

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) ORDER APPROVING USE OF
safety answering points for the) FUNDING
implementation and provision of)
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:)
Howard County.) Entered: May 5, 2015

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about April 14, 2015, Howard County filed a request seeking retroactive approval of its use of enhanced wireless 911 set aside funds toward the replacement of existing Phase II 911 equipment at a cost of \$68,120.25.

The costs sought are shared costs subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. Howard County has a wireless ratio for the 2014-2015 funding year of 79% wireless.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its April 20, 2015 meeting and recommended the request 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.

On November 12, 2014, Howard County paid an invoice in the amount of \$67,656.83 to upgrade existing equipment. Wireless funds were used to pay \$51,062.30, an amount determined to be less than the amount that would have been eligible to be paid under their current wireless ratio. Howard County also paid \$16,124.94 using landline 911 funds.

Howard County submitted all the required documentation to support their funding request; however, Howard County stated that it did not realize that counties were to seek approval from the Commission for the use of its set aside funds prior to making any potentially eligible purchase until representatives attended the March 2, 2015 eligible funding workshop conducted by the Commission.

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Based upon the request, 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 under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as costs have been incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service.

The Commission finds that Howard County's request for retroactive approval of the use of set aside funds for the purchase of equipment and software should be approved. In the future, Howard County should ensure that any funding requests be submitted to the Commission for consideration and approval prior to any expenditure of set aside funds.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the funding request for Howard County is hereby approved in the amount of \$51,062.30.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 5th day of May, 2015.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Tim Schram

Crystal Knodes

Dee Johnson

Gerald L. Vap
Chairman

ATTEST:

Steve Meradith
Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Gerald L. Vap