An informational meeting of the committee County Judge-Executive Davie Greer created to look into the county's concerns with the Barren-Metcalfe Emergency 911 Center was held last night. Members of the Glasgow City Council Finance Committee were in attendance to address concerns with the interlocal agreement that created 911 in Barren and Metcalfe Counties in 1993.

Greer began the meeting with these major concerns…

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/1106greer.mp3{/audio}

Greer stated that her feeling all along has been that dispatchers should be paid as 911 employees, not employees of their respective departments. She also said that her opinion was that either a new interlocal agreement should be written, or all parties involved need to live by the current agreement.

It was the mutual feeling from everyone involved that the interlocal agreement was outdated. Today, the majority of calls to the 911 dispatch center are from cell phones. In 1993, this wasn't the case.

Wendell Honeycutt pointed out that the City of Glasgow pays over $644,000 in salaries and benefits to dispatchers, Metcalfe County pays $152,000, and the EMS pays around $200,000 whereas Barren County pays $0. M.D. Armstrong proposed that the county pay $300,000.

Although no decisions were made and no actions were voted on, the group decided that it was in the best interest of everyone involved to rewrite the interlocal agreement once the governing board of the Barren-Metcalfe Emergency 911 Center had met to discuss the changes that need to be made. Barren County would have an opportunity to pay dispatchers for their sheriff and volunteer fire departments and would have more input into the policies and procedures and all cities and counties involved would continue to make the system work well. Here's Councilman M.D. Armstrong…

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/1106armstrong.mp3{/audio}

However, one police dispatcher assured those who attended the meeting that no priority was assessed when taking calls.

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/1106dispatch.mp3{/audio}