

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendrayer

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Lake County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: August 8, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P-5270/ES-99-1700**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On May 21, 1981, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Lake County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On March 20, 1985, the Commission approved the actual costs GTE Telephone Company (formerly known as Continental and Contel) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Lake County.

On October 22, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs U S West Communications (formerly known as Northwestern Bell) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Service System in Lake County.

On January 25, 1991, the Commission granted Minnesota Independent Interexchange Corporation (MIIC), a subsidiary of MN Equal Access Network Services, Inc (MEANS), a Certificate of Authority to provide telecommunications service within the State of Minnesota. MIIC is an interexchange company owned by MEANS. MEANS is owned by 62 participating independent local exchange companies.

On February 9, 1996, the Commission granted Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company (IES, LLC) a Certificate of Authority to provide certain telephone services such as Enhanced 911(E911), Private Switch/Automatic Location Identification, Trunking Services, E911 Tandem Services, and data management services throughout the State of Minnesota, excluding the seven-county metropolitan area: Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington, Carver, Scott and Dakota.

On November 6, 1997, Lake County contracted for 911 Enhancement Service with IES, LLC.

On February 4, 1998, IES, LLC placed an order with MIIC to provide interexchange DS-0 (one voice channel) level transport between points within the State of Minnesota where MIIC's facilities are available. The circuits for which MIIC provides the interexchange transport are used for Automatic Number Identification (ANI), Automatic Location Identification (ALI), or Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) connectivity.

On April 30, 1998, IES, LLC placed tandem based Automatic Number Identification (ANI) service in the Lake County 911 system and had MIIC install two interexchange data circuits to support that system.

On August 26, 1998, Hutchinson Telephone Company placed a portion of Automatic Location Identification (ALI) service in the Lake County 911 System. IES, LLC maintains the database for ALI while Hutchinson provides data circuit transport which carries that ALI record along with the Automatic Number Identification (ANI) from the database that resides in their company central office.

On December 30, 1998, the Commission approved the actual costs IES, LLC incurred for placing ANI service in Lake County.

On March 23, 1999, the Commission approved the actual cost MIIC incurred for the provision of two interexchange data circuits to support ANI service.

On October 22, 1999, the Commission approved the actual costs Hutchinson Telephone Company incurred for their portion of ALI service.

CURRENT FILING

Between August 26, 1998 and June 10, 1999, Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company (the Company) installed Automatic Location Identification (ALI) service in the Lake County 911 Emergency system.

On October 27, 1999, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision ALI service.

Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual ALI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Lake County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Lake County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling (612)297-4596 (voice), (612)297-1200, or 1-800-627-3529 (TTY relay service).

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2000 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Lake County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P-5270/ES-99-1700.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

MR BILL SCHNELLMAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

MS DOROTHY JESERITZ
INDEPENDENT EMERGENCY
SERVICES LIMITED LIABILITY CO
235 FRANKLIN ST SW
P O BOX 279
HUTCHINSON MN 553050

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, _____

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2000.

Notary Public