

WOODBURY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM(S) REQUEST FORM

Date: January 3, 2018

Weekly Agenda Date: January 9, 2018

ELECTED OFFICIAL / DEPARTMENT HEAD / CITIZEN: Supervisor Jeremy Taylor

WORDING FOR AGENDA ITEM: Revisiting Tabling Law Enforcement Center Expansion Projects B-1 and C-1/C-2 until certain staffing and time parameters are met

ACTION REQUIRED:

Approve Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/>	Approve Resolution <input type="checkbox"/>	Approve Motion <input type="checkbox"/>
Give Direction <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: Informational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attachments <input type="checkbox"/>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This information item simply opens up a discussion given a previous agenda item from September 26, 2017, wherein I have included all relevant portions from that date. Given our discussion at the January 2 meeting regarding the LEC Expansion and subsequent staffing levels forthcoming from the Sheriff's request, I believe it is incumbent upon us to take up 6 questions sooner rather than later in the budgeting process:

1. What is the Sheriff's current assessment of the need for the plan at this point in time given collective recent efforts to hold the jail population down? (Numbers have been running around 180-190.)
2. The Board took action to table the project until staffing recommendations can be made to an adequate level. Given the information below on the great gains made already with Prairie Hills, the Kitchen, the new highly utilized conference room, the training center, etc. **do we move forward now, or wait until conditions necessitate going forward? Sheriff's thoughts?**
3. Construction costs rise about 10% per year; however, the increased staffing level would exceed that increased cost. Is there opportunity that the cost could be offset by federal prisoners or other revenue?
4. What can we attribute decreased numbers to so that we can collectively lean forward on decreasing the burden to taxpayers? (Judicial consortium, sentencing alternatives, ACH, mental health alt.)
5. What is the current status of 24/7, and what legislation may affect future numbers?
6. What areas of opportunity are there that CAN address the LEC short of moving forward on the In-Take Project should the Board give direction for a further tabling/continuance? Kenny/Shane?

All items that are not underlined repeat by way of review what we viewed on September 26, 2017.

Put projects on Hold---

B1 Project: (Intake) 1st Floor- Search, Booking & Intake, ASAP, Interview, Video Arraignment, Holding, Group Holding

Table project after completing all specifications, blueprints, and documents for bid purposes.

Ready all materials for bid purpose until a future time when LEC staffing levels are able to be adjusted to support the facility operations per the Goldberg Group Staffing Analysis.

C1 & C2 Projects: (C1- Assessment, Dress-out, Property Storage, Staffing Analysis) (C2- Medical, Exam, Staff)

Table both projects in the “schematic design phase” (where we are at now).

Staffing Study (portion of the C1 Project scope) has now been completed by Goldberg.

These projects can't move forward without Project B1 (Intake) being completed

BACKGROUND:

The Woodbury County Board of Supervisors has engaged in the preservation and optimization of two critical bedrock buildings—the Historic County Courthouse celebrating its 100th anniversary next year and the Law Enforcement Center that holds courts, the Sheriff's Office, and the County Jail. While we have recently engaged in the detailed and complex work of more than 24 months of study, revisions, and drawings, we can proudly say that Prairie Hills (estimated to cost \$1.2 million over 10 years just in energy and emergency maintenance) can be abandoned. The chiller is sold at \$10,000; the enormous task of retrofitting the LEC with all new kitchen equipment amortized through lease purchase is now done; and the Conference Room is completed with beginning optimization plans ready; our commitment of a smaller-footprint training facility through donations/the Union's \$40,000 and lease-purchase also meets the Sheriff's Office's needs as well as a potential for 24/7 now that the Legislature has made this possible.

In gaining greater space with the deferred money of Prairie Hills, we identified a host of other issues that will not only allow us to use the \$1.2 million wisely but will truly obviate the building of a \$20-25 million new county jail (the original facility was designed for 90 in 1987 but now reaches 234 capacity in 2017.)

Through one of the premiere justice facility architects (Goldberg Group) and an RFQ-selected lead architect (CMBA), we have identified the New Booking Intake Area (with Interview, Video Arraignment, Group Holding) that will in turn allow us to also revitalize or create Assessment, Dress-out, Property Storage and gain greater Classification, Medical Operations Improvement, and HVAC Optimization. This will address safety, increased beds, climate and comfort and mitigate legal liability for the long-term planning the County so desperately needed to engage in. However, the much-needed plans of expanding the Law Enforcement needs to be placed on hold as we “pump the brakes” so to speak after learning the results of a staffing study at the 9/19/2017 BOS meeting.

That recent staffing study by Goldberg Group recommended the hire of 8 correctional officers (4 shifts / 2 people per shift) at \$400-\$490,000 including benefits and family insurance. However, there is no way to add these positions and maintain the commitment to lower taxes—especially during the middle of a fiscal year. Therefore, I would like to take the victory of battle at this time—the closure of Prairie Hills with all its functions—and conversion of waste into other areas for time to come. The only way that I would like to add positions is if we can do so through reorganization, the steady budgeting process next year (Jan-Mar 2018), and in a way that does not add FTEs without reductions or consolidating elsewhere. The Sheriff (he and his personnel have been involved every step of the way) agrees that as long as we do not build this separate area without adequately staffing it, he can see “pumping the brakes” as well.

Our proposal would be to hire staff—and again only IF we can do so in a way that does not add to the tax-burden by reductions elsewhere—until July 1-October, 2018 when we could take the project out to bid for a potential completion date of March, 2019.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

IF THERE IS A CONTRACT INVOLVED IN THE AGENDA ITEM, HAS THE CONTRACT BEEN SUBMITTED AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR AND ANSWERED WITH A REVIEW BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE?

Yes No

RECOMMENDATION:

ACTION REQUIRED / PROPOSED MOTION: None. The following is the motion that we took previously on September 26, 2017: Table B-1 Intake project after completing all specifications, blueprints, and documents for bid purposes and ready all materials for bid purpose until a future time when LEC staffing levels are able to be adjusted to support the facility operations per the Goldberg Group Staffing Analysis.

Table Projects C-1 and C-2 in the schematic design phase.