

**July 12, 2019**

The Keith County Board of Commissioners met for a special meeting in the Emergency Operations Center in Ogallala. Roll call was answered by Chairman Kim Elder and Commissioners Corey Crandall, Joan Ervin and Lane Anderson. Commissioner Toney Krajewski was absent. Elder acknowledged the Open Meeting Act was posted. Also attending the meeting were Deputy County Clerk Lindsey Krab, Emergency Management Director Elizabeth Sillasen, 911 Director Laurie Hood, Ogallala City Manager Bruce Smith, Ogallala City Clerk/Treasurer Jane Skinner, President of the Ogallala City Council/Mayor Deb Schilz, Ogallala Chief of Police James Herman, Perkins County Sheriff James Bruggeman, Perkins County Commissioner Steve Tucker, Arthur County Sheriff Bill Simpson, Arthur County Commissioner Mark Wilson, Hooker County Sheriff Winn Wiens, McPherson County Commissioner John Bryant and the media. Ervin moved to approve the agenda, Anderson seconded the motion. Crandall, Anderson, Ervin and Elder voting aye; Krajewski absent; none voting nay; motion carried.

Emergency Management Director Elizabeth Sillasen discussed an overview of the prior visits with each entity that are under contract with Keith County. Sillasen presented 4 major points of concern that were heard throughout the visits. Those concerns were cost for services, customer service and quality of service, radio coverage and expectations of Keith County.

Sillasen had prepared two proposals for a new billing formula and cost of services based off of feedback from her visits. Three new proposals were suggested during discussions. First suggestion came from Perkins County Sheriff James Bruggeman to mirror Cheyenne County by charging a percentage of Keith County Communication's operating budget. The second suggestion came from McPherson County Commissioner John Bryant, which was to consider each entities property tax values and tax levies. The third suggestion was made by Commissioner Crandall, which was to base fees by type of community (rural vs. city) or call range percentage. Sillasen will draft those proposals and will be sending them via email to all entities no later than July 26, 2019.

At 11:02 a.m. Commissioner Krajewski entered the meeting.

During discussion about decisions for gradual increases, establishment of organizations and increase for cost of services, Sillasen stated that while working on the three new proposals she would include the amount of projected incremental increases for each of the entities broken down into 3, 4 and 5 years.

Sillasen proposed a hierarchy structure that mirrors Region 26 Emergency Management and 911 Dispatch. Sillasen's structure included the Emergency Manager assuming responsibility as the director of the region. The proposal included transferring the Deputy Emergency Manager duties from the 911 Director to a full-time position with the title of Deputy Emergency Manager. It also included creating three supervisors, made up of current dispatchers, to provide intermediate supervision in the Dispatch Center. This would allow the 911 Director, Laurie Hood to focus on her director duties. The proposal included adding emergency management services with their current dispatch services at no extra cost. Perkins County Sheriff Bruggeman stated that he did like the structure, however he felt like Keith County should focus on dispatch services before exploring adding emergency management services.

Regarding the enhanced 911 service fees for counties other than Keith, Sillasen stated that she checked with the Nebraska Public Service Commission and discovered that each county under contract receives their own fees back.

Sillasen discussed that establishing a 911 Advisory Board has been previously discussed with interest from the majority of the entities under contract. Her thoughts based off feedback

were a 5 member board, meeting quarterly, consisting of a Keith County Commissioner and the 911 Director that would replace the current quarterly EOC meeting. After discussion it was suggested that there would be a representative from every entity under contract, to be chosen by their respective boards at their next scheduled meeting.

At 11:28 a.m. Keith County Attorney Randy Fair entered the meeting.

Krajewski made a motion to establish the 911 Advisory Board consisting of one representative from each entity currently under contract. There was discussion. Skinner stated that the motion didn't include the 911 Director and a Keith County Commissioner on the 911 Advisory Board. Krajewski amended his motion to include the 911 Director plus one representative from the Keith County Board of Commissioners, Elder seconded the motion. Ervin, Anderson, Krajewski and Elder voting aye; Crandall voting nay; motion carried.

Sillasen presented an example of what the quarterly reports would look like should the board choose to start publishing a quarterly report. These reports would include budget expenditures, dispatcher training, recognizing a dispatcher of the quarter, call volume and the 911 Advisory Board minutes. Krajewski made a motion to implement quarterly reports to entities under contract with Keith County, Crandall seconded the motion. Anderson, Ervin, Crandall, Krajewski and Elder voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Sillasen stated the new interlocal agreements/contracts for services updates and projections would take effect starting with the fiscal year of 2020-2021. Perkins County Sheriff Bruggeman had concerns with the 5 year contract period and suggested that Keith County write the contracts to extend to perpetuity with a 1 year notice of intent to terminate. He also suggested the contract should be reviewed on an annual basis to include the forecasted percentage increases based off the current fiscal year budget and call volume. Keith County Attorney Randy Fair stated any suggestions to change the contracts can be emailed to him. Sillasen discussed adding Emergency Management to those entities who are not currently receiving those services from Keith County at no extra cost. Some of these services include Orion, help with disaster declarations and emergency planning.

Sillasen stated she will prepare and email the three new proposals to each entity on or before July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019. At that time, all entities can review and send feedback to be discussed at the August 28, 2019 Keith County Board meeting.

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned. The Board will meet again Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Courthouse in Ogallala.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy County Clerk  
Kim Elder Lindsey Krab

Agenda: Kept current in the office of the County Clerk. \*Time of specific agenda items will run continuously thru the meeting and may occur later than estimated.

**Unfinished Business**

Procurement and Purchasing Policy.  
Jail security video system.

**New Business**

9:00 a.m. – Tim Stortz – Nebraska Dept. of Ag. Noxious weeds update.