

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.43
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: June 29, 2021
Cedar County

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about March 16, 2021, the Cedar County public safety answering point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set-aside funds to pay costs necessary to join a new regional network of PSAPs to be established in northeastern Nebraska, which will be known as the Northeast Region. The requested funds would be used to purchase new Motorola CallWorks call handling equipment, fiber connectivity from OPTIK (NebraskaLink), GIS data aggregation, edge matching and Data Hub access from GeoComm, and Cedar County's share of regional costs to support the Northeast Region host sites. The total amount of eligible non-recurring costs and first year recurring costs documented in Cedar County's funding request is \$51,192.73.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the Cedar County funding request at its March 31, 2021 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 Act¹ (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").² 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.³

PSAPs are permitted to set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

² Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

³ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

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equipment and software.⁴ Set-aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of recurring costs, such as multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.⁵ However, set-aside funds may not be used to pay future years of multi-year maintenance, service, support or licensing agreements.

PSAP expenses that are incurred in order to join a regional network of PSAPs are not subject to the wireless/wireline ratio and may be fully paid using set-aside funds.⁶

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 of 911 service.⁷ In addition, the funding requested for GIS data services are eligible for funding.⁸ Moreover, the funding requested by the Cedar County PSAP is for the purpose of joining a new PSAP Region and is eligible to be paid from set aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by the Cedar PSAP should be approved in an amount up to **\$51,192.73**.

⁴ *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).

⁵ *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).

⁶ *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: Hitchcock County*, Application No. 911-042.17 ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (May 14, 2019).

⁷ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

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

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O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Cedar County is hereby approved in the amount of up to **\$51,192.73**.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 29th day of June, 2021.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Rod Johnson
Crystal Brader
Mary Kidden
Tim Schram

Don Wooten
Chair

ATTEST:

Michael S. Hyatt
Executive Director