

**WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY JUNE 6, 2022**

Warren County Commissioners present for the meeting: Clay Andrews, Adam Hanthorne, Craig Greenwood.

Warren County Council present for meeting: Derek Puterbaugh, Neil Ellis, Brian Jordan, John Comer, Ethan Foxworthy, Sharon Hutchison.

Fountain County – Council and Commissioners

Public: Barry Ritter, Ritter Strategic Services; Kathleen Osborne, Director 911.

Warren County Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Lori Heidenreich, Treasurer, Jud Barce, County Attorney; Rusty Hart, Sheriff; Anthony Pruitt, Sheriff Chief Deputy.

1. The meeting was called to order by Clay Andrews.
2. The meeting called to order by Ethan Foxworthy.
3. New Business:
 - a. Barry Ritter, Ritter services explained he is previous State 911 Director and currently has a consulting business, previous Wayne County 911 Center. Fountain County Commissioners have contracted for the move of the 911 Dispatch Center. A site survey and strategic plan have been completed. Warren and Fountain Counties are the only cross county consolidated 911 Dispatch in the State. The Interlocal Agreement needs amended and updated which County Attorneys will be involved. Terms and conditions to ensuring both counties are involved. Options were discussed concerning separating the counties or keep consolidated.
 - b. Andrew Hall, Fountain County Commissioners, opened the floor for questions.
 - c. Dudley Cruea, Fountain County Council, suggested not separating due to funding with current budgets concerned.
 - d. Craig Greenwood, Warren County Commissioner, stated discussions with fountain county commissioner costs question going to be. Was told that we are splitting off from fountain county. Answers on what is being expected by warren county.
 - e. Andrew Hall stated the room is too small for 911 currently. Moving is a necessity due to this. Kathleen brought option for building a new facility year ago at \$2.7 million. This building then became available. Contractor for cost has not been determined yet just building purchased. Looking at project costs at this point.
 - f. Brenda Hardy – Explained this meeting is to discuss the options. Fountain County does not have LIT PSAP. Possibly use ARPA funds for renovations or is Warren County interested in working and splitting costs.
 - g. Derek Puterbaugh inquired of the capital for building and/or equipment costs. Ritter stated no soft cost estimates yet. ATT agreement has time left and equipment through the 10-year contract. Hardware, software and maintenance. Possibility of looking at other copies so not locked into ATT any longer. Ritter explained the area for each employee is approximately 250 – 300 sq ft and possibly look at expansion of employees. High call volume etc. will be looked at. Build to ensure adequate space for growth with 3 consoles and 1 training console. Puterbaugh inquired of what input on decisions will Warren County have as we are paying; we expect some say in the matter. Brenda Hardy stated Fountain County possibly pay for the building and Warren County pay equipment partially.
 - h. Neil Ellis progress together but would like at least tentative figures. Brenda Hardy as budgets are coming up, we need to discuss together to possibly have a contract with Warren County paying dollars per call. Neil Ellis inquired of the soft cost's timeline. Ritter stated less than 30 days but construction work cost will be longer timeframe. Brenda Hardy currently no figures to work with. Barry Ritter explained the Sheriffs pushed for this meeting to discuss financial implications. Funding options such as legislature increase fee as this is an issue, LIT PSAP discussed, 90/10 revenue, 1222 funds. The construction costs cannot be paid out of 1222 funds. The target is to know how to increase or add LIT PSAP as a funding solution. Warren County would have 24 months if interlocal not approved to opening a 911 center. Fountain County has equipment, personnel and stand to lose the revenue. If the bi-county would severe, this would be negative for both counties.
 - i. John Comer inquired of recommendations for interlocal agreement. Barry Ritter stated he has elements for this but will be the County Attorney's to finalize. Equipment replacement, policies, procedures, financial commissioners/council, executive committee (has been in some counties between council/comm and board for the way of doing business), financial responsibility to the boards (not supported by Ritter) as council fiscal responsibility. Comer inquired of equipment that currently needs replacement. Barry Ritter can get the prices for equipment. Move costs for equipment so can be cost effective for new purchase.
 - j. John Comer contract would make things harder so work together rather than separate.
 - k. Dudley Cruea explained the LIT funding cannot be changed in Fountain due to agreement with the State for a certain number of years.
 - l. Sharon Hutchison asked for estimated cost 1 person 1 console all new equipment, software. Barry Ritter stated the current radios may be end of life Dec 31, 2022 and will check on this. Radios are expensive and no way to speculate. Recorder possibly needs replaced. Internet will need dual path for fiber. We are currently 18-24 months before functioning at this building. Generator will be needed.
 - m. Adam Hanthorne inquired of Fountain County expectations for Warren County funding for move, equipment, etc. Andrew Hall stated as much input as Warren County is willing to give. Council decision with the interlocal agreement. The current interlocal agreement from 2013 has 50/50 equip and 1/3 Warren, Fountain 2/3 all else. Hanthorne stated Warren County should not pay to remodel the building. Brenda Hardy agreed.
 - n. Ethan Foxworthy inquired of any issues or discussion on changing the percentage. Andrew Hall stated other than gossip this has not been discussed. Rusty Hart stated the percentage of call volume is less than 1/3 2/3. Currently 73%, 27% call volume/units over the last 5 years. Interlocal agreement should stay the same, 911 board works well together so changing makeup of board doesn't make sense and 911 board suggest to remain the same. Barry Ritter stated in 2021 73/27 volume but Warren County paid 25% of the operating costs. Center

