

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**

**SPECIAL CALL MEETING**

**Kevin Greenfield  
Chairman**

**Josh Tanner  
Clerk**

The Chairman called the Special Board Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. with the Sheriff present.

The Roll Call showed the following members present at the meeting: Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Greenfield, Mr. Gresham, Mr. Jackson, Mrs. Kraft, Mrs. Little, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Taylor. The following members were present via tele-presence: Ms. Buckner, Mr. Hogan, Ms. Joy, Ms. Rood, and Dr. Zimmerman.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in Prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Tanner: Mr. Tanner presented the request for a Special Macon County Board Meeting which is for the purpose of approving an Agreement for Inmate Health Services in the Macon County Jail and for any other business which may properly come before the board.

There were no citizens' remarks presented at the meeting.

There were no officeholders' remarks presented at the meeting,

**SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5189-09-20 which is approving an Agreement for Inmate Health Services in the Macon County Jail.

**MOTION**

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to approve Resolution G-5189-09-20.

**COMMENTS:**

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said for possibly the last three years the Macon County Sheriff's Office was in a contract with Crossing Healthcare to provide inmate healthcare for their facility, which is required by State statute. Sheriff Brown was advised that Crossing was going to pull out of the contract for liability reasons. Therefore, it forced them to do an RFP and seek other professionals to provide those health services. They had two that actually replied. One of them was Advanced Healthcare and the other was Quality Correctional Healthcare. They chose Quality and their bid was a total of \$796,260.00, which includes the \$103,000, 15% administrative fee. Advance Healthcare's low bid was \$997,000.00. He believes they will get more quality services out of the individuals they have chosen. The response they get from them is the owner of the company that they actually speak to immediately. They can call his personal cell phone. He actually answers the phone, but with the other they don't get that response. At the end of the day they just want to make sure they do everything possible to limit the

liability to the county as well as the Sheriff's office, and to make sure they provide the quality services for the individuals who are being held in their custody.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked what other correctional facilities this company contracts with.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said they are just now breaking into Illinois. Livingston County, up north, they start on October 1<sup>st</sup>. They are also in negotiations with 6 other counties in Illinois.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked where the company is from.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said they are based out of Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said according to their website this is all they do, correctional healthcare. They have 65 plus jails at this point. Mr. Gresham said they are using for their projection, a jail count of 315. In the last couple of years, he asked if the sheriff had had anywhere close to that.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said right now they are right around 300, and the reason being is because of COVID, and with the State of Illinois not accepting individuals into the Department of Corrections that have actually been sentenced. So, within the last couple of years they have not been. He said with this company they will actually get a detailed bill from them. That is something they are definitely not used to. They will actually see where their money is going to.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said he has asked the Sheriff the following question but he is still not quite clear on it. He asked if federal prisoner's healthcare costs are reimbursed.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said if the federal detainees have any costs like hospitalization or what have you, the federal government actually pays that.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham asked if that was outside of the services that are provided in the jail, which is the same for all of their... Sheriff Brown affirmed. Mr. Gresham asked if they are getting anything that they have not been getting from Crossing, or are there extras they are getting with this versus what they had before.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said per the contract with Crossing Healthcare they are supposed to receive 160 ours, as far as nursing; they are getting 140. He was aware of that late in the game. He said with this new company they will actually be receiving more coverage. It is 175 hours. The Sheriff said something he thinks they will eventually need to go to, the new company will go up to 208 hours. He said that is 24-hour coverage. The Sheriff said that will definitely limit the liability on the county, and the cost itself is minimal. It is a little bit over \$800,000.00.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said he knows the Sheriff will get quarterly reports that will tell him how much the company has actually expended for that period and then the county either pays them some more money or they give the county a credit. Mr. Gresham said he would really like the Sheriff to share a summary of those reports with the board every quarter.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said he would definitely do that.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said on page 3 of the agreement it talks about mental health services for inmates, and it says the new company will provide this. He asked the Sheriff if he knew if the company would be contracting with local mental health providers to do that.

Sheriff Brown: Sheriff Brown said they are actually in negotiations with an individual that has a master's degree that at one time worked in the Macon County facility, to work under her license. So, the people will be local. It won't be anything with Heritage or Crossing Healthcare. These individuals will be employees of the new company.

**ROLL CALL.**

Ayes: Buckner, Dawson, Greenfield, Gresham, Hogan, Jackson, Joy, Kraft, Little, Rood, Smith, Taylor, Zimmerman

Nays: (None)

**AYES = 13**

**NAYS= 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.