

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT INFORMAL MEETING OF JOHNSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING  
COMMITTEE:  
DECEMBER 7, 2011**

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Vice-Chairperson Sullivan called the Johnson County Board of Supervisors to order in the Johnson County Health and Human Services Building at 4:30 p.m. Members present were: Terrence Neuzil, Janelle Rettig, Sally Stutsman, and Rod Sullivan; absent: Pat Harney.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Members present were: Department of Corrections Supervisor Jerri Allen, MECCA Director Ron Berg, Iowa City City Council Member Connie Champion, Citizen Representative Bob Elliott, Iowa City Public Library Adult Service Coordinator Kara Logsden, County Attorney Janet Lyness, Bar Association Representative James McCarragher, Defender's Managing Attorney Peter Persaud, County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek, Judge Douglas Russell, Citizen Representative Professor Emeritus John Stratton, and Consultation of Religious Communities Representative Dorothy Whiston. Staff present were: Executive Assistant Andy Johnson and Auditor's Office Recording Secretary Nancy Tomkovicz.

Sullivan asked members present to introduce themselves. In addition to CJCC committee members, those present were: Former University of Iowa Campus Planner Larry Wilson, Venture Architects Design Director and Principal John Cain, Venture Architects Project Manager and Principal Tom Poweleit, Neumann Monson Architects Principal Kim McDonald, Neumann Monson Architects Principal Dwight Dobberstein, Sergeant Kevin Bell, Captain Dave Wagner, Major Steve Dolezal, Jail Alternatives Program Coordinator Jessica Peckover, and Mental Health/Disability Services Director Kris Artley,

**PRE-SCHEMATIC DESIGN PROCESS**

Neumann Monson Architects Principal Dwight Dobberstein said he has met with their design group and user groups and has prepared a report summarizing those meetings. He said that anyone wishing to receive meeting notifications should supply

him with their contact information. He said minutes and other information will be posted on their website.

Venture Architects Design Director and Principal John Cain thanked the Board for hiring the Venture Architects team. He distributed a handout regarding the proposed justice center study and meeting agendas. The project kick-off meeting was held on November 4th. The program verification review meeting with department heads was held on November 21st. Venture Architects toured the Story County Justice Center with the Sheriff's Office. They may participate in additional touring in Wisconsin in January 2012.

Cain said today's meeting concerned program verification completion with department heads. A future meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2012, and after that, a final meeting should allow Venture Architects to present design options and costs. Cain said he hopes to make a final presentation in March 2012 and the final presentation to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee (CJCC) is scheduled for April 4, 2012. He asked the CJCC to confirm the next meeting date and said he prefers January 11, 2012 and not January 4, 2012.

Committee members agreed to schedule the next CJCC meeting on January 11, 2012, at 4:30 p.m.

**REPORT FROM PUBLIC INFORMATION/OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE**  
**Report On Jail Deficiencies**

Bar Association Representative James McCarragher distributed a draft document about the current Johnson County Jail deficiencies. CJCC previously developed a document addressing how the proposed justice center could solve deficiencies at the Courthouse. The current document is for review. He asked anyone wishing to comment on the document to do so prior to the next CJCC meeting giving him enough time to prepare a final version for approval at the January meeting.

**Webpage Update**

Neuzil said the CJCC has identified six reports for the Board's review. The CJCC has passed the following documents: CJCC Planning and Objectives document, the education brochure, advantages of a justice center, the justice center location study, and the deficiencies in the Courthouse document. Johnson County Jail Deficiencies is the sixth document. Future documents include a timeline of events from the last time the proposed justice center was on the ballot to this time. Neuzil said he and County Recorder Kim Painter are working with Webmaster Gary Yoder. Yoder is helping design how to present this information on the County's webpage. Painter will be working on creating a homepage for this information so it is more easily accessible.

