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Atchison County Discusses Funding For Joint Communications Upgrade (KAIR)--Funding was the primary focus of the Atchison County Commission when they met Tuesday afternoon to discuss how to best move forward with a planned upgrade to the county's joint communications system.

County Emergency Preparedness Director Wes Lanter says the Joint Communications Board worked on pricing the approximately \$1.1 million upgrade before it was presented to the Commission for the first time.

Once initial approval was given, the Joint Communications Board worked towards funding the upgrades. Lanter, along with Sheriff Jack Laurie presented their funding plan to the Commission, with Commissioner Mike Bodenhause expressing concerns related to the reliability of income source. Lanter says this concern is valid, since the income is based off sales tax money, which can change from year to year. In the end, it was decided to send interlocal agreements to each city, stating that they will not drop their funding for the project.

Lanter says that he and Laurie will prepare these agreements themselves, have them checked to make sure everything is legally correct, and have each city in the county sign them before mid December.

The Atchison City Commission agreed to assist in the project during their meeting Monday afternoon.

Many Signals Communications