address point.
3. The Site/Structure Address Points layer must comply with the NITC 3-206 Address Standard.¹²

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

⁹ 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).

¹⁰ *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: Douglas County*, Application No. 911-042.49, ORDER APPROVING REQUEST, IN PART (Dec. 18, 2012).

¹¹ *In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to investigate and review funding, standards and policies relating to Geographic Information Systems data necessary for the provision of Next Generation 911 service*, Application No. 911-061/PI-192, ORDER ADOPTING STANDARDS (Oct. 17, 2017).

¹² *Id.*, Appendix A.

of 911 service.¹³ In addition, the costs requested for the purchase and maintenance of software, including GIS data, are eligible for funding.¹⁴ Moreover, all such costs will be incurred by Morrill County to join the South Central Region and are eligible to be paid from set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.

Pursuant to the foregoing, the amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds with respect to the June 17, 2019 funding request is \$103,505.10. The amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds with respect to the July 22, 2019 funding request is \$19,153.00. Therefore, the total amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds is \$122,658.10.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funds by Morrill County should be approved in an amount up to **\$122,658.10, provided, however,** that pursuant to the GIS Policy, payment for the development of the site/structure address point layer shall not be made to the vendor until written confirmation by the Commission's GIS Specialist that the GIS site/structure address point data delivered by the vendor meets applicable NITC standards, including NITC 3-206 Address Standards.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Morrill County is hereby approved in the amount of up to **\$122,658.10, provided, however,** that pursuant to the GIS Policy, payment for the development of the site/structure address point layer shall not be made to the vendor until written confirmation by the Commission's GIS Specialist that the GIS site/structure address point data delivered by the vendor meets applicable NITC standards, including NITC 3-206 Address Standards.

¹³ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

¹⁴ 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).


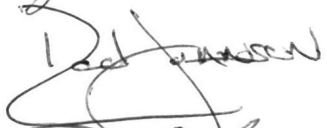

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ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 10th day
of September, 2019.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:


Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director

