

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the) Application No. C-3206
Commission, on its own motion,)
to administer the Nebraska)
Internet Enhancement Fund.) ORDER ESTABLISHING GRANT
) SCHEDULE
)
) Entered: October 29, 2019

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

The Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission") opened the above-captioned docket, on its own motion, to administer the Nebraska Internet Enhancement Fund ("NIEF") established by the Legislature pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-579 (Cum. Supp. 2018) through 86-580 (Reissue of 2014). NIEF is to "be used to provide financial assistance to install and deliver broadband or other advanced telecommunications infrastructure and service throughout the state."¹

In furtherance of its statutory duty to "establish an application process through which any county or municipality in the state may apply for financial assistance from [the Fund],"² the Commission opened grant application periods in 2004, 2006, 2008, 2011, 2016, 2017, and 2018, and has awarded in excess of fourteen grants. The Commission accepts the recommendation of the Department and Advisory Board to open a grant period for 2019.

The Commission finds the grant documents adopted by the Commission in 2018 be utilized for the 2019 round of grant applications and awards from the Fund. These grant documents include: the Program description and Grant Application Guidelines, Pre-Application Form, Application Form and Scoring Sheet, and Grant Agreement.³

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. §86-579 (Reissue of 2008).

² Neb. Rev. Stat. §86-580 (Reissue of 2008).

³ Application No. C-3206; *In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, to administer the Nebraska Internet Enhancement Fund, Order Adopting Grant Documents and Setting Grant Schedule*, (August 30, 2016).

The Commission approves and adopts the following schedule for the 2019 grant application period:

October 29, 2019: The Pre-Application Period opens.

December 6, 2019: The Pre-Application Period ends. All Pre-Applications must be submitted to the Commission no later than 5:00 p.m.

December 30, 2019: The Application Period opens. Approved Pre-Applications will be notified and asked to submit a full application.

February 26, 2020: The Application Period ends. All Applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm.

The Advisory Board will then evaluate all Applications and submit its recommendation to the Commission as soon as possible.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that a new grant application period be opened following the schedule outlined herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Grant Documents listed above and previously adopted by the Commission be utilized for this grant cycle.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 29th day of October, 2019.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Cystal Knodes
Pat Jones
Don Williams
Tim Schwan

Mary Bell
Chair

ATTEST:

Michael R. H. Sp
Executive Director