

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN COUNTY/CITY  
SPECIAL MEETING  
ON June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the North Room of the Kingman Expo Center, Kingman, Kansas on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Those present:

Jerry Henning, Chairman  
Fred Foley, Commissioner  
Jack Thimesch, Commissioner  
Carol Noblit, County Clerk  
Jon Wollen, City Commissioner  
Mark Arensdorf, City Commissioner  
Stan Hacker, City Commissioner  
Adrian Harrel, City Commissioner  
Merlin McFarland, City Commissioner  
Cody Smith, City Attorney  
Greg Graffinan, Kingman City Manager  
Cindy Conrardy, City Clerk

Visitors: Chief Lux; George Ontiveros; Zachary Bieghler; Deanna Gerhardt; Gayle Dye; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader Courier; Mendy Frampton; Larry Landwehr; Richard Schott; Carol Young and Tammy Miller.

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Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.  
Jon Wollen, City Mayor called the Board of City Commissioners Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

City Mayor Wollen welcomed everyone to the joint meeting and thanked everyone for being here.

Chairman Henning thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Chairman Henning would like to add Commissioners comments at the end.

City Commissioners agreed to add Commissioner comments to the end of the meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda with commission comments on the end. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mayor Wollen said they are in favor of dispatch.

Chairman Henning discussed Kingman EMS budget numbers for the years and asked why with the run revenue and what the county pays it should cover the EMS. Why is the big deal of the City controlling EMS. As a taxpayer and a Commissioner he questioned it.

Chairman Henning mentioned that at a past meeting that Commissioner Wollen and Zachary Bieghler said they felt they were being double taxed.

Commissioner Arensdorf asked what Chairman Henning what his specific question was.

Chairman Henning explained why does the City manage EMS if the run receipts and what the County pays covers EMS.

Mayor Wollen discussed costs of the EMS and that the run numbers continue to go up.

Mayor Wollen asked Mr. Bieghler if he had an office administrator.

Zachary Bieghler, EMS Director let them know that employees handle the different office duties.

Chairman Henning asked questions about the budgeting of EMS and the taxing of taxpayers.

Mr. Bieghler let Commissioner Henning know that EMS is always in the Red not in the Black at the end of the budget year except in 2012.

Mr. Bieghler discussed what would possibly happen if the county would take over EMS.

Mr. Bieghler explained why he mentioned that City taxpayers are being double taxed.

Mayor Wollen said that we have a well run EMS department.

Commissioner Thimesch discussed that he has heard from ladies who do runs in his area about that do EMS runs and there are complaints about them getting notice after the Kingman EMS has dispatched and they get there second.

Mr. Bieghler let Mr. Thimesch know that the problem lies with Dispatch because there are policies that they are to follow.

City Commissioner Adrian Harrel asked about the EMS availability.

Mr. Bieghler said that the availability is low.

City Commissioner Mark Arensdorf asked if it is Dispatch policy.

Mr. Bieghler said there is a dispatch policy and if there is a problem then he lets Heather know and she takes care of it.

Commissioner Thimesch let Mr. Bieghler know that he was asked to bring this to the meeting to find out what is happening.

Mr. Bieghler said there is many notifications sent out. The ADT service is slightly delayed.

Commissioner Thimesch asked Mr. Bieghler if he feels like the Dispatch is failing him.

Mr. Bieghler said "No" and dispatch does a great job.

Commissioner Thimesch said the ladies feel that it is failing them.

Chairman Henning asked if there was a way that the County could be charged on run receipts.

Chairman Henning asked why couldn't the County take over dispatch and the City take over EMS.

Commissioner McFarland asked if you would want all of the County taxpayers to pay for all of EMS.

Chairman Henning said that the County taxpayers are already paying for half of the services and if the whole county was paying then it would be spread equally and not double taxing the city taxpayers.

Mayor Wollen asked Mr. Graffman how much current charges were for Dispatch.

Mr. Graffman said that is around \$174,000.00.

Commissioner Hacker discussed that at the City Meeting they decided to raise the charges by 10% but in doing that the Insurance can take the percent off so they are back to where they were at.

Chairman Henning discussed the figures.

City Commissioner Harrel explained that this is not a business you are providing a service and not in it to make money.

Chairman Henning he discussed that the budget amounts received from Mr. Bieghler showed the run receipts are up.

Commissioner Harrel said that Mr. Bieghler has explained it incredibly well that they need to get under the state numbers.

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Commissioner Henning would like to figure a way to have all the County taxpayers equally pay instead of double taxing.

Mr. Bieghler let the Commissioners know that the numbers that he submitted from other counties would be higher as not all costs were included.

Commissioner Hacker said that that Mr. Bieghler is doing a great job and when an individual needs the service are they going to worry about 5 or 10 dollars.

Commissioner Arensdorf said they still will have the Capital improvement fund.

Mr. Graffman said there is nothing unclear and they have been clear that they will be putting \$40,000.00 into the Capital improvement fund.

Commissioner Foley discussed that he is for the City continuing to handle the EMS.

Commissioner Foley would like if there is any excess that it goes into the capital improvement fund.

Commissioner Foley said that he would like to talk with dispatch and that the system is working.

Commissioner McFarland discussed having a report having the calls broke down and see what taxpayers are paying. If we check the figures and make sure

Commissioner Arensdorf said why can't we do dispatchers by one and Kingman EMS by the other.

City Manager said that it wasn't a cost matchup to one paying dispatch and one paying for EMS.

Commissioner Harrel explained that the calls would be a floating cost because of the distance and time per call.

City McFarland asked if the Dispatch allocated for different expenses. So if the dispatch was allocated the costs it may show a true cost of the dispatch.

Commissioner Thimesch said if we don't communicate it is not going to work.

County Commissioners agreed to have the \$20,000.00 for EMS if the City will continue with 50/50 for dispatch.

City Commissioners agreed that they want to continue with the 50% of dispatch salary.

Commissioner Arensdorf would like to answer questions on the Law Enforcement Center.

Commissioner Thimesch wanted to know if by having the two different law enforcement Center being more efficient.

Mayor Wollen said no there is not as good as comrodary between the two. That COVID had an effect on the space concern.

Commissioner Thimesch said that he feels that it is not more efficient.

Commissioner Henning said the beginning process was before he became in office.

Commissioner Henning discussed that the Law Enforcement Center construction was discussed with individual City Commissioners.

Commissioner Henning wanted to know why we had no communication.

Hacker said that the Law Enforcement Center is 200 % better.

Hacker said that it is their responsibility to keep their officers safe.

Commissioner McFarland said it has to be right for the taxpayers.

Commissioner Foley agreed that we need to have more of these meetings. Better communication so issues can be solved before major issues.

Commissioner Hacker said that he is glad that we had this meeting.

Commissioner Foley missed Hacker's invocation and request it next time.

Commissioner Thimesch would like meetings quarterly because we need better communication.

Commissioner Arensdorf thinks that this meeting was good and we have plenty of time until next year for EMS.

Commissioner Harrel that we are far enough along in the budget process and that we can work on the contracts. Hope we can get over the Law Enforcement Center.

Commissioner Wollen appreciated talking to the Commissioners and attending the County meeting.

Commissioner Henning thanked everyone for showing up. His concern is to help the taxpayers.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.