

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.70
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
administer funding for public) ORDER AMENDING FUNDING
safety answering points for the)
implementation and provision of)
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:)
EDS 911.) Entered: December 18, 2018

BY THE COMMISSION:

EDS 911 provides 911 service for the 308 area code section of Franklin County, including the communities of Hildreth, Franklin, Naponee and Bloomington. On or about October 23, 2017, the EDS 911 Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") filed a request seeking approval to use set-aside funds toward the purchase of VIPER call handling equipment from CenturyLink Business, which would enable EDS 911 to join the regional network of PSAPs known as the South Central Region at a purchase price of \$79,112.42.

On January 17, 2018, the Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued an Order approving the use of set-aside funds in an amount not to exceed \$46,676.33, reflecting the 59% wireless/wireline ratio applicable to EDS 911 for the 2017-2018 funding year.¹ Although the Order approving such funding was issued over eleven months ago, unforeseen delays and modifications have prevented EDS 911 from completing the equipment purchase described above.

On or about October 15, 2018, EDS 911 filed a new request for the purchase of VIPER call handling equipment with revised features and specifications from CenturyLink Business, including one year of maintenance and support, at a purchase price of \$73,897.27. The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its October 29, 2018 meeting and recommended the request be approved.

On October 16, 2018, the Commission issued an Order determining that eligible costs incurred by PSAPs to join a region, such as equipment and software costs and the first year of multi-

¹ 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: EDS 911, Application No. 911-042.70, ORDER APPROVING FUNDING (January 17, 2018).

year maintenance, support or service agreements (collectively, "Regionalization Costs") may be fully paid from monies allocated to a PSAP from the 911 Service System Fund², including set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.³

OPINION AND FINDINGS

Pursuant to the 911 Service system Act⁴ (the "Act"), the Commission is responsible for allocating funding to PSAPs from the 911 Service System Fund (the "Fund").⁵ The Fund consists primarily of surcharges collected by wireless carriers from wireless service customers.⁶ The Act provides that money in the fund may be used to pay for costs that the Public Service Commission ("Commission") determines are eligible for funding, including costs incurred by PSAPs for acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications equipment and services required for the provision of 911 service.⁷

The funding mechanism adopted by the Commission permits PSAPs to set aside up to seventy-five percent (75%) of their annual funding allocation for future purchases of equipment and software.⁸ Typically, the funding mechanism has employed a feature called the wireless/wireline ratio to allocate PSAP costs between funds provided by wireless telephone surcharges and funds provided by local wireline telephone surcharges. However, as stated above, Regionalization Costs may be paid entirely from monies allocated to a PSAP from the 911 Service System Fund⁹, including set-aside funds, without applying the wireless/wireline ratio.

² Formerly the 911 Enhanced Wireless Fund. See LB 993 [2018], § 20 (repealing Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86 463).

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 Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1001 to 86-1029.03.

⁵ Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1025(5).

⁶ See, e.g., Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-456, 86-456.01, 86-457, 86-459, 86-466, 86-904 and 86-1028.

⁷ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1025(5) (c).

⁸ *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* (Feb. 23, 2010).

⁹ Formerly the 911 Enhanced Wireless Fund. See LB 993 [2018], § 20 (repealing Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86 463).

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. 911-042.70

Page 3



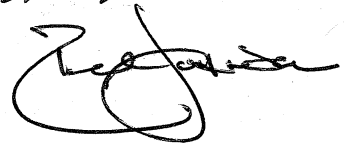
Based upon the above, the Commission finds the January 17, 2017 Order granting the request of EDS 911 to use set-aside funds should be revised to an amount not to exceed \$73,897.27, as provided in the funding request submitted to the Commission on or about October 15, 2018.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the funding request for the use of set-aside funds previously approved for EDS 911 is hereby amended as set forth herein from an amount to not exceed \$46,676.33, to an amount not to exceed **\$73,897.27**, an increase of \$22,220.94.


ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 18th day of December, 2018.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Mary Ridder

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director