

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter, on the Commission's own motion,)
regarding the designation of a state 2-1-1 coordinating)
agency pursuant to Section 214 of the Michigan)
Telecommunications Act.)
_____)

Case No. U-14725

At the March 21, 2007 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. J. Peter Lark, Chairman
Hon. Laura Chappelle, Commissioner
Hon. Monica Martinez, Commissioner

ORDER

On March 14, 2006, the Commission designated Michigan 2-1-1 to serve as the statewide 2-1-1 coordinating agency until March 31, 2007. In addition, the Commission granted Michigan 2-1-1 the right to continue to serve as the 2-1-1 coordinating agency for two one-year renewal periods, subject to review and approval by the Commission.

Michigan 2-1-1 provided the Commission with a progress report on February 1, 2007, outlining changes made to the 2-1-1 call center endorsement process, expectations for additional 2-1-1 call centers, and funding information.

In accordance with Section 214(5) of the Michigan Telecommunications Act, MCL 484.2214(5), the Commission finds that Michigan 2-1-1 should continue to serve as the statewide 2-1-1 coordinating agency from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. This will be the second year of a three-year renewal process, subject to review and approval by the Commission.

The Commission continues to be concerned that the funding commitments, described in the initial application and the current progress report, are uncertain.¹ This review and renewal process was initiated to enable Michigan 2-1-1 to actively seek long-term funding sources and to more fully develop interdependent relationships with all human service providers within the state. The Commission seeks to ensure that Michigan 2-1-1 remains viable and effective, and is capable of garnering sufficient financial resources to continue to act as the statewide 2-1-1 coordinating agency. By February 1, 2008, Michigan 2-1-1 shall present the Commission with current information on funding, advances made in 2-1-1 availability in Michigan, and any changes from its original application and the current progress report.

The Commission FINDS that:

- a. Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1991 PA 179, as amended, MCL 484.2101 *et seq.*; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1999 AC, R 460.17101 *et seq.*
- b. Michigan 2-1-1 should be designated as the statewide 2-1-1 coordinating agency from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.
- c. By February 1, 2008, Michigan 2-1-1 should file current information on funding, advances made in 2-1-1 availability in Michigan, and any changes from its original application or current progress report.

¹Continued funding uncertainty will be viewed negatively and may be cause for repeal of Michigan 2-1-1's designation as the state 2-1-1 coordinating agency. The Commission is concerned, in particular, with the financial ability of Michigan 2-1-1 to carry out the business plan, which "requires a significant long-term commitment from state government to pay at least 50% of the total annual operating support..." Application, Exhibit B, p. 7. Michigan 2-1-1's progress report shows that, while the State has provided funding for a study and a demonstration project, this goal for annual operating support has not been met. The Commission is concerned that, in the present budget climate, this goal may not be realistic.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. Michigan 2-1-1 is designated as the statewide 2-1-1 coordinating agency from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

B. By February 1, 2008, Michigan 2-1-1 shall file current information on funding, advances made in 2-1-1 availability in Michigan, and any changes from its original application or current progress report.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so by the filing of a claim of appeal in the Michigan Court of Appeals within 30 days of the issuance of this order, pursuant to MCL 484.2203(12).

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

/s/ J. Peter Lark

Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/ Laura Chappelle

Commissioner

/s/ Monica Martinez

Commissioner

By its action of March 21, 2007.

/s/ Mary Jo Kunkle

Its Executive Secretary

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. Michigan 2-1-1 is designated as the statewide 2-1-1 coordinating agency from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

B. By February 1, 2008, Michigan 2-1-1 shall file current information on funding, advances made in 2-1-1 availability in Michigan, and any changes from its original application or current progress report.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

By its action of March 21, 2007.

Its Executive Secretary