BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the	<i>y</i>)	Application No. C-3206
Commission, on its own motion,)	
to administer the Nebraska Internet Enhancement Fund.)	ORDER REGARDING SUBMISSION OF FULL APPLICATIONS AND REVISING GRANT SCHEDULE
)	Entered: January 9, 2018
)	Efficient balldary 7, 2010

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

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 through 86-580 (Reissue of 2008). The Commission in its October 17, 2017, Order established a schedule for the 2017 application process and grant awards under the NIEF Grant Program.

Pursuant to the schedule, the pre-application period opened on October 17, 2017, with all pre-applications due on or before November 10, 2017. The Commission received pre-applications from the following Applicants:

Mobius Communications and Box Butte County
OurTech, LLC
City of Chappell and Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC
Custer County Board of Supervisors
Warp Networks, Inc.

The NIEF Advisory Board members reviewed the above-mentioned pre-applications for compliance with the Program Description and Grant Application Guidelines and recommends that the Commission invite the following Applicants to submit full applications.

Mobius Communications and Box Butte County OurTech, LLC City of Chappell and Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC Custer County Board of Supervisors Warp Networks, Inc. Per recommendation of the Board, the Commission asks the Applicants to be certain the following items are answered when completing the full application:

Mobius Communications and Box Butte County

- 1. Is this project an add-on to a previously approved project?
- 2. If multiple applications were approved by the Commission, would your project be able to secure the funding necessary if only a partial grant were awarded?

OurTech, LLC

- 1. By Statute, Applicants are required to have at least a 25% funding match. This was not identified in the preapplication. How will Applicant fulfill this requirement?
- 2. The Applicant is required to be a County or Municipality, however the application and pre-application may be prepared by a consultant or representative of the service provider. The pre-application identified several communities. Are each of these Communities joining in this project? Please identify the County/ Counties or Municipality/ Municipalities, including contact information.
- 3. Approximately how many households are intended to be served by this project? Are these households located within the city limits, or in rural areas around the communities identified in the pre-application?
- 4. If multiple applications were approved by the Commission, would your project be able to secure the funding necessary if only a partial grant were awarded?

City of Chappell and Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC

- 1. Is other broadband service available in the area?
- 2. If multiple applications were approved by the Commission, would your project be able to secure the funding necessary if only a partial grant were awarded?

Custer County Board of Supervisors

1. The pre-application identifies the 9 households in this project as "underserved." Please describe in more detail what these households currently have for broadband service.

Application No. C-3206

Page 3

2. If multiple applications were approved by the Commission, would your project be able to secure the funding necessary if only a partial grant were awarded?

Warp Networks Inc.

- 1. By statute, Applicants are required to have a 25% funding match. This was not identified in the pre-application. How will Applicant fulfill this requirement?
- 2. The Applicant is required to be a County or Municipality, however the application and pre-application may be prepared by a consultant or representative of the service provider. Please identify the County or Municipality including contact information.
- 3. Applicant is required to have a 25% match. Please identify how this requirement will be fulfilled,
- 4. If multiple applications were approved by the Commission, would your project be able to secure the funding necessary if only a partial grant were awarded?

In the October 17 Order, the timeline indicated invitations for full applications would be extended by December 10. This was not feasible for the Board. The Board thereby recommended extending the due date for full applications. Full applications must be submitted to the Commission in electronic and hard copy form no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on April 1, 2018.

Electronic copies shall be in MS Word format and sent via e-mail to susan.horn@nebraska.gov and ellie.rohr@nebraska.gov or submitted on disk. Electronic copies shall be accompanied by a hard copy. Should an Applicant be unable to submit an electronic copy, the Applicant shall advise the Commission prior to the deadline.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Applicants, Mobius Communications and Box Butte County, OurTech, LLC, City of Chappell and Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC, Custer County Board of Supervisors and Warp Networks, Inc. are invited to submit full grant applications for a grant from the Nebraska Internet Enhancement Fund.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that full applications must be submitted to the Commission in electronic and hard copy form no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on April 1, 2018, in accordance with

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. C-3206

Page 4

the terms of this Order and the Program Description and Grant Application Guidelines.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this $9^{\rm th}$ day of January, 2018.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Direct

in Sau

//s/XFrank E. Landis //s//Mary Ridder