

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 **Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Marshall County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: September 1, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P423/ES-00-850**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On August 10, 1982, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Marshall County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

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 Marshall County.

On March 22, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Garden Valley Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Marshall County.

On May 25, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Wikstrom Telephone Company incurred for their portion of the 911 System in Marshall County.

On October 26, 1988, the Commission approved U S West's second cost certification.

On November 10, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs GTE (formerly known as Contel Communications) incurred for their portion of the 911 System in Marshall County

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

On August 18, 2000, the Commission approved actual costs Garden Valley Telephone Company incurred for installing interexchange outswitch trunks/circuits to add ANI for a

portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in Marshall County.

CURRENT FILING

On February 2, 1999, Marshall County contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company (the Company) for E 911 Emergency Telephone Services with ANI.

On February 8, 1999, the Company placed inter-exchange outswitch circuits from the Turtle River Router to the Middle River, Holt, New Folden, Viking, Gatske, Grygla, Stephen, Argyle, Alvarado, Warren, Oslo and Erskin Exchanges. The Company also installed interexchange circuits from the Turtle River Router to Public Service Answering Points (PSAPs) at the Warren Exchange (routing through U.S. West) and at the Warren Exchange (routing through Wilkstrom) to provide tandem based 911 Emergency Telephone Services with ANI in Marshall County.

On May 25, 2000, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of outswitch trunks and router circuits for ANI service.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual 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.

Paul Bunyan Rural 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 Marshall 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 Marshall

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 Marshall County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P423/ES-00-850.**

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
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Subscribed and sworn to before me, _____

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2000.

Notary Public