

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska ) Application No. 911-042.65  
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: )  
Dixon County. ) Entered: January 22, 2020

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about October 7, 2019, the Dixon County Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase a GeoLynx mapping system from GeoComm and associated computer equipment from Applied Connective Technologies. The eligible cost of the GeoComm mapping system is \$36,597.00, which includes the first year of annual support and maintenance in the amount of \$4,000.00. The eligible cost of the computer equipment is \$18,097. Therefore, the total amount of eligible costs is \$54,694.00.

The costs stated above are shared costs subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The wireless ratio for Dixon County for the 2019-2020 funding year is 62 percent wireless.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its December 18, 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 Act<sup>1</sup> (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").<sup>2</sup> The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.<sup>3</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>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

<sup>2</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

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

<sup>4</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

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, including GIS systems.<sup>5</sup> Set aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.<sup>6</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>7</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 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.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Dixon County should be approved in the amount of up to 62 percent of the requested \$54,694.00, which is **\$33,910.28**.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Dixon County is hereby approved in the amount of up to **\$33,910.28**.

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<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: Furnas County*, Application No. 911-042.42, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (January 8, 2019).

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

<sup>7</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).

Application No. 911-042.65

Page 3

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 22<sup>nd</sup> day  
of January, 2020.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Cystal Lucadee*  
*Don Waters*  
*Jim Schram*

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

*Mary Riddis*  
Chair

ATTEST:

*Michelle H. Jo*  
Executive Director