

July 18, 2008

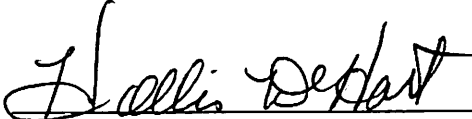
The Russell Springs City Commission held a special called meeting this date at City Hall at 10:00 a.m. In attendance were Claradon Wilson, Derek Aaron, Teresa Kraner, Richard Roy, Joe Irvin, Timmy Hudson, Richard Wooldridge, Wayne Gaskins, Ray Barrett, Matthew DeHart, Hollis DeHart and Wendy Burton.


1. Mayor Hollis DeHart called the meeting to order.
2. **Richard Wooldridge made the motion to accept the July 10 minutes as written. Timmy Hudson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
3. Mayor DeHart stated: Work has been going on 4-5 months trying to bring the ambulance service/911 under the same umbrella. Passing of proposal means a lot county wide; if it works the way it is intended to and I think it will; we'll be having an efficient and stream-lined service. This will be a savings of \$42,000. It is not just a savings of \$42,000, but \$42,000 each year for the next how many years. Several issues need to be addressed. The biggest issue seems to surround the 911 Link Board. The present board consists of one officer from the Russell Springs and Jamestown Police departments, the County Sheriff and the Fire Chief of Jamestown. From a personal prospective I would prefer the present structure of the 911 committee. The new board as proposed would replace most of the members with the exception of the County Sheriff, with the new members being Pre-Trial Officer; Russell County Circuit Court Judge, Russell County District Court Judge, Mayor of Russell Springs, Mayor of Jamestown and Russell County Judge Executive. The forces opposed to the proposed 911 committee seem to believe that this group of people does not have the experience to serve on this committee nor do they have the ability to know whom to hire as dispatchers. While I would prefer to keep the present 911 committee, I see absolutely no reason why the new 911 committee cannot do the job. Some of the people on the new proposed committee have deep experience in personnel matters and have managed budgets involving millions of dollars. Additionally, they have hired and fired people for and from various profession and vocational positions. On top of all this the membership of the new 911 Board is totally legal and meets all the requirements of Title 28, part 20 of the Federal Regulations. Only agencies which meet the definition of law enforcement/criminal justice as contained in the Department of Justice Regulations on Criminal Justice Information (Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations and have an Originating Agency Identifier (ORI) assigned by the FBI may qualify for via a LINK Terminal, under this category. Federal Regulations 20.3 (b) Administration of criminal justice means performance of any of the following activities: Detections, apprehension, detention, pretrial release, post-trial release, prosecution and adjudication. These are people who can serve (some questions on the judges). **Issue #2** Whether or not to hire a Supervisor for the 911 Dispatch. I personally believe one person should be designated as Director. It is proposed that Mark Coots be that Director.

However, there are some who believe the job would be too difficult for one person to handle and would need a supervisor answering to the Director. I do not agree with that concept. Having 10 to 15 employees and directing two divisions in the same building would be very appropriate for a competent administrator. However, since the Ambulance Director will be in charge of all finances including budget preparation and that budget submitted to the Ambulance Board for approval, I can put my personal preferences aside and agree to the new committee. Finally, is this proposal a perfect instrument? No! Is it far superior to what we have had?

Absolutely! Absolutely! I believe as we move forward we will approve little tweaks here and there and continue to build a great service to the community. Therefore, I fully recommend the adoption of this proposal.

4. Ray Barrett asked since the 911 would not be receiving the \$42,000 per year how will they operate? Mayor DeHart stated through grants, taxation and fees. According to Mark Coots, this would not cause an increase in taxes. Mayor DeHart stated he was not for moving the ambulance building from near the hospital, but the new building is already debt free. Good Administration. Finances should be no problem. The Ambulance Board does have taxation authority. Ray Barrett asked since the 911 Dispatch would not be receiving the \$42,000 per year could they increase taxes? Mayor DeHart stated that they could. Ray Barrett asked would the Board keep Mark Coots as Director? Mayor DeHart stated yes; commended Mark Coots on an exceptional good job.
5. **Mayor DeHart made the motion for the proposed plan to bring the Ambulance/911 Dispatch together be accepted. Richard Wooldridge seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1 with Ray Barrett voting-no.**
6. **Mayor DeHart made the motion to adjourn. Ray Barrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**


Hollis DeHart, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Wendy Burton, City Clerk