



Kewaunee County
PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

December 8, 2020 4:30 p.m.

County Administration Building, 810 Lincoln Street, Kewaunee, WI 54216
Human Services Training Room

Call to Order: Chair Olson called the meeting at 4:34 p.m. Meeting location was moved to the County Board room due to COVID concerns.

Roll Call: Members Present – Dan Olson, Gary Paape, John Mastalir, Doug Doell, Doak Baker, John Pabich, Jason Jelinek, Jeff Wisnicky, Jeff Dorner, John Cain, Nancy Thelen, Chis VanErem, Matt Joski, Scott Feldt. Others Present – Jason Veaser, Paul Kunesh, Ross Loining

Approval of December 8, 2020 Agenda: Baker moved and Paape seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of September 14, 2020 Minutes: Baker moved and Paape seconded to approve the September 14, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Discussion of Revised Option and Costs: Feldt handed out an estimate of operating expenses if the new facility is constructed. Feldt explained that the numbers are rough estimates. Cain also explained to the committee the need for a site survey and soil borings as the land is not level and site work would need to be performed as well as soil borings to know the soil composition as it pertains to footings for the facility.

Discussion followed regarding the costs involved with Phase 3 of the project. Baker and Cain discussed the methodology of building cost and square footage. Another member asked if demolition of the current jail is included in the project cost. Cain responded that it is. Another question about the inclusion of the access roads. Cain responded he believes the roads are included in the project cost. Cain explained further that Phase 3 provides more accurate costs as phases 1 and 2 are more conceptual. Cain provided an estimate of cost for phase 3 of approximately \$163,200. Additional; costs for the survey and soil borings would around \$15,000 as part of non-construction costs.

Dorner asked the Sheriff about the viability of the Sheriff's offices. Joski replied that he understands the concern regarding costs and is supportive of completing the public safety facility project in phases over a number of years. The department can operate in its current location but this is not a long-term solution. Discussion followed regarding the project and how projects phased in over time are more expensive. Doell commented that cutting the project can waste time and money.

Mastalir moved and Joski seconded to proceed to phase 3 of the project with the estimated cost of \$163,200. Motion carried.



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Discussion of Next Steps: Discussion: Wisnicky raised a question regarding what parts of the project would be placed on a referendum. Should the building costs be on the referendum or just the operating costs. The County is required to place the operating costs on a referendum if they exceed the levy limits. The county can choose to place the building costs on a referendum or approve the building costs by a majority vote of the county board. Discussion followed as to whether the state Department of Corrections will force the county to build a new jail. Thelen indicated that the county continues to operate they jail adequately with the facility it has. Joski indicated that the jail is beyond its useful life and there are liability concerns. Feldt echoed this point saying the jail is a lawsuit waiting to happen as the site lines within the pods and the age of the facility raise important concerns. Feldt added that the project must be led by the county as a whole which includes the Sheriff, the county board and county administration.

Further discussion took place as to when can a referendum be held to approve the project. Feldt explained that state statute dictates when a referendum can take place, but he is unsure exactly when they can take place. Feldt responded that he will work with Wisnicky to determine when the county can place a referendum question on the ballot. Paape commented that information must be available to the public prior to a referendum be put on the ballot. Joski added that the county needs to be sure of the costs. Feldt responded that the information will be given to the public as we know what the costs will be and what the facility will look like.

Next Meeting: To be determined.

Adjournment: Doell moved and Pabich seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.