

456

MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT SESSION
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS & COUNCIL
WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS & COUNCIL
JUNE 6, 2022
5:00 P.M.

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting: Brenda Hardy and Andrew Hall. Tim Shumaker was absent.

The following Fountain County Council members were present at the meeting: Dudley Cruea, Tom Booe, Bill Glover, Kelly Carlson, Dale Clawson, Jim McKee and Jim Hershberger. Also present was Kent Minette, County attorney and Barry Ritter of Ritter Strategic Services.

All members from the Warren County Commissioners and Council were present along with their county attorney, Jud Barce.

Each Board President called the meeting to order. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the new 911 center at the Maple Corner Annex. The meeting was then turned over to Barry Ritter of Ritter Strategic Services.

Barry Ritter stated that a new interlocal agreement must be updated with the terms and conditions. But first, it must be decided if Fountain and Warren County are going to stay consolidated as the Fountain Warren Dispatch Center. John Comer and Dudley Cruea stated that they have looked at the numbers and feel that it is not feasible to separate due to the budgeting and costs.

Andrew Hall stated that the current facility is extremely small and does not fall under the State guidelines. They had received figures for a new build in the approximate amount of \$2.5 million but feel that with some renovations the annex would be a good place for the 911 center.

Mr. Ritter asked if either county had looked into the possibility of LIT for PSAP. Dudley Cruea stated that Fountain County could not as they had promised the State that they would not raise the LIT rate for 10 years due to the LIT special purpose for the construction of the jail. ARPA funds can be used for the renovation for the 911 center. The Statewide 911 fund cannot be used for brick and mortar.

Mr. Ritter said that nothing has been done at this point in regards to the soft costs. The cost of the recorders and furniture has somewhat been determined as he has been working with another county. The construction costs do not fall under the contract with Ritter. Each console position will require approximately 300-500 square feet. The build should be able to accommodate future expansion, if needed. Currently, there are plans for 4 consoles; 2 for operators; 1 extra; and 1 for training purposes.

Neil Ellis asked if they could have some tentative figures for the equipment before the budget is determined for 2023. Barry can have the soft costs in approximately 30-45 days. It will take much longer for the construction costs.

It will be approximately \$22,500 for the furniture. The recorders are between \$10,000 to \$25,000 each. The radios may need to be replaced as some models will no longer be supported after December 31, 2022. They would most likely have the equipment in 6 months. A new generator would have to be purchased for the center.

Discussion was heard in regards to the number of calls each county had for the year 2021. They also answer other non-emergency calls for reports, recordings, CAD and other administrative services. Some counties charge cities/towns. They log the calls for each and charge them back to the entity. The fees for use of the tools could pay for the vendor license fees. We will also need a second path for backup. For example: fiber optic and internet service.

