

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Application No. 911-060.73
on its own motion, seeking to)
investigate and determine)
whether additional funds from)
the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund) ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION
should be made available to)
public safety answering points)
for costs to implement text to)
911 solutions: Sheridan County.) Entered: March 31, 2015

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 6, 2014 the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) entered an order on its own motion seeking to investigate and determine whether additional funds from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund should be made available to public safety answering points (PSAPs) for costs to implement text to 911 solutions.

On November 4, 2014 the Commission released Progression Order 3 in this docket, setting out the procedure to fund text to 911 outside the cost model for PSAPs ready to implement technology solutions on an interim basis. The staff proposal adopted set out the application process for PSAPs seeking interim funding for text to 911 solutions.

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

According to Neb. Rev. Stat. 86-465(2), costs incurred by public safety answering points for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service may be eligible for payment from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund, according to standards and criteria established by the Commission.

Pursuant to the staff proposal adopted in Progression Order 3 in this docket, the Commission may approve funding requests for text to 911 technology solutions costs such as text control center contracts, staff training, trunks necessary for additional text traffic, other costs related to the provision of text to 911 services not attributed more generally to 911 emergency response services. Progression Order 3 further specified that the Commission intended to limit approval of text to 911 related service contracts to no more than three years.

On December 23, 2014 Sheridan County submitted an application in this docket requesting text to 911 funding for a

web browser solution. The application lists \$1,500.00 of non-recurring costs and \$175.00 of monthly recurring costs.

The application was then reviewed by technical subject matter experts, Mission Critical Partners, who advised the Commission that the technology proposed by Sheridan County was Next Generation 911 compatible and covered all wireless carriers currently deploying text to 911. MCP found that the solution proposed by Sheridan County was viable but recommended that Sheridan County consider establishing redundant network connectivity to address the single point of failure risk.

On January 12, 2015 the Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered and approved Sheridan County's request for text to 911 interim funding.

The Commission finds the application submitted by Sheridan County contains eligible costs under the interim text to 911 funding orders. PSAPs must submit invoices for payment by the Commission or submit invoices with evidence of payment for reimbursement to the PSAP from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the text to 911 technology solution funding request submitted by Sheridan County be and hereby is approved in an amount not to exceed \$7,800.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sheridan County submit required documentation to justify all expenditures for payment or reimbursement from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 31st day of March, 2015.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Tim Schram

Gerald L. Vap
Chairman

Crystal Knodes

ATTEST:

Frank E. Landis

Steve Meredith
Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Gerald L. Vap