

# Exploration of combining City of Breckenridge's law enforcement services with Stephens County by Strengthening the Interlocal

February 2024

## BACKGROUND

City staff has met with Stephens County Judge and Stephens County Sheriff to discuss and review budgets, duties, etc. County Judge has been in contact with Garza County Judge and City Manager has been in contact with Post City Manager (a city/county who combined by strengthening the interlocal)

While there are other cities/counties across the country who have combining law enforcement services, it is important to look at similar cities/counties to ours. Garza County and the City of Post provide such an example as they are similar in size to us that has combined law enforcement services (<https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-counties/tx/garza-county/cities> )

### Current LE Interlocal – Key Points

- ✓ The county owns the Law Enforcement Center, pays for maintenance, primary upkeep, and repair, and provides City space.
- ✓ County is responsible for all jail operations – staffing, etc. and will house persons arrested by BPD with limits as defined by agreement.
- ✓ County is responsible for its employees' cell phone, long distance telephone and internet expenses.
  
- ✓ The city is responsible to pay all expenses for the law enforcement center electricity, gas, water, sewer, trash, and land telephone service.
- ✓ The city is responsible for its employees' cell phone, long distance telephone and internet expenses.
- ✓ The city will pay for law enforcement center water/sewer, pays for ordinary expenses for upkeep, maintenance and wear and tear of city designated spaces.
- ✓ City will follow Stephens County Sheriff's Rules of Operation for Law Enforcement Center and Jail Facility
- ✓ The city will be responsible for city prisoners; booking procedures, bailiffs, and medical as defined by agreement and shall have eight beds available for usage by BPD. If space is available, any prisoner over eight in the city will pay \$35.00 per day for each city prisoner.

### Other Agreement for Dispatch

- ✓ The city operates dispatch and is responsible for six employees.
  
- ✓ County pays \$36,000 annually.
- ✓ The county pays for equipment.

Cost Analysis	City	County	Combined	Proposed	Difference
Salary/# of positions	\$760,852/17	\$418,720/8	\$1,179,572/25	\$1,095,240/24	-\$84,332
Vehicles (annual/5-yrs)	\$116,880/\$585,400	7 patrol vehicles (Years: 2017 (2), 21,22,23,24)			
Vehicle Maint & Repair	\$5,500	\$15,000	\$20,500	\$20,500	\$0
Supplies (ofc/cleaning)	\$6800	\$9,800	\$16,600	\$16,600	\$0
Fuel	\$38,000	\$35,000	\$73,000	\$73,000	\$0
Uniforms/Ammo	\$10,700	\$3,000	\$13,700	\$25,000	+\$11,300
Contractual Services (primarily software subscriptions)	\$12,000	?			Potential economies of scale

- Budgeted positions
- Includes all positions (command, patrol, dispatch, admin)
- Salary numbers do not include benefits (insurance, retirement, SS, longevity, cert pay, etc.)
- **Proposed salary/positions:**

Sheriff (1)	\$75,000
Chief Deputy (1)	\$52,000
Patrol (16)	\$23.00 hourly (\$47,840 annually) Total: \$765,440
Dispatch (4)	\$16.50 hourly (\$34,320 annually) Total: \$137,280
Admin (2)	\$16.50 hourly (\$34,320 annually) Total: \$68,640

Benefits	City	County	
Retirement	Vesting in 5 years/matches 1.5-1	Vesting in 8 yrs/12% of gross salary per yr	
Paid Vacation	1-4 yrs= 2 wks, 5-9 yrs=3 wks, 10-19 yrs=4 wks, 20+=5 wks	1 – 5 yrs=13 days, 6-10 yrs=18 days	
Paid Sick	Accrues 10 hrs per month/120 hrs per yr	Accrues 6.67 per month/80 hrs per yr	
Longevity	Yes	yes	comparable

<b>PROS</b>	<b>CONS</b>
Increase in service <b>coverage</b> – 2 officers per shift vs 1 – 1.5 avg over the past several years	Employee Morale-transition, uncertainty, unfamiliar territory
Consistent law enforcement	Retirement: Increased vesting time
reduction in crime	Reduced Salary
	Loss of seniority

Animal Control – How to handle: Keep as City Department or include?

K-9 (Assets) \$1700 annual plus \$3900 (K-9 Stipend to Officer for animal care supplement)

Contractual Services: \$10,487.03

TLETS with WSC - \$1,800

Cardinal yearly maintenance/renewal \$2,507

Lexi Pool – Office training - \$861.03

Leads Online/computer database for pawnshops and officers - \$2,819.

HyperReach - \$2,500 city share (City pays half/county pays half)