COMMISSIONERS:

JASON SHAW, Chairman
TIM G. ECHOLS, Vice-Chairman
FITZ JOHNSON
LAUREN "BUBBA" McDONALD
TRICIA PRIDEMORE

FILED
MAY 08 2024
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
G.P.S.C.

REECE McALISTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SALLIE TANNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 656-4501
(800) 282-5813

244 WASHINGTON STREET, SW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701

FAX: (404) 656-2341
psc.ga.gov

DOCKET# 44669
DOCUMENT# 218600

Docket No. 44669

In Re: Telecommunications Relay Service Generic Docket

ORDER SELECTING NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND TO PROVIDE AUDIBLE UNIVERSAL ACCESS SERVICE IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

I. Background

On March 5, 2024, the Georgia Public Service Commission issued a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for a single statewide provider of an audible universal access service ("AUIAS"). National Federation of the Blind ("NFB"), the current provider of AUIAS in Georgia, was the only offeror to submit a bid.

II. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommended selection of NFB as the AUIAS provider. NFB will provide information access services throughout Georgia on a 24x7 basis and will service all citizens of this state who, due to physical impairments such as blindness and print disability, cannot otherwise obtain universal access to information.

Additionally, NFB will market its services and provide outreach programs to reach citizens of this state who qualify for the program.

Consistent with the RFP, Staff recommended that the contract have an initial term of three years, beginning June 1, 2024 and terminating May 31, 2027. The contract should also include an option to extend the initial term for an additional two years, beginning June 1, 2027 and terminating May 31, 2029.

NFB's pricing options are set forth in its bid in Attachment C – Price Quotation. Staff recommended the proposed annual cost of the services provided by NFB of

$253,410.00, which breaks down to $10,367.50 per month for the AUIAS service and $10,750.00 for marketing and outreach.

III. Commission Decision

The Commission adopts Staff's recommendation for the reasons stated therein.

WHEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, that the Commission hereby selects National Federation of the Blind as the statewide provider of AUIAS.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Commission approves the price quotation in Attachment C of NFB's proposal for the annual cost of services provided by NFB of $253,410.00, which breaks down to $10,367.50 per month for the AUIAS service and $10,750.00 for marketing and outreach.

ORDERED FURTHER, that all findings, conclusions and decisions contained within the preceding sections of this Order are adopted as findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decisions of regulatory policy of this Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that any motion for reconsideration, rehearing or oral argument shall not stay the effectiveness of this Order unless expressly so ordered by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over this proceeding is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further order or orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 7th day of May, 2024.

Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

5-8-24
Date

Jason Shaw
Chairman

5-8-24
Date