

Good evening,

This is an update on the current status of Knox County's efforts to address the current 911/dispatch dilemma. The Commission met this evening in executive session, and although no final or formal decisions have been made, and matters are subject to potential change, the County believes that a short term solution is at hand.

The County has received a proposal from Waldo County to assume responsibility for the 911 calls. The details of the agreement are being finalized, and we anticipate that Waldo County will begin handling those calls on Monday, at which time Knox County will temporarily cease operations as a PSAP. Knox County will continue to handle all dispatch responsibilities without interruption. The Commission will schedule a public meeting for Monday, August 21 at 10:00 am to review and vote on the agreement with Waldo County. The extra few days will give us the opportunity to formalize a contract, so we know what the costs are, and what services will be provided.

We recognize that handling 911 and dispatch calls is a vital service to the citizens of Knox County, and we are committed not only to crafting a short term solution to prevent interruption of these services, but also to developing and implementing a long term plan to avoid the threat of future interruptions. We also know that working with the first responders around the county will be the key to continuing to operate as a dispatch center until we are back up to a full staff. The commission takes our role in providing the service seriously, we will do what we can to ensure its improved operation.

We will continue to provide updates as we move forward.

Thank you,

Knox County Commissioners

Ed Glaser
Chair, Knox County Commission

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