

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott	Chair
Joel Jacobs	Commissioner
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
Edward Garvey	Commissioner
LeRoy Koppendrayer	Commissioner

In the Matter of **Garden Valley Telephone Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Lake of the Woods County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: August 18, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P409/ES-99-1742**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

**BACKGROUND**

On February 28, 1984, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Lake of the Woods County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On March 4, 1986, the Commission approved the actual costs Wikstrom Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Lake of the Woods County.

On October 28, 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 Telephone Service in Lake of the Woods County.

On January 18, 2000 the Commission approved actual costs Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company incurred for placing a portion of tandem based E911 system for Automatic Number Identification (ANI) in the 911 Emergency Services system in Lake of the Woods County.

**CURRENT FILING**

In August 1998, Lake of the Woods County contracted with Garden Valley Telephone Company (the Company) to install their portion of 911 service in the Lake of the Woods County 911 Emergency Services system.

On December 21, 1998, the Company installed inter-exchange, out-switch trunks to the Baudette, Northwest Angle, and William exchanges, installed Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) circuits from the Erskine to the Baudette exchanges and transfer lines to the Erskine Exchange, and an inter-tandem trunks between Erskine and Turtle River Exchange.

These trunk modifications were made to add ANI to their portion of the 911 Emergency Telephone Services System in Lake of the Woods County

On December 8, 1999, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of ANI service.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual 911 Emergency System and ANI 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.

Garden Valley Telephone 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 of the Woods 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 of the Woods 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)

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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 of the Woods County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P409/ES-99-1742.**

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  
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658 CEDAR STREET  
ST PAUL MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, \_\_\_\_\_

a notary public, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public