



Jackson County Sheriff's Office

30 N. 3rd Street - Black River Falls, WI 54615 - (715) 284-9009 - Fax: (715) 284-0252

DUANE M. WALDERA, SHERIFF – ADAM M. OLSON, CHIEF DEPUTY

E-MAIL: sheriff@jacksoncountywi.gov

Call to Order

Chairman Chuck Jensen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, December 21, 2023, in the County Board Room of the Jackson County Courthouse All committee members present. Also Present Sheriff Waldera, Chief Deputy Olson, County Board Chair Jeff Amo, Jail Captain Rich, Facilities Manager Rick Poff EM Coordinator Jack Workman and County Clerk Cindy Altman.

Agenda Revisions

Motion by Laurent 2nd by Rolbiecki to revise agenda and move divisional reports/staff vacancies before strategic planning/building needs. All in favor; motion carried.

Set Next Meeting Date & Time

January 16, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Approve minutes previous meeting(s)

Motion by Rolbiecki 2nd by Laurent to approve minutes. All in favor; motion carried.

Divisional Reports

No discussion other than how school resource deputy calls are recorded.

Discuss/Act Strategic Planning/Building Needs

Samuels Group: Brought back conceptual design of a layout that could fit in the parking area of the current campus. Three story option with ground floor sally port/jail services, 1st floor of jail housing pod, 2nd floor of housing pod. Reduces bed count to 51 beds at opening max expansion to 70. Recognize with this plan that the has deficiencies including the main entrance to the existing courthouse. Would also need to refigure the lobby of the Sheriff's Office. Would this be a problem for emergency services such as fire/EMS to respond with the design layout? During construction there would not be access to the current sally port and construction costs to continue to operate during construction. The current estimate for this is \$40 million in today's costs. Staffing efficiency with a 3-floor design gets reduced and may increase staffing. Parking area across road would need to have soil testing done to determine if it would be able to build on. If went back to the original design shape it would take up all the parking area. What would the expectancy of a 70-bed max be before it would not be large enough? Maybe 30 years. What if in 15 years we need to expand? Could that be done in this space? It could be designed so that is possible but not a great option. Would be better to have the jail built to the right size bed count from the beginning. Rolbiecki voices he doesn't believe this option is feasible for future needs for services. This approach does not do anything with the existing jail footprint for use. Existing jail could be used but each time you add a post you could need to add staff. That also doesn't consider the existing administrative area that needs expansion as well. Both options presented would allow for the current jail to remain operational during construction except for sally port. The sheriff speaks that the designs presented eliminate citizens from being able to access the Sheriff's office. Three story design creates staffing inefficiencies and makes it very difficult to operate. Rolbiecki states building on this site isn't logical, it doesn't meet needs for future, eliminates parking, and access to court services is reduced.



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In 1981 County Board approved jail study. Took three years. Driven by inspection. In 1984 board voted for new jail build. In 1986 the Sheriff's office came back and needed more money because of design cuts to the jail kitchen and then needed to contract with Pine View for meals. Public opinion from public hearings is that they don't want the courthouse to move but a jail is still needed.

Other option presented by Cooper has egress and exit issues, would not be able to remain operational at all during build, building codes would not be met with width of corridors, would have to escort inmates through booking to showers, natural daylight requirements not met, programming and recreation cannot be combined per DOC, concerns with medical rooms, plan would not meet program needs. Does not address issues of sally port, office space for staff. How does engineering work with expanding on the front and back of jail? Public comment states that the current jail footprint allows for expansion. Would this meet DOC code requirements? Displacement that takes place with using existing space would create additional expense for temporary use while building where we are. Concerns with retaining staff during construction if use existing space. How much time does the committee want to put into the design that includes linear design which still has it's own issues. The footprint that was proposed for the existing structure does not go into any of the other courthouse area. Building codes regulate what needs to be brought up to codes. The separation of buildings is determined by fire walls. How does a variance come in? Samuels Group talks about potential for future reuse of space from a masterplan perspective. Motion by Rolbiecki that using existing building for expansion would create bigger problems. Needs study shows jail will need to be 85 beds. Motion by Rolbiecki 2nd by Carney to not continue with any plans that renovate existing jail for expansion. Hart, Rolbiecki, Carney Aye; Laurent Nay. Motion carried.

Samuels Group will come back with design options going back to the 85-bed plan. Motion by Hart 2nd by Carney to have Laurent and Rolbiecki be on the sub-committee for design. Samuel's Group follow-up action item.

Thank you to Tom for the time and effort put into design options.

Staff Vacancies & Recruitment Updates

Jail vacancies not filled yet in jail. Will work on backgrounds soon.

Dispatch is full.

Patrol is full staff for full time. Part time is difficult to fill. 3 new positions created are moving forward. Waiting on union to move forward with the transport deputy. Two graduated from Law Enforcement academy that have been helping in the jail.

Vouchers Payable

Motion by Carney 2nd by Rolbiecki to approve vouchers. All in favor; motion carried.

2023 Budget

One and half payrolls left. Overall budget should be ok. Question on CHAZ grant capital computer is used for things like laptops, badge printer, etc. It is reimbursed if used.



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Closed Session

Motion to enter closed session at 12:02 a.m. by Laurent; 2nd by Rolbiecki; All answer yes.

- a. The committee will convene into closed session for the discussion of employee related matters pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1)(b), To consider dismissal, demotion, licensing or discipline of any public employee licensed by a board or commission or the investigation of charges against such person(s);
- b. Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1) (c) employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility

- Annual Chief Deputy Evaluation

Motion by to return to open session at 1:09 p.m. by Laurent; 2nd by Rolbiecki;. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Hart; 2nd by Rolbiecki at 1:10 p.m. All in favor; motion carried.