

**Commissioners Special Meeting**

**September 11, 2017 10:00 a.m.**

**Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors**

**President Nobbe** called the September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 special meeting with Sheriff Greg Allen in session for the purpose of discussion of choosing a contractor-manager for the possible construction of a new jail.

After reviewing proposals from **Construction Control Inc, Maxwell Construction and Garmong Construction Services**, Mr Buening commented they were written making it difficult to decipher which offered the best value/product. The reimbursables and the time frame when additional charges would be incurred also varied.

Mr Nobbe stated he thought a committee would meet to review some numbers, then pay someone to 'guide the committee' and make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. His fear is if we don't do this correctly, twenty-one million could turn in to a twenty-six or thirty million dollar project. County Prosecutor Nathan Harter agreed the Commissioners should do 'their due diligence' and do it swiftly.

Mr Buening moved to ask **Garmong Construction Services** to help with the discussion phase and vision for the Decatur County Jail Project. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Commissioners agreed to appoint a committee to meet 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>: Prosecutor Harter, Judge Bailey, Judge Day, Sheriff Allen, two County Council members, Rex McKinney or John Corya from Decatur County Memorial Hospital and Matthew Davis to represent taxpayers of Decatur County.

Mr Harter shared some statistics on the total number of criminal filings beginning with 2006 to current in 2017. He's pretty sure those numbers will continue to climb as is the number of mental health issues which goes along with the drug problems law enforcement is seeing.

County Assessor Dorene Greiwe asked how the Commissioners plan to pay for a new jail because taxpayers will be asking her office about their property taxes increasing. The Commissioners and County Council in order to maintain low property tax rates essential to economic development, State Legislators granted a special local income tax rate to finance construction, improvement, renovation and equipping facilities to provide adequate jail capacity in Decatur County.

Mr Harter would like for the Commissioners to include a "chemical addiction" section to be part of the plans for a jail, with a separate section for male and another section for female inmates. He said Dearborn County Sheriff has had some success with his chemical addiction program. State grants are available for these types of programs. The Commissioners agreed treatment has to be part of the equation; maybe repurpose the current jail once a new jail is completed.

With nothing else to come before the commissioners Mr Koors moved to adjourn, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

The next Commissioners meeting will be September 18th, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

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Richard J Nobbe, President

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Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_