

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 Cooperative's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Red Lake County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: February 8, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P423/ES-01-163**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On August 25, 1980, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Red Lake County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

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 Red Lake County.

On May 1, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company incurred for installing a portion of tandem based E911 with Automatic Number Identification (ANI) in the 911 Emergency Services system in Red Lake County.

On August 18, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs Garden Valley Telephone Company incurred for inter-exchange and out-switch trunks from their Exchanges to the Erskine and Turtle River Routers to add ANI to their portions of the 911 Emergency Services system in Red Lake County.

CURRENT FILING

Red Lake County has contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative (the Cooperative) to install their portion of 911 service in the Red Lake County 911 Emergency Services system.

On July 27, 1999, the Cooperative installed inter-exchange circuits from their Brooks, Oklee, Plummer, and Red Lake Falls Exchanges to the Turtle River Router. They also installed two

Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) circuits from their Red Lake Falls Exchange to the Turtle River router and two inter-tandem trunks from the Erskine router to Turtle River router. These interexchange circuits were added to provided ANI service to their portion of the 911 Emergency Telephone Services System in Red Lake County.

On January 12, 2001, the Cooperative certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of the additional trunk circuits to supply ANI service.

The Cooperative 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.

Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative 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 Red Lake County.

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

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Red Lake County which have been certified by the Cooperative 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 _____, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Red Lake County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P423/ES-01-163.**

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:

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER
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Subscribed and sworn to before me,

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2001.

Notary Public