

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0429T

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE MORGAN COUNTY 911 AUTHORITY BOARD TO INCREASE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICE SURCHARGE PURSUANT TO C.R.S. 29-11-102(2)(C).

COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING APPLICATION

Issued Date: November 25, 2025
Adopted Date: November 19, 2025

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I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On October 13, 2025, the Routt County E911 Authority (“Applicant” or “Company”) filed its application (“Application”) pursuant to § 29-11-102(2)(c), C.R.S., for approval of an emergency telephone charge increase from \$2.12 to \$4.00 per service user per month.

2. On October 14, 2025, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) gave notice of the Application stating that parties wishing to participate in this

Proceeding should file an intervention or other appropriate pleading within 30 days after the date of the Notice.

3. On October 28, 2025, the Applicant filed an affidavit attesting that it had published notice of the Application in a local newspaper as required by the Commission’s Rules Regulating Telecommunications Services and Providers of Telecommunications Services, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-2-2147 (d).

4. No interventions were filed or public comments received in response to this Application.

II. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

5. Since the Application is now uncontested, the matter will be considered pursuant to the Commission’s modified procedure, § 40-6-109(5), C.R.S., and the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 CCR 723-1-1403.

6. The Applicant is a governing body as defined in § 29-11-101(16), C.R.S. The Company’s status as a governing body is established by an Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”), a copy of which was included in the Application as Intergovernmental Agreement.

7. A governing body may incur equipment, installation, and other costs directly related to the continued operation of emergency telephone service pursuant to § 29-11-102, C.R.S. Such allowable costs may be categorized as equipment directly related to the receipt and routing of emergency calls, monthly recurring charges for the emergency telephone service, reimbursement of costs for equipment changes necessary for the provision or transmission of wireless Automatic Number Identification or wireless Automatic Location Identification to a public safety answering point (“PSAP”), costs related to the provision of emergency notification

service and emergency telephone service, and “other” directly related costs. Expenses for public safety radio equipment and personnel expenses necessarily incurred for a PSAP or governing body may also be paid with funds collected from 911 charges. § 29-11-104(2)(a), C.R.S.

8. A governing body is statutorily authorized to collect up to a threshold set annually by the Commission, per month per 911 access connection to cover such costs of service within its jurisdiction. The threshold for 2026 has been set by the Commission at \$2.17.¹ In the event that a governing body determines that a charge in excess of this threshold is necessary to provide adequate emergency telephone service, the governing body shall obtain the approval of the Commission before imposing such higher charge. § 29-11-102(2), C.R.S.

9. Currently, the monthly emergency telephone charge is \$2.12 in the Applicant’s service territory. The Application seeks to increase the charge to \$3.00 per month.

10. The Company is supported by the affidavit and verification of the information filed with the Commission by the Applicant.

11. The Applicant funds one PSAP, that being the Morgan County Communications Center.

12. The Applicant has determined that an increase in the emergency telephone charge is needed for several reasons, including: (1) technology upgrades including next generation infrastructure required to be replaced by 2030, additional software, a computer aided dispatch system; and (2) increased operational expenses for personnel and maintenance.

13. The increase requested by the Applicant will increase revenues for the Applicant by an average of roughly \$360,600 per year, or about \$1,803,000 over the next five years. Without

¹ See Decision C25-0717 in Proceeding No. 25M-0323T

any increase, the Applicant will either exhaust its funds in 2026 or be forced to forgo some of its planned expenses. With the requested increase, assuming no unforeseen costs, funding should be sufficient for at least the next five years.

14. Based on this evidence, the Commission agrees with Applicant that additional funding that would be raised by an emergency telephone charge rate of \$3.00 is necessary in order to maintain the current level of expenditure of all categories of expense allowed pursuant to § 29-11-104(2), C.R.S., and to pay for the Applicant's proposed expenses.

III. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The application of the Morgan County 911 Authority Board ("Applicant") seeking to increase the emergency telephone charge to \$3.00 per access line per month is granted.

2. The Applicant shall notify each affected service provider of the increase in the emergency telephone charge at least 60 days prior to the new rate becoming effective.

3. The 20-day period provided by § 40-6-114, C.R.S., to file an application for Rehearing, Reargument, or Reconsideration shall begin on the first day after the effective date of this Decision.

4. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Mailed Date.

5. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING November 19, 2025.

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca E. White".

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners