

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 **U.S. West
Communications's** Request for Approval of
Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **St.
Louis County** 911 Emergency Telephone
Services System

ISSUE DATE: September 11, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P421/ES-00-1058**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911
SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On July 7, 1981, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved St. Louis County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Services system.

On August 3, 1981, the Commission approved the actual costs Northwestern Bell Telephone Company incurred for installing a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in St. Louis County.

On June 7, 1989, the Commission approved the actual costs Contel Telephone Company incurred for installing a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in St. Louis County.

On May 10, 1990, the Commission approved the actual costs Northwestern Bell Telephone Company incurred for installing another portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in St. Louis County.

CURRENT FILING

On March 29, 2000, U. S. West Communications (U.S. West) made modification in their Automatic Number Identification (ANI) system to allow calls from the Ash River Telephone Exchange (going through the Duluth router) be answered at the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) in Virginia, Minnesota.

On July 18, 2000, U.S West certified the actual costs it incurred for the modifications of ANI service to allow 911 calls through the Ash River Exchange be routed to the PSAP in the Virginia Exchange.

U.S. West 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.

U. S West Communications 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 St. Louis 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 St. Louis 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 St. Louis County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No.P421/ES-00-1058**

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 SANDY RIVERS
U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS
200 SOUTH FIFTH STREET, FLR. 8A
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

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