

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 ADVANCE OF
safety answering points for the) FUNDING
implementation and provision of)
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:)
Howard County.) Entered: February 28, 2012

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about January 20, 2012, Howard County filed a request for funding for 911 equipment and software at a cost of **\$35,949.64**. Howard County currently does not have sufficient funds accumulated to pay for the purchase and asks that the Commission pay the costs based upon the PSAPs' filed wireless call volumes and deduct an appropriate amount from future allocations.

Therefore, Howard County is requesting funding in the amount of **\$28,040.72**, representing 78% of the total costs based upon wireless call volumes.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its April 9, 2012 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. Pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism, Howard County is receiving a monthly payment in the amount of **\$1,655.23**.

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 a portion of the costs requested are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as costs 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.

Pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism, PSAPs are permitted to retain up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the amount allocated to that PSAP for the future purchase of equipment and software. However, PSAPs are not required to wait to apply for funding for these items until they have saved sufficient funds from their monthly allocation to cover the cost. To the extent that there is an insufficient balance in the PSAP's equipment and software fund, after an accounting is received of the funds the PSAP has available, the Commission will pay the appropriate percentage of the cost of the equipment and software and a deduction will be made from the future annual allocation to the PSAP until the expense is reimbursed to the Fund. This option is available only once to each PSAP.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that the funding request for Howard County should be approved in the amount of **\$28,040.72**. Consistent with the allocation determined in Docket 911-019/PI-118, a deduction in the amount of **\$467.35** shall be made from Howard County's monthly allocation over a sixty-month period commencing once payment has been made from the fund.

The sixty-month deduction period allows Howard County to continue saving funds from their monthly allocation to cover any future purchases of equipment and software and still reimburse the Fund. This reimbursement period should not be viewed as a standard repayment period for all funding requests for a PSAP's equipment and software. The Commission will determine the appropriate length of time for Fund repayment on a case-by-case basis based upon the amount requested, the PSAP's monthly allocation and other relevant factors.

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 part, as set forth herein in the amount of **\$28,040.72**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a deduction in the amount of **\$467.35** shall be made from Howard County's monthly allocation over a sixty-month period, commencing once payment has been made.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 1st day of May, 2012.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director