

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska)	Application No. 911-042.30
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:)	
Jefferson County.)	Entered: June 28, 2022

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Jefferson County Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") has filed a request to use set aside funds to purchase an Emergency Medical Dispatch ("EMD") system from Powerphone at a total cost of \$9,259.00.

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Jefferson County's funding request at a meeting held on February 10, 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 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

The Jefferson County PSAP has not yet connected to the next generation 911 emergency services IP network or core services, and therefore operates under the legacy funding system.⁵ Legacy PSAPs may set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual

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 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).

funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software, if approved by the Commission. The purchases requested by Jefferson County are shared costs and subject to the county's wireless/wireline ratio for the current funding year, which is 77 percent.

Jefferson County's cost for the Powerphone EMD system is \$9,259.00, including first year maintenance, and also end-user instruction at a cost of \$1,600.00. 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.⁶ In the case of Jefferson County, this equates to a maximum amount of \$2,428.12 for the 2021-2022 funding year, therefore the annual cap on such expenses will not result in any reduction of the amount of set-aside funds which may be used for this funding request. Therefore, after applying Jefferson County's wireless/wireline ratio of 77 percent, the amount eligible to be paid from set-aside funds is \$7,129.43.

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 Jefferson County should be approved in an amount not to exceed **\$7,129.43**.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the use of set-aside funds by Jefferson County is hereby approved in an amount up to **\$7,129.43**.

⁶ 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.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 28th day
of June, 2022.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Cystal Keadler
Mary Kadden
Tim Schram

Don Wooten
Chair

ATTEST:

Thomas W. Golden
Executive Director