



# Board Agenda Background

**Date:** 1/6/2026  
**To:** Board of County Commissioners  
**Through:** Colton Rohloff, County Manager  
**From:** Rachel Harlow-Schalk, Finance Director/Assistant County Manager  
**Subject:** Consideration of Resolution R-26-03, A Resolution Setting the Emergency Telephone Charge for Calendar Year 2026

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## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) consider adoption of Resolution R-26-03 setting the Emergency Telephone Charge (also known as e911 fee) for Calendar Year 2026 at \$2.40 in line with the fee rate for the last six years.

## BACKGROUND

Since 2006, the County has implemented the Emergency Telephone charge as a fee along with collections from the Colorado's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) specific to franchise agreements. A history of the fees applied in the County since the year 2020 as follows:

2020	Fee FY2020	Resolution 20-13	\$1.25
2020	Fee Increase Application	Resolution 20-22	Application for \$2.40 to PUC
2020	Fee FY2020 Revised	Resolution 20-58	\$2.40
2021	Fee FY2021	Resolution 21-13	\$2.40
2022	Fee FY2022	Resolution 22-08	\$2.40
2023	Fee FY2023	Resolution 23-13	\$2.40
2024	Fee FY2024	Resolution 24-15	\$2.40
2025	Fee FY2025	Resolution 25-14	\$2.40

Statewide, the PUC limits the amount that can be charged for this service on an annual basis. Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.) § 29-11-102(2)(b) requires the BOCC to, at least annually, establish a rate of charge for emergency telephone service. BOCC approval of this resolution is required to achieve compliance with fee adoption statutes and to set the 2026 rate for emergency telephone service. C.R.S. 29-11-102(2)(b) also requires the BOCC to consider inflation and the needs of the governing body when setting the fee. The fee is assigned to its own fund, the Emergency Telephone Fund (also known as the e911 Fund) and expenses related to provision of emergency telephone services are charged to the fund.

Inherent within the use of e911 fees collected, is the expectation that revenues protect the public health, safety, and welfare to be spent on any equipment, installation, and other directly related costs for the continued operation of an emergency telephone service. Such expenses should be used to impose the emergency telephone charge on service users. Geographically speaking, the e911 surcharge region for Clear Creek is the County's boundaries.

In 2023, Clear Creek County completed an analysis of the communications center and dispatch operations within the Sheriff's Office. That analysis was brought to the BOCC on [September 12, 2023](#) along with a request that the [Jeffcom911 Board of Directors](#) be sent a request for Clear Creek to become part of that consortium and transition 911 services to Jeffcom911. Today, dispatch services for Clear Creek are managed through Jeffcom911 and the County is a member of the consortium.



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## ANALYSIS

To ensure continued 911 services throughout the County, the annual fee must be charged at \$2.40 as outlined in the attached resolution. While the fee is not sufficient to cover all expenses related to e911 services, including JeffCom911, the fee is higher than \$2.17 set statewide for 2026 by the PUC. Across the state, the amount charged for this fee varies. Below is a list of [neighboring counties](#) and their fee rates per user:

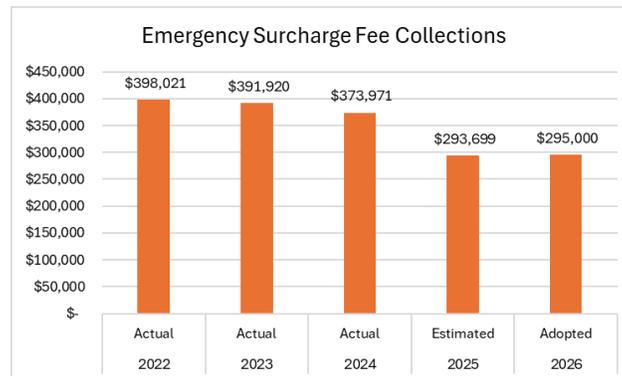
County	Fee	Population*
Boulder County	\$1.25	330,262
Gilpin County	\$3.00	5,963
Grand County	\$2.76	16,164
Jefferson County (Jeffcom)	\$2.12	578,533
Lake County	\$2.12	7,369
Park County	\$3.00	18,316
Summit County	\$2.12	30,882
Clear Creek County	\$2.40	9,076

\*source: U.S. Census Bureau, [Quick Facts July 1, 2024 Population Estimates](#)

Phillips and Pitkin Counties have the highest rates in the state at \$4.00 with populations of 4,488 and 16,643 respectively. Staff anticipates coming back to the BOCC with a plan to increase the fee in front of the PUC in 2026.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Like other funds in the County, revenues within the Emergency Telephone Fund have declined. The purpose of the County's Emergency Telephone Fund is to support 911 services and collect these fees. In 2025, the County revised the budget allocation to move the expenses for JeffCom911 out of the General and Ambulance Funds (\$557,539) and placing the expense in the Emergency Telephone Fund. The same method was employed as part of the 2026 budget. In 2026, the Ambulance Fund's share of the JeffCom911 contract (\$66,453) was moved for spending out of the Emergency Telephone Fund as was \$208,040 from the General Fund. The remaining \$408,039 expense is anticipated from the General Fund in 2026.



## ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution R-26-03