

MEETING MINUTES

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

FEBRUARY 14 , 2014 - 3:30 PM

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD CHAMBERS
304 E. Grand River Avenue, Howell, MI 48843

JAIL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

COMM. DOMAS

JUDGE BRENNAN

COMM. LAWRENCE

CC ADMIN. EVANS

COMM. PARKER

OTHERS: TOM CREMONTE
JEFF LEVEQUE

BELINDA M. PETERS
JENNIFER NASH

CAROL SUE JONCKHEERE

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by: **COMM. DON PARKER AT 3:32 PM.**

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.

MOVED BY: DOMAS / SECONDED BY: LAWRENCE

ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED

3. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** **None.**

4. **COMMITTEE EMPHASIS:**

- Comm. Parker, as Chairman, advised those present of the reason for today's meeting, that being a type of organizational meeting of the newly formed Jail Improvement Committee and the goals for same.
- He went on to state that he planned to invite local defense attorneys to an upcoming meeting to share their thoughts on future bed needs. He then opened the floor for fellow member for their input.
- Comm. Domas advised that he perceived financing options as a priority, i.e. delinquent tax fund, bonding, etc.
- Comm. Lawrence shared that we need to show that Judges are utilizing all options and not just sending people to jail. Has some concerns with the operational costs versus construction costs. Mandated versus non-mandated functions needed to be looked at.
- It was the consensus of those present that it is feasible for the delinquent tax roll to support an issuance of bonds.
- Lt. Tom CremonTE advised of some options for financing of operations in the form of bed rentals to the US Marshall's office and transport charges. If an Intergovernmental Agreement could be reached it would help off-set some of the operational costs. He relayed recent discussions with the Midland County Sheriff and their current set-up in providing same.

- Belinda Peters shared outcomes of her and Comm. Van Houten's recent meeting with the US Marshall's office regarding bed rental. It was determined to be a good idea to pursue an Intergovernmental Agreement even before construction begins on a small scale to see how the program works. Jail Population Management Plan would need to be updated.
- Ms. Peters advised that the IRS considers leasing the US Marshall's office as a "private use." This would need to be scrutinized more when looking at taxable versus non-taxable bonds.
- Discussion took place on whether there were any existing road patrol millages in the state.
- Current and additional bed space needs were discussed.
- Belinda Peters perceived that there would be a need for 24-7 health care with the expansion, versus the current 16-7 provided. Lt. CremonTE agreed that 24-7 would be the wisest course of action.
- Discussion took place regarding the increased costs involved with things ranging from the Affordable Health Care Act to the quality of meals served.
- Chairman Parker voiced the importance of making sure that any expansion would meet the County's growing needs for now and into the future.
- Lt. CremonTE stated that he liked the current design plan because they would have plenty of capacity to house violent and high-risk offenders alike, low-risk offenders being much less expensive to house.
- Comm. Parker asked the Committee for their opinions on how comfortable they were with the current proposed capacity numbers or if they felt there needed to be more vetting of the issue. Discussion took place regarding same.
- Lt. CremonTE agreed with Comm. Parker's idea to meet with some of the local defense counsel to get their thoughts on future bedding needs.
- It was determined that Lt. CremonTE would access RMS numbers and some type of rough formula would be developed to determine future bedding needs based on population, growth, etc.

5. PLAN OF PROGRESSION AND DEADLINES:

- Timelines provided by Architect and Bonding Consultants were reviewed.
- A Staffing Plan created by Lts. CremonTE and Leveque was examined and option timelines discussed.
- General versus Primary Election deadlines were debated.
- Belinda Peters recommended meeting with Attorney David Stoker as soon as possible to determine best type of millage proposal.
- Members agreed that meeting with Defense Counsel representatives, as well as possibly the former Prosecutor, would be advantageous to the Committee and it's vetting.
- Ms. Peters to meet with Paul Wyzgoski and report back to Committee on Bonding Counsel's recommendation.

6. COMMITTEE COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP:

- Comm. Lawrence would like to see a well-respected resident, with a possible sales background.
- Ms. Peters to look into benefits and detriments of any member having non-voting status.

7. COMMITTEE SCHEDULE OF DATES:

FUTURE MEETING DATES OF THE JAIL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:		
DATE / TIME	DISCUSSION	INVITEES
FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 21ST 3:30 P.M.	LEGALITIES OF FINANCING OPTIONS AVAILABLE	ATTY. DAVID STOKER
FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 28TH THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 27TH 3:30 P.M.	ARCHITECTURAL UPDATE PROJECTED OPERATIONAL COST FORMULA	MIKE KENNEDY LT. TOM CREMONTE LT. JEFF LEVEQUE
WEDNESDAY - MARCH 5TH 3:30 P.M.	OPINIONS FROM LEGAL PROFESSIONALS	DEFENSE COUNSEL REPRESENTATIVES & FORMER PROSECUTOR

8. ADJOURNMENT:

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 5:20 PM.
MOVED BY: LAWRENCE / SECONDED BY: DOMAS
ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED**

Respectfully Submitted

CAROL SUE JONCKHEERE
RECORDING SECRETARY