



Clinton County Justice Coordinating Commission
Clinton County Courthouse
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CCJCC Jail Facility committee – Site Selection meeting notes
10.30.14 (6:00 p.m.): Law Center conference room

A jail tour took place at 4:45 p.m.

Committee/Staff present: Sheriff Rick Lincoln, Chance Kness (EMA), Margaret Kuhl (CCJCC Coordinator), Lt. Craig Eberhart, Todd Kinney (County Engineer), Corey Johnson (County Maintenance), Brian Schmidt (BOS); Terri Boussetot, John Eisenman, Jerome Burken, Eric Dau (Communications), Matt Willimack

Guests present: Gayle Dolan (candidate, BOS), Jim West (BOS candidate), Jacob Couppee (city of Clinton), Brian McKenrick, Jackie Spain, Darrell Spain

Media present: Nick Joos (The Observer), Dave Vickers (KROS Radio)

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Minutes from October 30, 2014 were distributed and discussed.

II. Introductions were completed.

III. Meeting timeline, locations and dates were solidified:

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 6th at 6:00 p.m. The meeting schedule will be every two weeks after that. The location will rotate, with **November 6th meeting to be held at the DeWitt Satellite Office**. November 20th, the group will meet at the Law Center again. The tasks of this subgroup should be completed within ninety days.

Sheriff discussed some goals of this group and the suggestion to start early in the process with involving citizens and developing site selection group. Sheriff asked group members various jail and CCJCC questions & received these answers and comments: Lt. Eberhart: In regard to the location of the jail, there will be increased transportation costs if the jail does not remain at the current site. The downside to present location is the flood threat. Eric Dau: Communications has a great deal of electronic equipment and Court paperwork. Chance Kness: At the present site, we are outside of the “ten-mile ring” (from Exelon). If a future site would be within that ten mile ring, this would require additional planning and preparation for jail population and traffic/access control. Margaret Kuhl: After hearing from Mike, with Shive Hattery, it is estimated the amount of green space needed for a jail site would be somewhere between 3.5-5 acres of land. The present location is approximately two acres (with a multi-level building). Projected square footage for new jail is 51,000 sq. ft. Brian McKenrick: The question is “what now?” We were successful with reducing the jail population. We have engaged a consultant to identify jail bed needs according to classifications, recreation area and support staff needed. Terri Boussetot asked if the number of beds was projected. McKenrick said yes: 96 beds.

IV. Sheriff Lincoln reviewed a five-step process for this group (from bottom of page three of NIC Jail Site Evaluation and Selection document):



1. Develop Site Evaluation process.
2. Identify potential sites,
3. Preliminary evaluation,
4. Select potential site(s) and
5. Conduct detailed site analysis.

This group will communicate with the public about potential sites and ensure we follow the five recommended steps. Next steps: we will let people know they can make suggestions of potential properties. Iowa Code section 21.5 (1)(j.) was read in regard to Open Meetings Law and possible closed sessions.

Group engaged in dialogue about jails, site selection tasks and related topics:

Lt. Eberhart was asked where most of the jail inmates originate from; he stated 95% are from the city of Clinton. Questions were asked about inmates while they appear in Court. Craig said inmates are watched by a Deputy in a room at the Courthouse. If we were to have holding cells at the Courthouse, they would need to be locked, with restrooms and meet all of Iowa's standards. We would need two, in case there was a male and a female inmate. On criminal day (Thursday), five or six inmates are transported. There was some discussion about other jails that have been visited. Green Lake County, WI was brought up, in regard to costs savings with the geothermal heating/cooling and LED lights.

IV. Sheriff Lincoln then reviewed with the group some of Todd Kinney's comments about the Site Selection Evaluation form: Todd suggested having a deadline for public input about possible jail sites. He would like a scoring rubric with data to score and rate possible sites. He also suggested a weighted numerical scale. The group agreed these are all good recommendations. Sheriff will visit with Todd to see if he can assist with creating a suitable scoring rubric for the site selection evaluation form.

V. No possible sites were discussed at this meeting.

VI. Open discussion:

Jacob Couppee answered the question as to what the current zoning of the jail is: "R1A" (single family dwelling).

Matt Willimack inquired whether non-criminal court proceedings could be held at the Courthouse and if criminal proceedings could be held at added court space in the setting of future jail. John Eisenman asked of new jails built, how many were built not adjacent to a Courthouse? Craig Eberhart stated that most are built close to the Courthouse. Brian McKenrick: Nevada is exception – Clerks offices split and Courtrooms/Judges Chambers built adjacent. Other discussion and questions included John Eisenman asking if this group is to come up with a recommendation without reference to cost. Sheriff noted that we will take a recommendation to CCJCC, who will bring it to the Board of Supervisors. We as employees and residents will make a recommendation to the Board and that cost should be a factor. Sheriff told how the architects from Shive Hattery commented how we kept it just to what is needed and complimented CCJCC.



Projected cost per bed is estimated at \$105,000 per bed (which accounts for required areas such as laundry, kitchen, recreation, visitation, medical, etc.).

Brian Schmidt stated that the citizen input is also a fresh view and new ideas for the site selection. Jerome Burken asked if there is a deadline and when to go ahead with it at a set cost. Inflationary cost was then brought up. Corey Johnson said average inflation costs have been running 6-7%. Matt Willimack wondered about the cost if the jail is closed – which would be huge. Corey Johnson spoke more about the equipment being obsolete in the jail (toilets, showers, etc. need to be stainless). Eric Dau said from Communications standpoint, they are out of room. With technology increases, they are out of space. Another issue in regard to the jail is liability issue with insurance...

Sheriff mentioned the issue of classroom space in a new jail, for programs such as GED, AA groups, etc. so that we are making a better citizen when they are released as opposed to a better criminal – to create a tax payer rather than a tax user.

For the next meeting: Craig talked about wanting to pinpoint the evaluation form and get a final form developed and 2. bring possible sites. In regard to the strategic plan, Brian McKenrick said we are on track from last year's goal.

Sheriff then outlined four points: 1. Get sites selected. 2. Form Public Advocacy Group (have jail tours, get feedback and work with committee). 3. Have conceptual drawing of what facility would look like. 4, Form Public Safety Authority (would need 60% to pass referendum without...otherwise joint project would select three people – one from the county, one from the city and one jointly selected person – then only 50% + 1% is required to pass referendum).

Eric Dau said we have had joint dispatching since 1978. Brian McKenrick stated the PSA would encourage cooperation between city and county. Terri Boussetot commented how communicating the impact of this jail issue on tax payers is what will move people to support it (for ex: the cost of liability insurance for one).

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next meeting: November 6th at 6:00 p.m. (in DeWitt).

Respectfully submitted by: Margaret Kuhl, CCJCC Coordinator