



Clinton County Justice Coordinating Commission
Clinton County Courthouse
612 North Second Street, Suite 103
Clinton, Iowa 52732

(563) 243-6210 ext. 4310
ccjcc@clintoncounty-ia.gov

The Blue Ribbon Panel (BRP) of CCJCC convened on August 24th (6:30 p.m.) at the DeWitt Satellite Office.

The group heard presentation of issues about the Clinton County Jail, Sheriff's Office and 911 Communications Center from Sheriff Rick Lincoln, Jail Administrator Lt. Craig Eberhart and 911 Communications Director Eric Dau.

The BRP viewed the project video and questions were answered.

Supervisor Dan Srp spoke about the Site Selection process and how the group followed National Institute of Corrections (NIC) guidelines. The discussions with ShiveHattery for architectural drawings were discussed and that CCJCC has included the Historic Preservation Commission in this process.

Citizen engagement has been vital in each step of these processes with the replacement facility project. County citizens were involved with Site Selection, the architectural representation and now Blue Ribbon Panel.

The BRP discussed how the cities and county share joint operations with the County Jail and 911 Communications Center. One of the goals for the group is to study the possibility of implementing a Public Safety Authority (PSA).

County Attorney Mike Wolf answered PSA questions. A PSA would incorporate a building authority, which requires the County and its County Seat (Clinton) to choose a three member committee. One person is appointed by the County, one by the City of Clinton and one person, jointly. The PSA, after incorporating has the authority to call for revenue bonds and to ask citizens to approve. Some advantages include: a PSA requires a 50% + one approval and provides more joint effort between County and the County Seat.

Other related questions/discussion included:

- Concern is cost of delay: Current construction inflation rates are 4 - 4.5%. This equates to approximately \$850,000 additional costs each year the project is delayed.
- If the jail were to be closed, each city would be responsible for transporting arrestees and inmates to either Cedar, Scott, Dubuque or Jackson County (and back for court).
- It is an approximate three-year process for jail construction, from the time of referendum approval to the time of occupation of building.
- There has been a professional estimate (six months ago) of five years remaining in current facility.

CCJCC Coordinator M. Kuhl distributed project FAQs and spoke about the Programs and classroom space at the proposed replacement facility. Law Center tour information was also presented. Upcoming dates are: Sept. 4th (1:00 or 3:00 p.m.), September 10th (6:30 p.m.), September 22nd (1:00 or 3:00) & September 23rd (6:30 p.m.).

"Working to improve the justice system in Clinton County, Iowa."



Interested residents may participate in tours by contacting the CCJCC office.

Project information, a video, FAQs and more can be viewed at www.clintoncounty-ia.gov. Click on "Departments" and "CCJCC."

Clinton County citizens are encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback about the project and PSA to BRP participants. Coordinator Kuhl will disseminate a media release including names of BRP Members, requesting citizens provide feedback.

Those representing the county and each of the communicates are:

Kathy Rohling, Dan Behr, Amber Metzger, Ken Fahlback, Julie Steines, Jerome Burken, Don Thiltgen, Alex Rhodes, David Sivright, KC Hootman, James Schroeder, Matt Willimack, Jan Hansen, Robert Betsinger, Terry Steines and Lou Schroeder.

Additional questions/discussion involved future planning for Town Hall meetings and posting FAQs to web site. (Coordinator Kuhl will provide FAQ information to County IT and e-mail to BRP.)

Project Advocacy would be taken on by a specially formed group, such as a PAC.

The next Blue Ribbon Panel meeting will be September 28th (6:30 p.m.) at the DeWitt Satellite Office in DeWitt, Iowa.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Margaret Kuhl
CCJCC Coordinator