

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.73
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:)
Sheridan County.) Entered: November 5, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 30, 2010, the Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission") opened the above-mentioned docket, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points ("PSAPs").¹

On or about September 12, 2019, the Sheridan County PSAP filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase computer equipment for use with its mapping systems. The eligible cost of the computer equipment is \$1,037.67. Such costs are shared costs which are subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The wireless ratio for Sheridan County for the 2019-2020 funding year is 91% wireless.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its October 21, 2019 meeting and recommended the request 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 Act² (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").³ The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.⁴ 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.⁵

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, Application No. 911-042, ORDER OPENING DOCKET (March 30, 2010).

² Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

³ Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

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

⁵ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

Application No. 911-042.73

Page 2

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.⁶ Set aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.⁷ 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.⁸

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 incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of 911 service. PSAP costs for the purchase and maintenance of software, including GIS systems and data, are eligible for funding.⁹

Based on the wireless/wireline ratio of 91% percent for Sheridan County, the amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds with respect to the computer server equipment is \$944.28.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Sheridan County should be approved in the amount of up to **\$944.28**.

⁶ 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).

⁷ 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).

⁸ 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).

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: Clay County, Application No. 911-042.03, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (October 31, 2017).

Application No. 911-042.73

Page 3

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Sheridan County is hereby approved in the amount of up to \$944.28.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 5th day of November, 2019.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Crystal Knudsen

DAVID HANSEN

Donna [unclear]

Tim Schram

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mary Reed

Chair

ATTEST:

Michelle [unclear]

Executive Director