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NEWS RELEASE

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FIRST RESPONDER AGENCIES AGREE ON FEE SCHEDULE FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

WELD COUNTY, CO – Over the past few months, Weld County Commissioners Barbara Kirkmeyer, Sean Conway and Mike Freeman, along with Director of Finance and Administration Don Warden and members of county Law / Fire / EMS agencies worked together to revise a fee schedule for dispatch services that was agreeable to all first responder agencies. That schedule, which is a cost allocation for dispatch services to city, town and district users for 2016-2020, has been unanimously agreed to by all entities.

The following process was used to determine the costs to be paid for dispatch services:

- 1) Allocation of costs will be charged based upon utilization of dispatched calls.
- 2) Call volume will be averaged over four years to avoid an entity from having a spike in costs due to an extraordinary event.
- 3) Costs for police dispatch and fire dispatch will be prorated based upon the percentage of dispatchers dedicated to law and fire consoles.
- 4) The total budget for the Weld County Communication Center (WCRCC) shall be determined annually from the total for operational costs. The amount reimbursed by the Weld County E911 Authority Board for operations will be subtracted from the WCRCC to determine a net cost of operations for users.
- 5) The total cost for infrastructure depreciation for the WCRCC shall be determined annually. The total cost of infrastructure depreciation will be determined similar to how the above operational costs are determined.
- 6) The costs per call type (law or fire) will be multiplied times the call volume averaged over four years for each law and fire agency to determine the total operational costs and costs for infrastructure depreciation for each agency annually.

Starting in 2016, each law and fire agency shall pay 10% of the total costs for operations and infrastructure depreciation allocated for each law and fire agency; in 2017, 12.5%; in 2018, 15%; in 2019, 17.5%; and in 2020 and beyond, 20%.

"All agencies agreed unanimously to the fee schedule," said Commissioner Chair Barbara Kirkmeyer. "And the Board was happy to accommodate their request to gradually work the fee schedule into their budgets, which is the reason behind the staggered percentage increase."

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