



MEETING AGENDA

Planning • Architecture • Engineering • Interiors • Facility Management

PROJECT: Richardson County Law Enforcement Center Expansion –
Phases 1 & 2, Needs Assessment Update and Preliminary Planning

LOCATION OF MEETING: County Courthouse – District Courtroom

PURPOSE: Presentation of Feasibility Floor Plan/Site Plan Drawings & Discussion of Next Steps

PROJECT NO.: 211210 **DATE:** January 19th, 2022 **TIME:** 6:30pm

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this meeting is to:

- (1) Discuss Sheriff's Request
- (2) Receive Citizens Committee input on Needs Assessment, and Feasibility Plans
- (3) Discuss minimum/needed steps in the process, prior to Election/Bond Referendum Ballot Issue.

DISCUSSION:

1. Presentation of *Progress* Needs Assessment Update
2. Presentation of Options "A" and "B" Floor and Site Plans
3. Richardson County and Prochaska & Associates received permission 12-13-21 via telephone call from Denny Macomber with Nebraska Jail Standards to proceed with Citizen's Committee & Possible Bond Campaign *prior to* completion of Needs Assessment phase (anticipated completion: January of 2022).
4. Citizen's Committee role:
 - Read/discuss 2013 Needs Assessment Document
 - Read/discuss 2021 Needs Assessment Document *Update* (in-progress)
 - i. Report on Current Status of 24-bed Jail (Sheriff Hardesty/Jail Staff)
 1. Functionally full at 80% of capacity due to Classification requirements
 2. *Current* Transport and Boarding Costs information
 - ii. The 2021 *Update* projects an 11-bed shortfall in 20 years (2041).
 - iii. Boarding & Transport Costs are already difficult for the County (see discussion in 2013 Document regarding Boarding/Transport vs. New Construction cost).
 - iv. Surrounding Counties have older, smaller facilities, and are far less likely to build.
 - v. Discuss the economic impact of 40-bed Addition on Falls City/Richardson County.
5. Discuss differences between 2013 and 2021 Documents.
6. What typically happens during the Preliminary Planning phase? This phase is typically separate from

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the Bond Campaign phase.

7. Remaining Information needed for Needs Assessment and Campaign, i.e., Projected Cost? Soft Cost in addition to Hard Cost? Staffing Cost impact?
8. Discuss available timeframe for Recommendation to Board and Bond Campaign:
 - The deadline for filing for the May Primary Election is March 1st, requiring Board action either that day, or the prior February 22nd Meeting. This leaves March and April for the Campaign.
 - Poll the Committee—interest in placing this on May Primary Election ballot?
 - Discuss/Brainstorm ideas for campaign – what should committee members do? What will P&A do for the Committee during the campaign: brochures, yard signage, display boards, help with focus groups, advice for social media, etc.
 - We believe the *ideal* process involves the Citizens Committee making a recommendation to the County Board regarding the need for the Bond Issue (not the Sheriff or Architect).
 - We believe the *ideal* timeframe for a proper Bond Campaign is five (5) months, to ensure adequate coverage in the Press, Social Media, Make Yard Signs, Brochures, and Community Meetings. P&A is willing to contribute graphics for this Campaign.
 - We believe the *ideal* process involves the Citizen’s Committee transforming into a “Vote Yes” Campaign Committee, with 501(c)3 status, (vs. a “Please Vote” Committee).
9. P&A will assist at *no additional charge* during the Campaign if the County agrees to follow our Community-based Planning Process closely. Another available option for the County to consider is the “Nickle Tax”.
 - Question: Is the Nickel Tax available to Richardson County this time?
 - Question: Is the November Primary Election a possibility for a Jail Bond ballot issue?
10. If the Primary Election deadline is too restrictive, and Richardson County cannot place this issue on the November ballot, P&A would recommend the County hold a *Special Election*—allowable dates in 2022 are unknown at this time (does County Clerk know this info?).
 - To save money, the Fremont, NE School District publicized a *mail-in* Special Election for their School Bond (9-14-21). Discussion? Is this option possible for Richardson County?
11. Committee should elect a Chair and Vice Chair. Additional Members needed (i.e., from Sheriff’s social media list)? Additional resources needed? Questions? Next Meeting Date?

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