

BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
January 7, 2013
5:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Drobisch, Chair
Tim Dudley
David Williams
Jerry Potts
Kevin Meachum
Gary Minich

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Jerry Lord, Public Building Commission
Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office
Jay Dunn, Board Chairman
Sheriff Tom Schneider
Tony Brown, Jail Superintendant
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Drobisch at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting made by David Williams, seconded by Jerry Potts, and motion carried 6-0.

CITIZEN'S REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

5th Floor Rental Space: Everyone got copies. This is for Andy Manar to rent space or sub lease from the County a space that we have vacant at this time. Chair Drobisch requested a motion be made to approve sending the Macon County Board Resolution to Approve Lease Agreement with Senator Andy Manar to the full Board. Motion was made by Tim Dudley, seconded by Jerry Potts.

Discussion: Kevin Meachum clarified, for the minutes, that it is governed by Statute that there can be no "politicking" taking place in the office.

Motion carried 6-0.

Chair Drobisch entertained a motion to approve the proposal for installment of bunk beds throughout the jail along with an additional shower and toilet in Trod 3 Pod D at the Law Enforcement Center. Motion made by Tim Dudley, seconded by Jerry Potts.

Discussion: Kevin Meachum: Would this increase the bed capacity at the jail?

Sheriff Schneider: It would , but it would also help the jail move toward being compliant with the Illinois Department of Corrections Standards.

Chair Drobisch: What has the average population of the jail been running?

Sheriff Schneider: 290 – 300 average for the last year.

Dave Drobish: Will this relieve a lot of those issues?

Sheriff Schneider: It won't relieve it, but it will definitely put us in compliance with the state which is something that is pretty important. It has been kind of overlooked for years. Now, about a week ago, we were down to 260-270 or below. However, just today, we are back up to 320. There is that much of a fluctuation in reference to the jail population. The Public Attorneys and States Defenders are working really hard and we are seeing a difference. We are anticipating this going back down very soon.

Jerry Potts: Would we be liable for having 2 people in a cell and something violent happens.

Sheriff Schneider: We already have that. Two people are in a cell now. This is basically just bringing us up to compliance. Several jails throughout Illinois, and of course, across the nation, basically do it the same way we do. There is one on a mat on the floor and one up on a bunk which is about a foot or so off the ground. All this does is brings them up off the ground so they are compliant with the state. The population fluctuates to the point where it is hard to regulate. We are just trying to anticipate and move forward. There are a few things we need to do to get that done. The Building Commission has been diligent in working with us on this.

David Williams: As a result of this remodel, will we have to hire additional correctional officers?

Sheriff: No, we actually are probably overstaffed because of the design of our jail. The numbers do benefit us there, but if we were to redesign, we would probably eliminate about 20 positions. This would save money, but then again, would decrease the ratio of inmates to correctional officers.

Motion carried 6-0.

CLOSED SESSION

Board Chair Dunn requested the sub-committee go into a closed session to discuss property.

Chair Drobisch entertained a motion to have a closed session for the purchase of real property for use by Macon County; Kevin Meachum so moved, seconded by Jerry Potts, and motion carried 6-0.

Motion to return to open session made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Gary Minich, and motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Tim Dudley, motion carried 6-0, and meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham
Macon County Board Office