

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Application No. 911-052/
on its own motion, seeking to) PI-178
investigate and establish)
policies for the advance of) ORDER ADOPTING POLICY
Enhanced Wireless 911 Funds to)
PSAPs for purchases of equipment)
and software.) Entered: August 2, 2011

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Nebraska Public Service Commission opened the present docket on its own motion, seeking to investigate and establish policies for the advance of Enhanced Wireless 911 Funds to public safety answering points (PSAPs) for purchases of equipment and software.

In adopting the permanent funding mechanism, the Commission previously stated:

PSAPs are not required to wait to apply for funding until they have saved sufficient funds from their monthly allocation to cover the cost of the equipment and software. 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. At that point, the PSAP will again begin receiving its full allocation. Any funding requests representing a second request for equipment and software funding received prior to the establishment of the funding mechanism will be treated in this same manner. The amount of funding will be deducted over five (5) years in equal installments. Should the amount attributable to wireless be in excess of that PSAP's equipment and maintenance allocation over five years, the Commission will adjust the amount to be deducted.¹

The Commission released for comment a policy attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by this reference, outlining the parameters for the provision of advance funding.

¹ *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, Final Order Adopting Model and Process at 8-9 (Feb. 23, 2009).*

Comments regarding the proposed policy were filed on behalf of the Buffalo County Sheriff's office and made part of the record on this matter.

Hearing on the matter was held on July 12, 2011. Commission staff was represented by Angela Melton. Testimony was offered in support of the proposed policy by Sue Vanicek, Director of the Nebraska Telecommunications Infrastructure and Public Safety Department. The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board concurred with the proposed policy.

F I N D I N G S A N D C O N C L U S I O N S

It is the Commission's intent to insure a funding option is available for those PSAPs whose equipment or software had not been replaced or upgraded prior to the adoption of the permanent funding mechanism. Furthermore, the Commission seeks to provide guidance regarding the availability of any advance funding. Therefore, the Commission finds that the policy, attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by this reference, should be adopted as proposed.

The Commission reserves the right to provide advance funding for PSAPs on a case by case basis should the circumstances warrant deviation from the policy.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the policy, attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by this reference, should be adopted as proposed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 2nd day of August, 2011.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

APPENDIX A

911-SAM Policies for Funding Advancement

- Advanced funding shall only be used for the purchase and upgrade of equipment and software necessary for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service. Advances shall only be made for any equipment and software that is incidental and essential for receiving enhanced wireless 911 calls.
- Funds are advanced only once per PSAP/county.
- Advanced funding must be capable of being reimbursed to the Fund through deductions from the PSAPs annual allocation within five (5) years of its disbursement assuming the deductions will not exceed 75% of the PSAPs annual allocation.
- All requests for advanced funding must be accompanied by a detailed explanation of the equipment/software being purchased along with the associated costs; an affidavit stating the amount to be advanced, the amount of wireless 911 funds the PSAP has saved up to the time the request is made, a breakdown of all funds being used to purchase the equipment/software including but not limited to enhanced wireless 911 funds, landline 911 funds, and general funds, what the funds will be used for, and an acknowledgement that the advanced funds will be deducted from future allocations from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.
- All requests for advanced funding will be put before the Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board for recommendation and require a hearing before the Commission.

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FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

It is the Commission's intent to insure a funding option is available for those PSAPs whose equipment or software had not been replaced or upgraded prior to the adoption of the permanent funding mechanism. Furthermore, the Commission seeks to provide guidance regarding the availability of any advance funding. Therefore, the Commission finds that the policy, attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by this reference, should be adopted as proposed.

The Commission reserves the right to provide advance funding for PSAPs on a case by case basis should the circumstances warrant deviation from the policy.

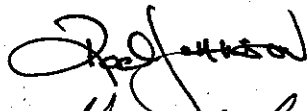

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the policy, attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by this reference, should be adopted as proposed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 2nd day of August, 2011.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Tim Schram


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director