Emergency Communications Impact & Cost Summary

Teton Valley Workshop | Teton County Idaho Sheriff | July 2026

Teton County, Idaho's 911 Dispatch Center provides critical emergency communications and dispatch services for the western slope of the Teton Range, including Grand Targhee. In 2025, the center handled 5,552 total calls, with 12% of 911 calls and 5% of total calls originating in Wyoming. While both emergency and non-emergency calls require personnel time, emergency calls specifically demand the use of advanced 911 equipment and software.

State-restricted E911 fees generate only $150,000 annually leaving the County's General Fund to absorb the costs. To handle the projected increase in regional call volume and support the Fire Department's new Emergency Medical and Fire Dispatch (EMD/EFD) protocols, the dispatch is working to hire five additional dispatchers and absorb escalating maintenance fees.

Last year, the Fire District committed to pay approximately $140,000 for dispatch services. However, that amount does not cover the true cost-per-call or the capital equipment upgrades necessary to safely process the expansion's induced call volume. The County does not currently receive any funds from Wyoming for providing 911 emergency dispatch to Alta. By allocating the total call volume to proportionately cover personnel and allocating emergency 911 call volume to cover equipment, the primary users could more equitably allocate the costs of the center.

Personnel for Emergency & Non-Emergency Services			Equipment/Services for Emergency 911		
Total Calls to Dispatch		5,552	Total 911Calls		2,233
Calls from Wyoming	5%	281	Calls from Wyoming	10%	217
Calls for Fire/Ambulance	25%	1,380	Calls for Fire/Ambulance	28%	628
Calls for Fire/Ambulance less WY	20%	1,099	Calls for Fire/Ambulance less WY	18%	411
Current ECO Personnel Salaries/Benefits		$625,387	FY27Capital Equipment Costs		$594,000
Current IT Personnel Salaries/Benefits for 911		82,552	FY27 Service Costs		185627
Requested ECO Personnel Increase		375,000	Total Equipment/Service Costs		779,627
Total Personnel Costs		1,082,939			
Allocation of Personnel Costs			Allocation of Equipment/Service Costs		
Teton County, Idaho	75%	$812,204	Teton County, Idaho	72%	$561.331
Teton County, Wyoming	5%	54,147	Teton County, Wyoming	10%	77,962
Teton County Fire & Rescue	20%	216,588	Teton County Fire & Rescue	18%	140,333

Using the fee-for-service model adopted by Teton County, Wyoming and Teton County, Idaho Fire and Rescue, the County could contract to recover a proportionate share of costs from users of the County's Emergency Communications services. The proportional amounts would be:

Teton County Wyoming	$132,109
Teton County Fire & Rescue	$356,921

Sources: Teton County Clerk Budget Projections (July 2026), FY27 General Fund Dispatch Budget (001-19); FY27 Proposed E911 Budget (244); Teton County Sheriff's Office, 2025 eForce CAD Data (July 2026).