

March 9, 2021 8:30 AM

Troy Dispatch/Commissioner meeting met March 9, 2021 at the Silver Spur Troy, MT. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Peck, Troy Mayor Dallas Carr, Sandi Sullivan and Jim Ward.

Mark opened the discussion with the lag time issue on 911 calls for public safety. Calls received from outside Troy City police jurisdiction currently are transferred to Lincoln Co Sheriff's Office. Jim spoke to the issue, saying a new server had been purchased and would be installed in approximately 30 days that will reconcile this issue.

The meeting moved into the overall discussion of having three dispatch centers in Lincoln County. Sandi's concern was that the county was looking to sever the inter-local agreement as soon as possible. Both Mark and Jerry reassured Sandi that the commissioners were looking at a strategic solution. Jerry commented that we have large public safety issues coming forward that we need to address. Examples were providing emergency medical services in the future that are under written by volunteers. The need for a new jail and the impacts to the taxpayer.

In 20/21 fiscal year Troy Dispatch levied 29 mills @ 6,912.82 a mill = \$200,471.90. Eureka Dispatch levied 11 mills @ 16,869.32 a mill = \$185,562.56.

The commissioners see the need to reorganize the county structure which would free up \$386,000 to be put toward EMS, possibly a new jail or other needs. Recognizing redundancy in government is costly to the taxpayer, the budget is our major responsibility.

Jim and Sandi both commented they understand the commissioner's issues throughout the county and appeared to be onboard with moving forward looking at one dispatch center.

The issue of a backup system was also brought up as Libby's system went down last week and Troy was able to fill the need. It was noted that the Sheriff is establishing a task force to begin to look at a new detention/law enforcement center.

Meeting adjourned.

Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

Jerry Bennett, Chairman

Mark Peck, Member

Josh Letcher, Member