

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska     ) Application No. 911-042.39  
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:     ) Entered: December 15, 2020  
Cass County

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about October 2, 2020, the Cass County Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase geographic information systems ("GIS") mapping software known as GeoComm Maps, at a cost of \$12,700.00. Cass County also requests the use of set-aside funds to pay Justice Data Solutions, Inc. ("JDS") \$5,000.00 to purchase an interface between their existing JDS computer assisted dispatch ("CAD") system and GeoComm Maps.

The \$17,700.00 combined cost of GeoComm Maps and the CAD interface is subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The Cass County ratio for the 2020-2021 funding year is 83 percent. Therefore, the maximum amount of set-aside funds that may be used for these purchases is \$14,691.00.

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Cass County's funding request at a meeting held on October 21, 2020 and recommended that 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 Public Service Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").<sup>2</sup> The Fund consists of 911 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 Commission to be eligible for funding, including costs incurred by PSAPs for acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of

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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.

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telecommunications equipment and services required for the provision of 911 service.<sup>4</sup>

PSAPs may set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software.<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. Therefore, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Cass County should be approved in an amount not to exceed **\$14,691.00**.

### O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Cass County is hereby approved in an amount up to **\$14,691.00**.

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

<sup>5</sup> *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).

<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).

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ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Rock Johnson*  
*Crystal Hender*  
*Tim Schram*  
*Dee Watson*

*Mary Kadden*  
Chair

ATTEST:

*Michael S. Hyatt*  
Executive Director