- average 52,000-55,000 transactions per year. Ensuring all emergency show up example. Barry explained the way that the 911 works as well as responsibilities of the center other than just a phone call as each call leads to paramedics, sheriff, etc.
- o. Derek Puterbaugh inquired if Fountain County Commissioners will meet to discuss interlocal agreement with Warren County. Fountain County responded they would. Rusty Hart stated we need to organize and iron out now as all parties are present.
 - p. Adam Hanthorne inquired of the financial side, who is responsible, etc. Dudley Crue stated discussions have been Fountain County pay construction cost with Warren County paying possible rental fee or split construction costs, etc. Hanthorne inquired if utilities etc. been discussed as Warren County currently received a bill for the new building utilities. Warren would pay their portion of the utility costs for the building. Hanthorne questioned the Quarterly bills that were sent having the new building on them and why should Warren Co pay for this until the move has happened. Colleen Chambers stated she will look into this. Andrew Hall suggested the rental use fee.
 - q. Greenwood questioned the financial board compared to executive board. Barry Ritter explained there are 2 reasons for the board hiring director and budget; governing board pay the fees. Annual budget board would determine. Greenwood inquired of an option for executive director which would alleviate the auditor office extra work running the books. Colleen Chamber explained the PSAP yearly report which is fairly quick to process. Colleen Chambers explained the main issue is the portioning of utilities, insurance quarterly. Discussed a flat fee for utilities, etc. Greenwood questioned past issues with the bills. Chambers and Weston-Hubner stated this has mainly been resolved as they are working closer on that issue. Discussed the flat fee for the quarterly costs. Equipment is 50/50. Greenwood stated all boards should participate in the capital purchases.
 - r. Sharon Hutchison inquired of how soon to know what equipment will need to be purchased. Barry Ritter stated approximately 30 days after interlocal agreement is finalized. Kathleen Chambers will look at the expiration dates for soft costs as radios may be an issue. Hutchison asked how many of items needed for the facility. Ritter will get the need numbers for Hutchison for grant options. Dudley Crue questioned if the Warren Count wants to remain as a joint 911/dispatch for budgeting purposes.
 - s. Clay Andrews made a motion pending interlocal agreement keep both counties together with a second from Craig Greenwood, all voted in favor. Andrews inquired if Fountain has an idea on construction costs. Rental fee county agreed too. Engineering will be late summer/early fall. Ritter question to work on the contract. Commissioner approval rough outline of interlocal agreement currently used and adjust accordingly. Get 911 board opinions. Rusty Hart inquired if cities and towns could possibly help with some of the services such as CAD. Hardy stated Vermilion County has call log charge town service fee. Barry stated the CAD vendor can isolate service fee/usage as many towns pay a fee for use across State. Counties pay for mapping.
 - t. Brenda Hardy questioned the fiber optic current backup. Ritter stated State 911 board and sometimes commodity such as Comcast. Hardy invited all to preview the new 911 area.
 - u. Barry Ritter stated he will begin working on the Interlocal Agreement and present to County Attorneys.
 - v. Brian Jordan inquired of the 2023 budget request. Dudley Crea stated it will remain the same.
 - w. Colleen Chambers and Robin Weston-Hubner will work together concerning the utilities, insurance etc. separated to get a fixed fee.
 - x. Barry Ritter stated the room will be viewed for items required such as bathrooms, kitchen, area for the consoles, etc.
 - y. Barry Ritter – Agreed to move forward and negotiate interlocal agreement. He will draft the shell of the interlocal agreement to the commissioners, councils and attorneys. Personnel cost, use fee, flat fee, etc. attorneys will work this out for County approval. Soft costs due back in 30 days for Fountain and Warren counties. Fountain County will move forward with the construction, engineering. Rusty Hart questioned if the board will remain unchanged and does anyone have an issue with the way the board is ran such as policy, procedure and etc. Hardy stated they are relying on Ritter for recommendations. Ritter stated if no issues then remain the same. Ritter stated the Director will be accountable to the board but also to the commissioners and council for budget purposes only and board for daily operations. Environment necessity, Director will remain responsible. Board will remain the same as in current interlocal agreement. Hart stated personnel management should remain the board responsibility such as hiring and firing over Director but recommends to Director. Ritter discuss the language in the Agreement concerning the hiring. Hart recommended taking the word “cause” out and leaving board will select the Director and discipline or fire of Director by the board needs to be added. Ritter will work on this as well.

There being no further business Craig Greenwood made a motion to adjourn with a second from Adam Hanthorne for the Commissioners, all voted in favor.

There being no further business John Comer made a motion to adjourn with a second from Neil Ellis for the Council, all voted in favor

ATTEST:

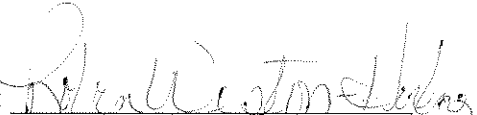
Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor

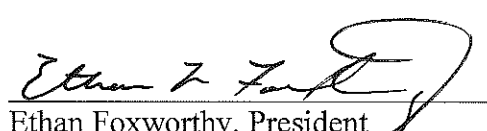
Clay Andrews, President

Adam Hanthorne, Vice President

David Craig Greenwood

ATTEST:


Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor


Ethan Foxworthy, President


W Brian Jordan, Vice President

John Comer
John Comer

Sharon Hutchison
Sharon Hutchison

Neil Ellis
Neil Ellis

Matt Commons

Derek Puterbaugh