

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JANUARY 19, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Special Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, January 19, 2012 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

Chairman Kale called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll.

Present: Comrs. Todd, Haadsma, Camp Seifke, Frisbie, VanSickle and Kale

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, Human Resources Director Kim Archambault and Deputy Clerk Lorelee Stevens

Also Present: Members of the Marshall City Council, Marshall City Manager Tom Tarkiewicz and other Marshall City Staff; and representatives from the Michigan State Police

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the agenda of the January 19, 2012 Special Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were none.

4. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Dan Redstone of Redstone Architects, Inc presented a PowerPoint on a joint endeavor between Calhoun County, the City of Marshall and the Michigan State Police for a shared regional law enforcement facility. He reviewed how three law enforcement agencies could be housed in the same facility, share staff and the building to save money but still be independent of each other.

He stated his firm was hired in August 2011 to prepare a needs assessment and business plan and the first meeting with the three agencies was August 26. He stated he heard their goals and objectives then worked with each agency to identify their needs, as 2/3 of the floor space will be shared by all three agencies.

Redstone stated 8.5 to 10 acres would be needed for this facility, that the group had identified three areas close to I94, and he developed a design that would be suitable for any of these sites. He stated at the current configuration, it was approximately a \$24 million project. He noted the current site plan is for a 67,500 square foot facility that had two stories and a basement, as well as a 37,000 square foot outbuilding for boats, motorcycles and other vehicles. He noted that security for the public was paramount when designing this facility. He stated the design would allow common briefing areas and offices so information can readily be shared. He stated there would be a front desk area open to the public with one receptionist for all three agencies. Redstone reviewed areas of the building; describing what would be shared and what would be separate, noting that as many areas as possible are shared to reduce cost.

Marshall City Manager Tarkiewicz noted the building design includes a lock up area that was not meant to be a new jail or long term facility; it was a holding facility where no one would be kept for more than 72 hours. He noted that there could also be collaboration with other agencies for training purposes, using this facility.

Redstone noted this facility would set the stage to allow for the consolidation of all County law enforcement agencies but he recognized people and political nature may not choose to do so. He stated the Governor was trying to promote shared services so he encourages everyone to consider further collaborative opportunities.

Redstone stated there were options of allowing other agencies to train here and maybe rent out space. He stated the proposed facility has space to hold training classes and right now not one of the local agencies have a good training area, but rather they are sent to Lansing. He stated this would save training travel, overtime and time out of the field. He noted that yearly training requirements were 30 to 40 hours for police and 20 hours for corrections officers. He stated the savings and benefits are intangible, such as the security of the old facilities the agencies are currently operating in and the requirement to have the Sheriff 's main office in the County Seat, which is the City of Marshall.

The group held considerable discussion on the question of funding. The City of Marshall Manager stated they needed a new facility and were looking to grants and voters for help. Marshall City Council Member Miller stated the most important things to the city residents were fire and safety. It was noted the purpose of the study was to see if it was feasible to create a joint facility and there is more funding available if a joint facility is created. Interest rates are at historical lows but the grant timeline needs to be watched.

Several County Commissioners expressed concerns about the County's ability to fund such a large project, and whether there would be real dollar savings from the consolidation. Staff from both the City and County emphasized the need to keep in mind long term facility planning and the need to consider grant funding in order to offset the capital costs. They estimated a grant timeline through the State to be this summer.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners