

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska     ) Application No. 911-042.22  
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:     )  
City of Columbus                     ) Entered: June 7, 2022

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about May 2, 2022, the City of Columbus public safety answering point ("PSAP"), which serves Platte County, filed a request seeking approval to use set-aside funds to purchase CallStation Nomad call handling equipment from Motorola Solutions for use as a mobile PSAP backup center, including one year of maintenance and support.

Such costs are shared costs subject to the wireless/wireline ratio.<sup>1</sup> The wireless/wireline ratio for the City of Columbus for the 2021-2022 funding year is 84 percent. Therefore, the maximum amount of set-aside funds that Columbus may apply to the cost of the items to be purchased is 84 percent of \$35,634.07, which is \$29,932.07.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its May 18, 2022, 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

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<sup>1</sup> Saline County is already a member of the Southeast Region; therefore, the requested costs are not being incurred to join a region and are not eligible for 100 percent via set-aside funds. 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: York County*, App. No. 911-042.56, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (Mar. 5, 2019).

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

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911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").<sup>3</sup> The Act provides that money in the fund may be used to pay 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> The Commission has determined that PSAP backup equipment meets this standard.<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 recurring costs, such as 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 above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Saline County should be approved in an amount not to exceed **\$29,932.07**.

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

<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*, App. No. 911-019/PI-118, FINAL ORDER ADOPTING MODEL AND APPLICATION PROCESS (Feb. 23, 2010).

<sup>6</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: Lincoln Emergency Communications Center*, App. No. 911-042.33, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (Dec. 15, 2015).

<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 Saline County is hereby approved in an amount up to **\$29,932.07**.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Rob Johnson*  
*Crystal Broadus*  
*Mary Kadden*  
*Tim Schram*

*Don Wooten*  
Chair

ATTEST:

*Thomas W. Golden*  
Executive Director