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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Ad Hoc Jail Solution Committee Minutes
February 19, 2015**

The DeKalb County Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, February 19, 2015 @ 7:00p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. Members present were Marjorie Askins, Kevin Bunge, Dan Cribben, John Frieders, Frank O'Barski, Riley Oncken, Stephen Reid, Sheriff Roger Scott and Anita Turner. Lt. Joyce Klein and Paul Stoddard were absent. A quorum was present.

Others present were Mr. Gary Hanson, Mr. Greg Millburg, Mr. Mark Pietrowski, and Mr. Pete Stefan.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Jones asked to add Public Comment to the Agenda and he placed it as item #5b. It was moved by Mr. Cribben, seconded by Mr. Frieders, and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Jones had everyone on the committee introduce themselves.

Chairman of the County Board Mark Pietrowski addressed the committee pointing out the 5 specific areas that needed to be addressed by the committee that was included in Resolution #2015-10, which was just adopted at the February 18, 2015 County Board Meeting. Those five areas are:

- 1.) Seek opportunities to reduce the jail population.
- 2.) Prioritize options for how much of the approved building design should be constructed and then constructed as either shelled or finished space.
- 3.) Design financing plans for constructing the various building options.
- 4.) Identify resources to pay for operating costs.
- 5.) Evaluate risk of losing various financial resources (\$2.5 million from Airline Fuel).

He stressed that it was his hope that this would be the last committee to discuss the jail issue. He thanked everyone for their participation in the committee.

**REVIEW OF WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE AND CURRENT STATUS OF JAIL
EXPANSION PROJECT**

Then Committee Chairman Tracy Jones had Sheriff Roger Scott and Gary Hanson, County Administrator, review the 2012 Schematic Design and Project Budget Approval Resolution (#R2012-66) for the committee. Mr. Hanson pointed out that this project was approved through this resolution.

Mr. Oncken mentioned that if this committee does come up with a different solution he thought that we would need to repeal the 2012 Plan.

Sheriff Scott said that the current jail is about 33 years old. They pay out over \$1 million in outsourcing costs. On Page 3 of this resolution, budget and building design, the Sheriff pointed out the Key Points that the 2012 county board arrived at, that is, that the Jail remains in downtown Sycamore, Accommodate 1st phase needs, about 200 beds total and allow expansion to year 2030 bed needs, attach to the existing Public Safety Building to re-use existing beds, Allow expansion of new jail housing so Sheriff's operation can someday expand into existing jail, Develop jail expansion in context of a county campus master plan, compliment scale and nature of downtown setting, and respect the courthouse as the premier campus facility and downtown icon; respect scale of historic library. He reiterated that everything is good to go in Sycamore because of this resolution, budget and building design.

Chairman Jones pointed out to the committee which departments are located in the Public Safety Building besides the Sheriff's Department. They are the Facilities Management Office, the Coroner's Office, the ESDA Office and the Morgue.

The committee then reviewed the schematic designs of the proposed new jail. They discussed how Option #1 was inefficient for the Jail, Option #2 landlocked the County, Option #3 was chosen by the 2012 county board resolution as the current plan. This Option opens up Exchange Street to through traffic and constructs a 2-story building with a mezzanine level. To save money, we would need to scale back on Option #2 by cutting off the Mezzanine Level. This would now amount to \$24 million, 133 beds, outsourcing would amount to \$963,000 and Operating Costs should equal \$1,335,000.

Sheriff Scott mentioned that we could shell out that section if we want to. He said that if we go with cutting out the Mezzanine level and part of the east side of the building and we don't build a shell for it, we can't come back and do it at a later date. If we don't build the shell out then we would lose 60 beds on the West side and 54 beds on the East side. He stated that the Core Facility is key to the expansion of the jail.

The committee discussed that the County could build the shell and incur some costs upfront. If the County built the entire Option #3 as planned with the Mezzanine Level included - it would total around \$35 million. If the County decides to go with the scaled down plan it would give them a total of 163 beds which includes the West half of the 2nd floor, 20 beds on the 1st floor, plus the existing jail beds. The committee then discussed resources to fund the building of the new jail.

Some Funding recommendations were:

- 1.) Landfill Bond for \$23 million
- 2.) Airline Fuel
- 3.) House Others: If the County housed 30 inmates @ \$70 a day, it would equal \$750,000 annually. The County would also realize a net gain of \$1.5 million by not housing them outside of the county. However, remember that the County needs money to operate this new expansion of the Jail.
- 4.) Year – to Year Operating Budget
- 5.) Referendum – Sales Tax

Jail Options are:

	<u>Scaled Down Option</u> 133 beds	<u>163-bed Option</u> 163 beds	<u>Full Bed Facility</u> 219 beds
Outsourcing Costs:	\$ 936,000	\$1,620,000	\$2,847,000
Operating Costs:	\$1,335,000	\$1,541,000	\$2,266,000

Chairman Jones said that the nursing home bonds will be paid off in 2016. What if we re-issued this bond to the Jail? There would not be an increase in taxes, it would stay the same, just now it is paying for the Jail expansion. The committee discussed that this would still take a vote.

Mr. Oncken said that at a 1/4cent in tax rate, it would generate \$1.65 million, and that this tax would not include food, drugs or licensed vehicles.

Sheriff Scott said that he pays out about \$200,000 in transporting fees for prisoners, overtime, fuel, etc.

The committee also discussed ideas on increasing the landfill, reducing the General Funds spending and save the difference, using the \$100,000 from the tipping fee that goes to the Forest Preserve and have them assign it to the County for the Jail. This might need an intergovernmental agreement with the Forest Preserve District.

Chairman Jones said that the timetable for the referendum would be Spring of 2016. We would need to educate the public and possibly form a committee for this. The committee thought that it would be best to do polling first before doing the referendum.

Ms. Askins felt that the county should leave the Airline Fuel item off and not include it as a funding resource.

Mr. Frieders said that we need to see preliminary numbers as to what it is going to cost to run this building.

Mr. Oncken said that maybe by housing others in our jail this may pay for it.

Someone mentioned, under Public Comments, that we may want to take a look at the Bonds for Bail and when was the last time that it was increased? He said that the Circuit Clerk's Office could increase it from 10% to as high as 15% and this would generate some monies for the Jail or operating costs. The committee felt that this would require state legislation and would research this more.

IDENTIFY THE STEPS THE COMMITTEE WANTS TO TAKE

The committee decided the following steps as Action items:

Action Items:

- 1.) Polling
 - a.) Sales
 - b.) Property
 - c.) Landfill
 - d.) Outside Inmates

Mr. Oncken and Mr. Hanson will work on this section and get back to the committee next month on their findings.

- 2.) Costs for Operation of the Jail (personnel, utilities, etc.). How do we get money to fund the operating costs?
- 3.) Kimme and Associates Invite – Sheriff Scott to call Dennis Kimme and invite him to our March meeting.
- 4.) Increase Bond Percentage – Suggestion from the person under Public Comment.

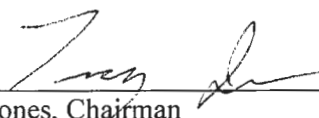
SET MEETING SCHEDULE

The committee will be meeting in March the Tuesday before the County Board Meeting, March 17, 2015 @ 7:00p.m.

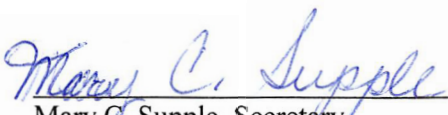
ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Oncken, seconded by Ms. Turner, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tracy Jones, Chairman



Mary C. Supple, Secretary