

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-040/PI-152
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
coordinate federal grants) ORDER DESIGNATING PROJECTS
through the Ensuring Needed Help) FOR FEDERAL GRANT APPLICATION
Arrives Near Callers Employing)
911 Act of 2004 (ENHANCE 911)
Act).) Entered: July 28, 2009

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On or about July 7, 2009, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) hereby opened the above-captioned docket, on its own motion, to coordinate federal grants through the Ensuring Needed Help Arrives Near Callers Employing 911 Act of 2004 (ENHANCE 911 Act).

The ENHANCE 911 Act requires that States designate an E-911 Coordinator:

If the State has established by law or regulation an office or coordinator with the authority to manage E-911 services, that office or coordinator must be identified as the designated E-911 Coordinator and apply for the grant on behalf of the State. If the State does not have such an office or coordinator established, the Governor of the State must appoint a single officer or governmental body to serve as the E-911 Coordinator in order to qualify for an E-911 grant.

47 CFR 400.4(a)(4). The designated E-911 Coordinator would be responsible for implementing E-911 services, signing certifications, and submitting ENHANCE 911 Grant Program applications.

The Commission is designated by statute to "apply for or assist any political subdivision in applying for any federal or other funds available for 911 service or E-911 service and may distribute federal funds consistent with federal law..." Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-441.01. Pursuant to this authority, on June 23, 2009, Governor Dave Heineman designated the Commission as the E-911 Coordinator for purposes of the ENHANCE 911 Act.

The Commission sought input from the Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board (Advisory Board) regarding possible projects for which the Commission could seek funding. At its July 13, 2009

meeting, the Advisory Board recommended that the Commission seek funding for equipment and software installations necessary to move four remaining rural PSAPs to Phase II wireless 911 service located in Morrill County, Pierce County, Region 24, and Garden County.

Additionally, the Commission sought input from several individual PSAPs, the Nebraska Association of County Officials, the League of Municipalities, and the state Department of Communications.

Based upon the input received, the Commission finds that it should seek funding under the ENHANCE 911 Act grant program for the purchase and installation of equipment and software necessary for the provision of Phase II 911 service for PSAPs located in Morrill County, Pierce County, Region 24, and Garden County. Additionally, to the extent funds are available, the Commission finds that it should also pursue funding for the completion of intertandem trunking between Grand Island and Scottsbluff. Matching funds will be provided through the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that it shall seek funding under the ENHANCE 911 Act grant program for the purchase and installation of equipment and software necessary for the provision of Phase II 911 service for PSAPs located in Morrill County, Pierce County, Region 24, and Garden County. Additionally, to the extent funds are available, it shall also pursue funding for the completion of intertandem trunking between Grand Island and Scottsbluff.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that matching funds will be provided through the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 28th day of July, 2009.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director