

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska     ) Application No. 911-042.50  
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  
Chase County

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").<sup>1</sup>

On or about October 6, 2020, the Chase County PSAP filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase two desktop computer workstations from Computronics Plus and two computer monitors from Amazon.com. The eligible cost of the computer equipment is \$1,645.84. Such costs are shared costs which are subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The wireless ratio for Chase County for the 2020-2021 funding year is 83 percent wireless.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its October 21, 2020 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>2</sup> (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").<sup>3</sup> The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.<sup>4</sup> The Act provides that money in the fund may be used

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<sup>1</sup> 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).

<sup>2</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

<sup>3</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

<sup>4</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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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>5</sup>

PSAPs may set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software.<sup>6</sup> Set-aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.<sup>7</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>8</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 on the wireless/wireline ratio for Chase County, 83 percent of the \$1,645.84 cost of the computer workstations and monitors may be paid for using wireless set-aside funds, which is an amount equal to \$1,366.05.

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

<sup>6</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>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: City of North Platte*, Application No. 911-042.18 ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (August 29, 2017).

<sup>8</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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## O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Chase County is hereby approved in an amount not to exceed **\$1,366.05**.

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

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director