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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

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

The DeKalb County Ad Hoc Jail Solution Committee met on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 @ 7:00p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. Members present were Dan Cribben, John Frieders, Frank O'Barski, Riley Oncken, Stephen Reid, Lt. Joyce Klein, and Anita Turner. Ms. Askins, Mr. Bunge, and Mr. Stoddard were absent. Others present were Ms. Deanna Cada, Ms. Dianne Leifheit, Mr. Gary Hanson, Mr. Mark Pietrowski, and Mr. Pete Stefan.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Oncken, seconded by Mr. O'Barski, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from April 14, 2015.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. O'Barski, seconded by Mr., Reid, and it was carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IMPACTING JAIL POPULATION

Chairman Jones introduced Ms. Deanna Cada, Director of the Mental Health 708 Board, to the committee. She informed the committee about the Stepping Up Program through NACO. She said that the Stepping Up Program is a national program that is bringing attention to the mentally ill and possible funding. She and Chairman Pietrowski have viewed the first webinar. Basically, she said, there are a couple of programs that they learned about. The first program is called the Crisis Intervention Program. She said that this program works with law enforcement officers who learn how to deal with mentally ill people. She said that since the officers in Miami Dade County began this program they have had 10,600 phone calls in one year that were made regarding mental health issues and only 9 arrests were made.

Ms. Cada further explained that Kane County is doing 2 ½ days of training instead of 40 hours. They would be willing to partner with our county to train our law enforcement officers if we choose to go that route. You would not get the certification, but it is still a CIT recognized program.

There is another program called Co-Responders, she said. This is where you would pair up a clinician with a law enforcement officer. They are doing this in either Kansas or Nebraska, but out of the 947 calls only 11 arrests were made. She said that there are benefits to this program too.

She then explained another program, which is called Crisis Stabilization Resource. This is where a family member could drop off a person who is in a mental health crisis at a center. This community place would

be open 24/7 hopefully. The Living Room program at Ben Gordon is supposed to be something like this. They have some peer support there so that you would not have to put a person in jail.

Ms. Cada said that Mental Health Courts are where someone who is arrested would go through the court system - Judge Stuckert is looking into that.

She said that in Miami Dade where the Crisis Stabilization Resource was done, in so far 80% of the people agreed to treatment. Criminal Misdemeanors were reduced from a 72% recidivism rate to 20% rate and felonies dropped down to 6% recidivism rate.

Chairman Jones asked for an example of a Crisis Intervention.

Ms. Cada gave a real life example where a law enforcement officer did a wellness check. The person told him that he was fine. The officer asked the mentally ill person to come outside so that he could see him, which resulted in the officer being assaulted. If the officer had been trained in the Crisis Intervention Program it may have not resulted in that mentally ill person being arrested for battery to the officer. It may have been avoided, she said.

She said that there are barriers in this community but they are not insurmountable, like funding. There is a barrier also with regards to a community mental health opportunity. They are working on this. Time is a huge barrier along with avoidance to take a risk. She feels that we still have a community that does not fully understand mental illness. She said that we need to educate the community more about mental illness.

Ms. Cada said that the Stepping Up Program is considered a continuum of care. Some of the steps that they talk about doing we have already done.

Mr. Oncken asked about grant funding for CIT training?

Ms. Cada said that it could be easier to get funding for the CIT then other options. She said the bigger questions is if we can ask law enforcement to be away for 2 ½ days of training. The costs for the trainers are local so that is good. You have to have a collaborative system too, which she feels we do. She will talk to NACO about this.

Mr. Reid said that since Illinois does not have a lot of places for the mentally ill, what kind of obstacle is this?

Ms. Cada said that crisis intervention beds are the best way to go for the community. She said that there is a good one in Rockford called Rosecrance.

REVIEW OF FUNCTION OF CORE JAIL SPACES

Chairman Jones then had Lt. Klein explain to the committee the core jail spaces that will be assigned in the proposed new addition to the jail for the mentally ill and where they are holding those prisoners now. In the new addition they will have them housed properly and they will be able to get counseling. Once they are released they will need someone to make sure that they stay on their meds.

Ms. Cada said that the Co-Responders program is a great program for continuum of care.

Sheriff Scott said that all of his officers have been trained for domestic violence cases and mental health. The problem is that we don't have the structure.

Chairman Jones said that this is a good talking point and that the committee should talk about core spaces.

Lt. Klein then began pointing out on drawings she brought where certain areas will be housed in the future for the expansion. She said that on the first floor there will be core space that they did not have before like a booking area, locker rooms and roll call space. She said that there will be a health care area where lab work can be done for blood tests and possibly dental care in the future. On the second floor there will be a program area, group rooms, psychiatric rooms, and a video arraignment room too. She wanted to point out that the prisoners will have an indoor exercise room with natural light.

After she was finished Chairman Jones said that it would be great if she could do a video of tonight's presentation and a jail tour that could be placed on our website for the public to view.

TIMELINE FOR JAIL PROJECT AND JAIL CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT

Mr. Gary Hanson, County Administrator, said that the design team is going along, there now needs to be a financial advisor selected for the project and that someone should be selected by the June County Board Meeting. We also need to select who will oversee the construction project, he said. His suggestion is the Public Building Commission (PBC). He said that the other committees would be this committee or another sub-committee.

Mr. Hanson continued by stating that there will need to be 3 bond resolutions passed. The first bond resolution would be to launch the finance team, but it creates a 30-day window for citizens to ask for a referendum. He said, that the board would need to vote on this by July 1st and that we could do a presentation then too.

The last one would be the construction part. The project would take about 20 months for construction. Gilbane will be the construction management company.

Chairman Jones said that as we look at the timeline, what are we going to recommend? When are we going to do it? What more does our committee need to do before we make a recommendation to the full county board?

Mr. Frieders asked if we need to draft a resolution at our next meeting in June.

Mr. Hanson said that for the jail oversight committee we could appoint the project to the PBC, which is a 5-member committee. All of the members sit on the committee for 5 years terms. Mr. Hanson said that the current members are; Mr. Larson, Mr. Lundgren, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Swanson, and Mr. Shepard. With a five- member board one of the advantages is to be able to meet quickly and they can meet during the day along with the architects and building company. He said that he still needs to speak to them about whether or not they want to oversee the project.

Chairman Jones said that he strongly feels that the PBC should be recommended.

Mr. Hanson said that the financing plans and PBC's role would go to the full county board members. He said the following steps that need to be taken are: bringing the resolution to this committee at your June 16, 2015 meeting, do a presentation at the June County Board Meeting and then take action at a Special County Board Meeting on July 1, 2015.

Chairman Jones again stated that he would like to see the jail tour and Lt. Klein's video up on our website as soon as possible. This project will be good for our economy as it will create good jobs.

Mr. Cribben asked who would be drafting the bond resolution.

Mr. Hanson said that the bond counsel will be drafting the bond resolution.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Oncken, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Jones, Chairman

Mary C. Supple, Secretary