Neuzil said Public Information and Outreach Subcommittee members are still waiting to receive reports from some subcommittees, and in particular the Alternatives and

Treatments Subcommittee. There were three or four objectives for this subcommittee. There are reports from the Alternatives and Treatments Subcommittee from 2007 and 2008, but they need a fresh one. It would be nice to have that information on the webpage by April 2012.

Judge Douglas Russell reminded people that when talking to the press and others about the justice center to refer to it as such, and not as a new jail, some courtroom space, or a renovated Courthouse with a new jail. He reported that in his reading of newspaper accounts there is more reference to a jail and less to a courthouse. If everyone refers to it as a justice center, all constituents will benefit.

McCarragher said he is concerned the public will get the impression this project is more for one than the other. The media is writing articles regarding the justice center in pieces, which is good because it keeps the issue before the public. He said he reminds journalists to refer to the project as a justice center. He thinks the press largely understands the project.

### **Other**

Sullivan said the date of the election has not yet been set. The date should be set before April 2012 so that any printed materials for public consumption will include the election date. He thinks the committee can make this decision in February, 2012. Iowa City City Council Member Connie Champion said she thought the decision was made for the 2012 General Election. Nuezil said nothing was official. Sullivan said there was discussion but no vote. County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek asked how late in the year the Board can make that decision. Sullivan said it is about 120 days ahead of the election. Neuzil said one of the initiatives in April 2012 is to start working on the ballot language. Executive Assistant Andy Johnson said it was on the agenda a month or two ago, and the Board decided to let the consultant weigh in on an election date.

### **REPORT FROM FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE GSA Property Update**

Johnson said the General Services Administration (GSA) requested an appraisal with certain parameters including the determination of the value of 200 parking spaces, half of which are covered. He said the Board has approved hiring Cook Appraisal LLC for that, which will be completed within 45 days.

Rettig said she wants to keep working with the City of Iowa City on both parking and the road vacation. She received an email from Iowa City City Manager Tom Markus who wanted to be updated on this. Markus seemed unaware of the County's desire to vacate Harrison Street. Champion said that information was never formally brought forward to Markus.

### **REPORT FROM FUNDING/GRANTS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Rettig said the Funding/Grants Subcommittee has no new numbers. They are awaiting the design to drive the staffing. The Funding/Grants Subcommittee will have no new numbers until there is a better idea of what it is going to look like. There will be some new tax numbers coming into play in the next month to six weeks. No significant changes in bonding occurred. The Funding/Grants Subcommittee cannot tell how the justice center will be staffed until they know how the facility will look. She said Sheriff's Major Steve Dolezal joined the Funding/Grants Subcommittee. Anyone interested in joining the Funding/Grants Subcommittee with the objective of writing some reports should feel free to do so.

#### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Neuzil said the Board meets fairly regularly with the larger cities and school districts in Johnson County. The Board provides a report on the justice center each time. The newspapers did a nice job covering a story in which communities were urged not to compete with a bond issue against the County's.

Russell said he attended a couple successful meetings with the architecture firms. The architects are knowledgeable, thoughtful, and good listeners, and Russell is optimistic about this project. Champion congratulated everyone for getting to this point. Pulkrabek agreed.

Sullivan said Citizen Representative Bob Elliott has resigned from the CJCC. Sullivan said Elliott's service has been appreciated and the CJCC should send Elliott a letter thanking him for his service. Stutsman asked if Elliott will be replaced. Stutsman and Neuzil said that would be a good idea. Rettig said they talked about adding a student and she wondered if they want to pursue this. Champion said the Iowa City City Council recruited a student liaison from the University of Iowa student body. She suggested contacting the UI Student Senate to find a representative. Board members agreed with this suggestion and Sullivan asked Johnson to make that contact.

McCarragher said Elliott will remain involved by writing about the justice center as a private citizen. McCarragher said Elliott was concerned that if he remained on the CJCC, his writing would be a product of the CJCC rather than his personal work. He wanted the freedom to fully discuss the issues as a private citizen.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.

Adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Attest: Tom Slockett, Auditor  
Recorded by Nancy Tomkovicz