

Draft
Commissioners Jail Meeting
August 27, 2018 8:00 a m

Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors

President Nobbe called the special jail meeting in session. He reminded all there are **Title VI voluntary survey forms** available on the table in the corner for whoever would like to complete and turn into the Auditor's office.

Mr Nobbe began the meeting saying the Commissioners are exploring all feasible solutions to the overcrowding at the current jail. He has toured the former Henryville Correction facility which is not an option due to the dormitory-style setup; spoken to law enforcement in Brown and Washington Counties who have available beds for \$40- \$50 per day per inmate; State Jail Inspector Ken Wickner informed Mr Nobbe the Decatur County Sheriff would have to supply a jailer to those counties should the Commissioners choose this option. Mr Nobbe asked **Community Corrections Director Ben Buening and Adult Probation Officer Matt Hoeing** what if 6 – 8 probation officers were hired to place more inmates on house arrest. Mr Buening stated an additional officer could 'take 20 -30'. Mr Hoeing doesn't believe the short term employment would attract good candidates. **Jail Commander Tony Blodgett** stated the pre-trial detention, releasing the lower charged offenders- the program is failing as those released are violating their 'release terms' and/or committing new offences because they know the jail is overcrowded. Inmates are not being held longer than six months as the Courts are 'processing/moving them through'. Mr Nobbe asked if 4 new jailers' positions would be needed to staff the Pods. Commander Blodgett confirmed 4 new jailers are needed to staff the 48 bed pods. Hiring for those new positions will be challenging since there haven't been any qualified applicants for the current four empty positions at the jail. Due to the overcrowding and the staff shortage, Commander Blodgett has had to deny requests for PTO or any time off which is putting the morale of jail personnel at a 'critical' low. **Sheriff Greg Allen** believes the addition of the pods and personnel will take a load off of the main building- spreading out to better manage the inmate population.

Mr Koors asked **Jeff Lyness of Maxwell Construction** how much time would be needed for site work, utilities and demo work at the current jail site if the Commissioners opt to order the pods. Mr Lyness assured the Commissioners with the six month window for **Eagle** to construct the pods; the site should be ready by January 1, 2019, for delivery of the pods on or near February 10, 2019. Mr Nobbe stated the **Greensburg Board of Zoning Appeals** made their approval to place the pods at the current jail contingent on the pods being removed within two years of moving jail operations into the new jail. Mr Buening asked if a penalty clause should be included in the purchase order with **Eagle** stating if a "guaranteed date" for delivery is not met, **Eagle** will be charged a specific dollar amount. Mr Lyness will contact Eagle on this question.

Mr Koors moved to order these pods (total 3400 square feet) per the **Eagle's** quote- \$1,187,238- dated July 13, 2018, with an operation deadline of February 10, 2019. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Decatur County Indiana Jail Building Corporation nominated the Decatur County Auditor as the Authorized Representative for purposes of investing the bond proceeds and the interest earned from the bond proceeds. The Commissioners agree with the Directors of the Jail Building Corporation and confirm the Auditor should be the authorized representative for investment purposes.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Buening moved to recess, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. Meeting recessed.

Richard J Nobbe

Attest: _____

Date: _____