

### Proposal for Dispatching Change Discussed

(KTNC) - Sheriff Randy Houser met with a skeptical audience during Tuesday's Richardson County Commission meeting to discuss the Sheriff's proposal to have the county take over the 9-1-1 dispatching duties. The Falls City Police Department currently is the Public Service Answering Point for Richardson County, and has been for several years.

Sheriff Houser cited a couple main reasons why he wants to move the dispatching to the Sheriff's office – to save the county money by eliminating the \$120,000 the county pays to Falls City for dispatching, and increasing security at the jail. (play audio :45)

Falls City Police Chief John Caverzagie said the county wouldn't save any money by taking over the dispatching, as they couldn't use 9-1-1 wireless funds to pay dispatchers. (play audio :39)

Falls City, City Administrator Gary Jorn asked how the change would take place. (play audio :35)

Falls City Mayor Tim Hersh questioned the need for the change, when the present dispatching system is not broken. Houser said what is broken is not the dispatching, but the safety at the jail. (play audio :59)

The board did not make any decisions on the matter Tuesday. Commissioner Jim Davidson, though, said he is satisfied with the way things are now.

Before any change is considered, Sheriff Houser said the Nebraska Public Service Commission would have to approve the move of the Public Service Answering Point from the city to the county.