

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.47
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: March 29, 2022
Custer County.)

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about February 4, 2022, the Custer County Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set-aside funds to purchase Emergency Medical Dispatch software and training from the APCO Institute at a total cost of \$40,000.00.

The requested expenses are shared costs that are subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The Custer County ratio for the 2021-2022 funding year is 91 percent. In addition, the use of set-aside funds to pay for training costs is subject to an annual cap equal to five percent of the PSAP's annual funding allocation, which in the case of Custer County equates to a maximum amount of \$2,766.96 for the 2021-2022 funding year.

The training portion of the funding request is an amount equal to \$3,048.59, which after application of the wireless/wireline ratio is \$2,774.22, and above the five percent annual cap of \$2,766.96. The remaining portion of the funding request is an amount equal to \$33,687.00, which after application of the wireless/wireline ratio is \$30,655.17. Therefore, the total amount of the funding request that is eligible to be paid from set-aside funds is \$2,766.96 plus \$30,655.17, which is \$33,422.13.

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Custer County's funding request at a meeting held on February 10, 2022 and recommended that the request be approved.

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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 Public Service Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").² The Fund consists of 911 surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.³ 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 telecommunications equipment and services required for the provision of 911 service.⁴ PSAPs may set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software. Training expenses are subject to an annual cap of five percent of annual wireless funding, as stated above.⁵

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, plus allowable training expenses. Therefore, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Custer County should be approved in an amount not to exceed **\$33,422.13**.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Custer County is hereby approved in an amount up to **\$33,422.13**.

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

² Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

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

⁴ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5)(c).

⁵ *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).

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ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 29th day of March, 2022.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Rod Johnson
Crystal Swader
Mary Keddin
Tim Schram

Don Watson

Chair

ATTEST:

Thomas W. Golden
Executive Director