

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska       ) Application No. 911-042.28  
Public Service Commission, on       )  
its own motion, seeking to       )  
administer funding for public       )  
safety answering points for the    ) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING  
implementation and provision of    )  
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:    )  
Seward County.                       ) Entered: June 7, 2022

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about May 2, 2022, the Seward County Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase Intellicomm Emergency Medical Dispatch ("EMD") software and guidecards from APCO, along with integration of EMD with Seward County's computer assisted dispatch ("CAD") system from CentralSquare, at a total cost of \$55,027.65.

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Seward County's funding request at a meeting held on May 18, 2022 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 telecommunications equipment and services required for the provision of 911 service.<sup>4</sup>

The Seward County PSAP has not yet connected to the next generation 911 emergency services IP network or core services, and

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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.

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

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therefore operates under the legacy funding system.<sup>5</sup> Legacy PSAPs may set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software, if approved by the Commission. The purchases requested by Seward County are shared costs and subject to the county's wireless/wireline ratio for the current funding year, which is 81 percent.

Seward County's cost for the Intellicomm EMD system is \$48,792.44, which includes \$4,000.00 for first year maintenance and specialized training at a cost of \$4,858.00. 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.<sup>6</sup> In the case of Seward County, this equates to a maximum amount of \$3,252.68 for the 2021-2022 funding year, therefore the annual cap in training expenses results in a \$1,605.32 reduction of the amount of set-aside funds available to pay for training. After accounting for this reduction, the total allowable cost for the Intellicomm EMD system is \$47,187.12.

The CAD portion of the project is being shared equally among the PSAPs in Seward County, Saline County and York County. Seward County's share of the \$18,400.36 total cost of the CAD upgrades is \$6,133.45, plus \$725.12 for first year maintenance. Therefore, Seward County's allowable cost for the project is the sum of \$47,187.12, plus \$6,133.45, plus \$725.12, which is \$54,045.69.

After applying the wireless/wireline ratio of 81 percent to Seward County's total allowable cost of \$54,045.69 the amount eligible to be paid out of set-aside funds is \$43,777.01.

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

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<sup>5</sup> *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to consider recommendations of the Service System Advisory Committee for creation of a new funding system for Next Generation 911*, App. No. 911-073/PI-232, ORDER ADOPTING NEXT GENERATION 911 FUNDING MODEL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (Dec. 7, 2021).

<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), at 7.

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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 Seward County should be approved in an amount not to exceed **\$43,777.01**.

### O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the use of set-aside funds by Seward County is hereby approved in an amount up to **\$43,777.01**.

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

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Rod Johnson*  
*Crystal Brader*  
*Mary Kadden*  
*Tim Schram*

*David W. Johnson*

Chair

ATTEST:

*Thomas W. Golden*  
Executive Director