



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 10:03 a.m. Tuesday, October 17, 2023 in the County Board Room of the Jackson County Courthouse All committee members present. Also Present Sheriff Waldera, Chief Deputy Olson, Patrol Captain Nicholas Gray, County Board Chair Jeff Amo, Jail Captain Rich, Facilities Manager Rick Poff and County Clerk Cindy Altman.

Agenda Revisions

Move item N to before item G

Set Next Meeting Date & Time

November 16, 2023 10 a.m.

Approve minutes previous meeting(s)

Motion by Garth 2nd by Bill to approve minutes. All in favor; motion carried.

Jail Information – Tom Cooper

Tom Cooper presented a 4th option for new jail. Plan is a take away from the community meetings and meetings with several Department Heads and County Board Chairman. There is a need. Nobody said there is not something that needs to be done. Would like another option. Would add 22 x 191 feet to the front of the current building and additional space on the side of the jail. Singel floor 42 bed double bunked med/max security in a POD configuration. 10 beds for minimum security in linear style. 7 holding isolation beds. One is the padded room for mental health needs. Separate nurses office with separate examination room and secure 3 lock system for medications. Meal prep kitchen area for commercial grade to bring in vendor to prepare meals. Includes secure booking area, formal prebooking area with designated areas for the body scanner, intoximeter room in a secure area. Padded pass through temporary holding area if needed. Expanded square footage of program area offices for the Jail Administrator, Assistant Jail Admin, Sgt. Behavioral Health and separate counseling area. Large storage room with many other areas for storage. Total bed space 59 beds minus the 15% rule from DOC is 50 beds in this version. Using numbers provided by Samuel's Group at \$650 per sq foot for the new facility projected costs would be 10.3 million \$. Also does not include cost for demo of current jail. Not sure if there is a difference in new construction cost vs. remodel. Projected cost for office space is \$6.2 million does not include demo costs. Looking at keeping existing location adding to front and north of building, new electric, plumbing, HVAC, POD style, Kitchen, updates to existing facility with least impact of current campus and surrounding streets. Eliminates need for removing current court system. Remodel entrance to courthouse. Cannot fit a bus or other large emergency vehicle in sallyport. Lose one row of parking in front of SO. Cons – relocating all inmates to surrounding counties at 45\$ per day. \$1.675 million for 2 years. 1 year \$837,675. Does not include transportation or medical. The housing costs can not go on the bond. How would we pay for it? Option 4 addresses our current issues with some expansion of services but no to overall jail population. Staff retention.

Option 5 add 30x214 feet on back of building 2nd floor only. Allow for additional 6400 sq ft with a cost of 4.2 million \$. Summary of option 4 \$16.5 million without inmate fees or demo. If add in option 5 total is \$20.7 million without demo or inmate housings.



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Samuels Group/Venture Communications Plan

Community meetings are completed. This discussion has been in process since 2021 and the complications of building here vs green field location. During the time of the pause inflation increased tremendously. Trends of website use presented. Biggest message from attendees was what is classification and why do we need it. The cost is huge due to inflation and cost of materials. Next steps – what would you like to do? Standing committee makes recommendation and goes on to the next committee and so on to get to full county board. How long does the approval process for DOC take? We include DOC from the beginning of the design phase so there are no surprises. When we have talked about remodel several things affect it. Keeping operational, not shipping out for two years, losing staff, etc. Existing jail remains operational; phasing costs more because you have to add temporary walls, electric etc. staff efficiency; long range planning; parking would be an issue; street closure; There is a lot that goes into remodel of existing building. There would be life safety issues during construction. All plans to date have been based on 80 bed facility. 60 beds may fit better but has not been in the design plans to date. What is the crime rate over the last 5 years in a county our size? No exact numbers but it does have a steady increase. Average daily population is around 50. If build across the street how would transport of inmates to court? Would likely use vehicle for transport for safety reasons. When building with intent to add on later there is space in the laundry/kitchen etc. that allows for increase in equipment to fit in the already designed room. What is the average stay of an inmate? Last time it was looked at it was around 9 days. This number does get skewed based on the court process. There are a lot of moving parts. It is about 60% over 9 and 40% 9 or less. What is the maximum amount of days a person can be sentenced in a county jail before it would be a prison sentence? It depends on how the judge orders it. Recommend going back to drawing board with proposal for jail renovation on current site using the parking area in front of the sheriff's office. Would need to look at the staff retention and housing all inmates out of county during construction. Would also need to relocate sheriff's office staff and one courtroom for sure would be affected. What would those costs be?

Resolutions:

Transport Deputy:

Went thru Personnel & Bargaining contingent on LE approval and full county board budget approval November 13th. Motion by Hart to 2nd by Carney to approve creation of transportation deputy position and job description. All in favor; motion carried.

Assistant Jail Administrator:

Went thru Personnel & Bargaining contingent on LE approval and full county board budget approval November 13th. Motion by Rolbiecki 2nd by Carney to approve creation of Assistant Jail Administrator position and job description. All in favor; motion carried.

Further discussion by Laurent regarding classification and previous jail inspections going back to 2016. In Jackson County our Sgts are boots on the floor compared with other counties where they are administrative in nature and not boots on the ground. Further discussion regarding the change in classification in 2021 to transition to more specific classification system using tree diagram which does not allow for as much officer override. Jail Administrator duties and responsibilities are much more now than they were in 2016.



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Administrative Assistant:

Went thru Personnel & Bargaining contingent on LE approval and full county board budget approval November 13th. Motion by Hart to 2nd by Laurent to approve creation of administrative assistant. All in favor; motion carried.

Towers: No resolution needed. Goal is to move off of tower in Northfield that costs about \$9800 per year increasing at 4% per year to a no cost tower. The cost to do so would be about \$50,500 the funding is pending in the 2024 budget which will be approved November 13th, 2023. Will need to get estimates from Racom as well to add to final proposal. No action taken. Will bring back in November.

Discuss/Act Strategic Planning/Building Needs

Proposal to have Samuels Group review the current location for options using all the information gathered today and present options. If building across the street the hill is pure sugar sand so would need to evaluate the stability of that area to hold a jail structure. Motion by Rolbiecki to have Samuels Group look at building a stand alone jail at the 3rd Street location and also review Cooper's design to evaluate design and cost estimate for renovation; 2nd by Laurent all in favor; motion carried.

Bill goes back to letter in progress for Legislature to address the issue of the Statute that has language for pre 1990 jails to continue operations. The goals in the annual inspection are not supported by Statute which is lacking classification language and administrative review on deficiencies and possible avenue of grant funding. May also be a good idea to add info regarding the non-compete clause and DOC reimbursement adjustments.

Divisional Reports

Written reports submitted. No date yet for Hixton drill.

Staff Vacancies & Recruitment Updates

Nothing to report out.

Vouchers Payable

Motion by Hart 2nd by Laurent to approve vouchers. All in favor; motion carried.

2023 Budget

Overall budget is on track.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Hart 2nd by Rolbiecki to adjourn at 12:47 p.m. All in favor; motion carried.