

City of Hailey

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February 16, 2009

Commissioner Larry Schoen, Chairman
Commissioner Angenie McCleary, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Tom Bowman
Blaine County Board of County Commissioners
206 1st Avenue South, Suite 300
Hailey, Idaho 83333
HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED
FEB 16 2009

Re: Dispatch Operations

Dear Commissioners:

We learned that county representatives met with various representatives from some of the jurisdictions on Friday, February 13, 2009, to discuss a new proposal to pay for consolidated dispatch. We have been told that the county administrator will be making a proposal to the board of county commissioners on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, and we expect that the county administrator will be recommending a funding mechanism similar to the formula described during Friday's meeting.

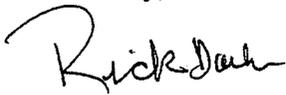
In these economic times, we support fiscal restraint and believe all options to reduce taxpayer burdens should be examined. We believe there may be a more equitable method of funding that needs to be discussed before any entity takes a formal position on any proposed scenario. Our latest proposal incorporates much of the county's format. For example, the allocation of costs based on the number of addresses seems reasonable. The county's database for addresses is readily accessible and is a good indicator of potential use. In addition, the payment of 6 dispatchers by the county is appropriate. Lastly, we believe the allocation of costs based on the number of addresses attributable to both police and fire/medical calls is fair.

But, we believe the formula can be improved in three ways. First, the so-called "urban users" model is problematic. Under this model, the four so-called "urban users" are treated the same, but in reality, there are major differences in their ability to generate revenue and in their level of expectation. Simply put, Hailey is not able to pay for this level of service in a sustainable way and Hailey is not demanding the higher number of dispatchers. The "urban user" model treats entities drastically different even though the entities may be comparable. For instance, our neighbor to the south is not treated as an "urban user," even though there is no justifiable difference in treatment. Like Bellevue, Hailey cannot afford this level of service.

Second, we believe Blaine County should also participate in the payment of dispatchers over and above the dispatchers needed for E-911. Third, it appears to me that only certain jurisdictions want the extra dispatchers. Therefore, we suggest an option where only those jurisdictions who want dispatchers 12 and 13 would pay.

We are enclosing a proposed formula which describes a different formula. This formula assumes Ketchum, Sun Valley, Wood River Rural and Ketchum Rural would support the 12th and 13th dispatcher. We believe this formula is more understandable, equitable and sustainable. We will be more than happy to discuss this proposal further. If any jurisdiction is dissatisfied or feels pressured, it will not result in a durable agreement which we are all seeking.

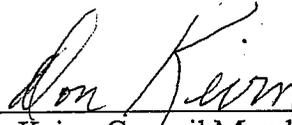
Sincerely,



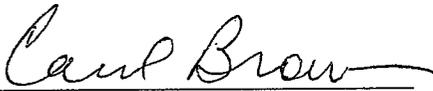
Rick Davis, Mayor



Martha Burke, Council President



Don Keirn, Council Member



Carol Brown, Council Member



Fritz Haemmerle, Council Member

cc: Bellevue Mayor and City Council Members
Ketchum Mayor and City Council Members
Sun Valley Mayor and City Council Members
Wood River Rural Fire Protection District
Ketchum Rural Fire Protection District
Carey Rural Fire Protection District

Encl. (dispatch spreadsheet 2-16-09)

DISPATCH SUMMARY SPREADSHEET (2-16-09)

	Police # of Addresses	Fire/Med # of Addresses	Total # of Addresses	Dispatchers 1-6		Dispatchers 7-8		Dispatchers 9-11		Dispatchers 12-13		Sub-Total	Sub-Total	Sub-Total
				\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%			
Blaine County	*3,943		3,943	\$401,850.00	13.50%	\$22,673.00		\$27,125.00				\$451,648.00		\$451,648.00
Bellevue	1,008	1,008	2,016	\$11,588.00	6.90%	\$11,588.00		\$13,864.00				\$25,452.00		\$25,452.00
Hailey	3,250	3,250	6,500	\$37,453.00	22.30%	\$37,453.00		\$44,806.00				\$82,259.00		\$82,259.00
Ketchum	3,830	3,830	7,660	\$44,003.00	26.20%	\$44,003.00		\$52,642.00		7,660	48.40%	\$96,645.00	\$64,831.00	\$161,476.00
Sun Valley	2,565	2,565	5,130	\$29,559.00	17.60%	\$29,559.00		\$35,363.00		5,130	32.40%	\$64,922.00	\$43,399.00	\$108,321.00
WRFR	1,380	1,380	1,380	\$7,894.00	4.70%	\$7,894.00		\$9,443.00		1,380	8.70%	\$17,337.00	\$11,654.00	\$28,991.00
Ketchum Rural	1,665	1,665	1,665	\$9,573.00	5.70%	\$9,573.00		\$11,453.00		1,665	10.50%	\$21,026.00	\$14,065.00	\$35,091.00
Carey Rural	681	681	681	\$3,863.00	2.30%	\$3,863.00		\$4,621.00				\$8,484.00		\$8,484.00
Minidoka	19	19	19	\$168.00	0.10%	\$168.00		\$201.00				\$369.00		\$369.00
Smiley Creek	77	77	77	\$504.00	0.30%	\$504.00		\$603.00				\$1,107.00		\$1,107.00
West Magic	121	121	121	\$672.00	0.40%	\$672.00		\$804.00				\$1,476.00		\$1,476.00
	10,653	14,596	29,192	\$401,850.00	100%	\$167,950.00		\$200,925.00		15,835	100%	\$770,725.00	\$133,949.00	\$904,674.00

*The 3943 addresses is the sum of the addresses for WRFR, Ketchum Rural, Carey Rural, Minidoka, Smiley Creek & West Magic