

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.55
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:)
Howard County) Entered: January 8, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about October 17, 2018, the Howard County ("Howard County") Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) filed a request with the Public Service Commission ("Commission") to use enhanced wireless 911 set-aside funds to pay for Howard County's cost of joining the aggregated regional Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data hub previously approved for funding in the South Central Region (the "Data Hub"),¹ plus three years of annual maintenance and quality control/quality assurance services. According to the documentation provided, Howard County's cost to join the Data Hub is a one-time charge of \$736.00 and an annual recurring maintenance cost of \$475.00. These costs will be incurred to allow Howard County to join the South Central Region.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered this request at its October 29, 2018 meeting and recommended that the requested funding be approved.

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

The Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission") adopted the permanent cost model to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service under Docket No. 911-019/PI-118.²

Pursuant to Order adopted by the Commission on October 16, 2018, eligible costs incurred by PSAPs to join a region, such as

¹ 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: Buffalo County*, Application No. 911-042.10, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (June 12, 2018).

² *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 (February 23, 2010).

equipment costs and the first year of multi-year maintenance, support, service or license agreements, may be fully paid from monies in the 911 Service System Fund, including set aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.³ However, subsequent PSAP expenses, such as future years of multi-year maintenance, support, service or license agreements, and equipment costs incurred after joining a region, remain subject to the wireless/wireline ratio.⁴

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 that have been incurred or will be incurred for the acquisition of new equipment and related maintenance costs and license fees, and/or the acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications service required for the provision of 911 service.⁵ In addition, the costs requested for the purchase and maintenance of software, including GIS data, are eligible for funding.⁶ Moreover, all such costs requested are to be incurred by Howard County to join the South Central Region and are eligible to be paid from set aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.

Pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism, PSAPs are permitted to set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for the future purchase of equipment and software.⁷ Set aside funds may also be used to pay the first year of multi-year maintenance or support agreements.⁸ However, set aside

³ 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: Chase County, Application No. 911-042.50, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (October 16, 2018).

⁴ 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: Chase County, Application No. 911-042.50 (Dec. 4, 2018).

⁵ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(c).

⁶ 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: Clay County, Application No. 911-042.03, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (October 31, 2017).

⁷ Id.

⁸ 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).

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funds may not be used to pay future years of multi-year maintenance or support agreements. Any such future costs must be paid from a PSAP's annually allocated funds or other sources.⁹

Pursuant to the foregoing, the amount eligible for funding using set-aside funds with respect to the Data Hub is \$736.00 for one-time costs and \$475.00 for the first year of recurring maintenance, support, service or licensing costs. Therefore, the total amount eligible for funding hereunder using set-aside funds is \$1,211.00.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that use of set-aside funding by Howard County should be approved as set forth herein in an amount up to **\$1,211.00**.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding for Howard County is hereby approved in the amount of up to **\$1,211.00**

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 8th day of January, 2019.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Crystal Knader
Tim Schram

Mary Riddis
Chair

ATTEST:

Michelle H.
Executive Director

⁹ 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, Application No. 911-042, ORDER OPENING DOCKET (March 30, 2010).