BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Implementation of)
9-1-1 Emergency Telephone Service) Case No. 09-510-TP-EMG
in Meigs County, Ohio.)

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) On June 18, 1985, H.B. 491, which provided for the establishment of 9-1-1 emergency telephone service throughout Ohio, was signed into law. The legislature specified that this agency be the primary regulatory authority responsible for monitoring the development and implementation of 9-1-1 systems within individual counties in Ohio. By Entry issued June 2, 1987, in Case No. 86-911-TP-COI, the Commission established its guidelines for the review and approval of 9-1-1 rates and regulations. The Commission prescribed a procedure and timetable for the submission to it of county 9-1-1 plans, associated tariffs and other necessary information by all local exchange companies (LECs) participating in county 9-1-1 systems in this state.
- (2) In accordance with those guidelines, Verizon North Inc. (Verizon), in its role as the county coordinating telephone company, filed with the Commission on June 30, 2009, copies of the Meigs County 9-1-1 final plan. The Meigs County 9-1-1 system is scheduled to become operational on September 10, 2009. Pursuant to the Meigs County 9-1-1 plan Verizon, Windstream Western Reserve, Inc. (Windstream) and AT&T Ohio will be participating in the Meigs County 9-1-1 system. Verizon intends to charge its Meigs County subscribers an additional monthly rate of \$.24 per access line for the provision of 9-1-1 emergency telephone service. Windstream and AT&T Ohio request authority to assess their Meigs County subscribers a respective monthly rate of \$.25 and \$.12 per access line.
- (3) On June 30, 2009, Verizon submitted its 9-1-1 cost documentation and County Rate List reflecting the establishment of 9-1-1 emergency telephone service for Meigs County. Windstream and

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AT&T Ohio filed their respective cost documentation and County Rate List on July 30, 2009 and August 10, 2009.

- (4) After carefully reviewing the final plan, filed June 30, 2009, and the accompanying cost documentation, the Commission concludes that Verizon should be granted authority to provide Meigs County 9-1-1 service at the monthly rate of \$.24. In addition, the Commission also concludes that Windstream and AT&T Ohio be granted authority to assess their respective Meigs County subscribers \$.24 and \$.12. The continued provision and maintenance of the Meigs County 9-1-1 system shall be in accordance with the final plan filed June 30, 2009, or as amended by Meigs County and submitted to Staff.
- (5) Verizon, Windstream and AT&T Ohio shall be responsible for notifying their Meigs County subscribers of the availability and use of 9-1-1 service. The notices shall include language providing each company's subscribers with an understanding of 9-1-1 service, the 9-1-1 subscriber charge being assessed and the manner in which the company will handle the 9-1-1 subscriber charge for billing purposes. Each company's notification shall be in the form of a bill insert, separate mailing or a combination of the two, and shall be distributed during the first month the 9-1-1 subscriber charge appears on a subscriber's bill. The Commission may require supplemental or follow-up notification if it finds the information contained in any company's notice to be insufficient.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the Meigs County 9-1-1 final plan, filed June 30, 2009, and accompanying cost documentation, be adopted for use in the operation and maintenance of Meigs County 9-1-1 service effective September 10, 2009. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Verizon, Windstream and AT&T Ohio be granted authority to provide Meigs County 9-1-1 emergency service at the respective monthly subscriber charges of \$.24, \$.25 and \$.12, in accordance with the Meigs County 9-1-1 final plan. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Verizon, Windstream and AT&T Ohio notify their Meigs County subscribers of the availability and use of 9-1-1 service in accordance with Finding (5), It is, further,

ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That copies of this Finding and Order be served upon Verizon, Windstream, AT&T Ohio, the Meigs County Commissioners, the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio, the Office of the Ohio Consumer's Counsel and all other interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman

Alan A. Centolella

Ronda Hartman Fergus

Valerie A. Lemmie

Cheryl L. Roberto

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SSS/kk

Entered in the Journal

AUG 192009

Reneé J. Jenkins Secretary