

Hiawatha and Horton Discuss Future Partnerships

(KNZA)--At the suggestion of Hiawatha City Commissioner Steffen Shamburg, Hiawatha Commissioners Tuesday evening traveled the less than 15 miles needed to meet with their Horton Commission counterparts.

Horton Mayor Tim Lentz welcomed the Hiawatha leaders to Horton City Hall, and outlined the reason behind the informal session agreed to by both him and Shamburg. "[This is] the first round of hopefully many more rounds of open communication and open dialogue between the two cities. Hopefully [we can] come together and maybe share some services and maybe share some ideas and figure out how we can make both communities a better place to live and bring our kids up."

Following the welcome, Hiawatha Mayor Crosby Gernon called his board to order, with discussion between the two sides then launched.

Topics for the evening ranged from increased sharing of equipment, such as excavators for the demolition of derelict properties, to encouraging Brown County to fully fund emergency communications for both communities.

By the end of the session, it was decided that Horton Police Chief John Calhoon will partner with Hiawatha Police Chief John Defore to arrange a meeting with County Sheriff John Merchant to discuss the possibility of 911 funding.

Both Commissions agreed, prior to adjournment, to hold another similar session in the future, but set no date for that to happen.

Many Signals Communications