Commission Receives Second Jail Healthcare Proposal

(KNZA)--The Brown County Commission received a jail healthcare proposal Monday from the Hiawatha Community Hospital Family Practice Clinic.

Physician Assistant Jodi Twombly and office manager Jennifer Ploeger presented the proposal to commissioners.

The proposal was in response to one submitted recently by Peoria, Illinois-based Advanced Correctional Health Care, which is utilized by Atchison and Doniphan Counties.

Twombly said they are concerned about the expense, around \$30,000 annually, and mainly that it's not local....(play audio)

Twombly said the current estimated cost for Hiawatha Family Practice to provide inmate visits and for KEX RX Pharmacy to provide medications for inmates is around \$12,000 a year.

Sheriff John Merchant said he is not trying to take business away locally, but his major concern is liability...(play audio)

Twombly addressed Merchant's concerns...(play audio)

Commissioners and Sheriff Merchant agreed to continue the current working agreement with the Hiawatha Family Practice Clinic, with Twombly and nurse practitioner Dustin Williams visiting jail inmates four hours per week.

Many Signals Communications