

NEWS RELEASE



Caldwell County Commissioners approve interlocal agreement with Lockhart Police Department

The Caldwell County Sheriff's Office will assist the City of Lockhart with maintaining the law enforcement presence it needs during a time of transition for the Lockhart Police Department, which is working to hire more officers and a new police chief.

The Caldwell County Commissioners Court on Thursday, November 17 approved an interlocal cooperation agreement between the county, the sheriff's office and the police department for law enforcement services. The terms of the agreement include the county assigning its deputies to provide law enforcement services for the city when requested by the interim police chief, provided the county has personnel available.

The county will operate as an independent contractor per the terms of the agreement, which will include overtime. For the time being, the county will use its own vehicles and equipment.

"We will pay our deputies at the overtime rate to help with patrol at the city's request while the police department gets its numbers back up, and they will reimburse us," Caldwell County Judge Hoppy Haden said. "Our sheriff's office is in a position to assist the Lockhart Police Department with keeping the Caldwell County seat safe and we are pleased we can help support Lockhart's hardworking police officers during this time of transition."

The Lockhart Police Department currently has an interim police chief who is heading the department as well as assisting with finding and hire the city's next full-time police chief – a process that could take approximately four months. Former Huntsville, Texas Police Chief and Public Safety Director Kevin Lunsford, who brings 40 years of law enforcement experience to the city, is currently filling that role.

"We appreciate commissioners for approving the interlocal agreement," Lunsford said. "It is needed, and our department is headed in the right direction."

[To read the terms of the agreement, click here.](#)

