

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Harlan and                    ) Application No. 911-023.50  
Phelps Counties, Holdrege,                    )  
seeking funding approval for                ) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING IN  
recurring and non-recurring                 ) PART  
costs of Enhanced Wireless 911               )  
implementation.                                ) Entered: May 30, 2007

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 13, 2007, the Commission entered an order granting Harlan and Phelps Counties' funding request, in part. The Commission denied those portions of the funding request related to the IP phones and reporting software and any amounts in excess of the prices offered in the response to the RFP. Harlan and Phelps Counties were given fifteen (15) days to request a hearing on those portions of the funding request that were denied.

Harlan and Phelps Counties requested a hearing regarding funding for the purchase of IP phones. Hearing was held on **May 21, 2007.**

A Representative from Harlan and Phelps Counties explained that the IP phones located at the individual workstations constitute an integral part of the 911 equipment installed at each workstation to receive Phase II enhanced wireless 911 calls. Furthermore, the telephones enable 911 operators to continue to receive calls should the work station itself cease working. The IP phone to be utilized at a supervisor's desk would allow a supervisor to take additional calls; however, no 911 equipment is installed at the supervisor's desk.

O P I N I O N       A N D       F I N D I N G S

Based upon the information presented, the Commission finds that the P phones located at the 911 workstations are an integral part of the 911 equipment installed to receive Phase II wireless 911 calls.

The Commission finds that for the IP phones located at the workstations are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as they have been incurred or will be incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service. Therefore, the Commission finds that costs of the IP telephones at a total cost of **\$1,190.00** are approved and payment shall be made to

Harlan/Phelps Counties' equipment vendor consistent with the terms of their contract.

However, the additional IP telephone located at an administrative desk is more similar to requests for back-up equipment. To date, the Commission has denied requests for funding for back-up centers. Therefore, the Commission finds that funding for the third IP telephone should be denied.

Once the Commission has established a policy regarding funding for backup systems, Harlan and Phelps Counties may resubmit costs for the third IP telephone for funding consideration.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Commission that request for funding in the amount of **\$1,190.00** for two IP telephones shall be and is approved and that payment in an amount consistent with shall be made to Harlan and Phelps Counties' equipment vendor pursuant to the terms of their contract.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that funding for the IP telephone at the supervisor's desk shall be and is hereby denied.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 30th day of May, 2007.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director