

MONTGOMERY COUNTY JAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 24, 2009

The Montgomery County Jail Committee met Tuesday, November 24, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the Basement Meeting Room of the Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Donna Robinson. Those present were committee members Brad Wright, Clint Rubey, Donna Robinson, Drue Powers, Jim Parker, Jim Sifford, Jon Young, Ken Rech, Margaret Stoldorf, Roger Ehmke, Dan Cain, Ron Brown, and Sheriff Joe Sampson. Also present were clerk Joni Ernst and visitor Red Oak Express editor Greg Orear.

Motion by Rubey, second by Stoldorf to approve the agenda. All in favor.
Motion carried.

Motion by Powers, second by Ehmke to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2009 Jail Committee Meeting. All in favor. Minutes stand approved.

The Chair called for public comment. No public comment.

The Committee moved into business and began reviewing the submitted proposals from DLR of Omaha and Des Moines, HMN Associates of Overland Park, and Prochaska and Associates of Omaha. Robinson noted that the fees had increased with all of the consultants.

Rubey stated that parts of the proposals submitted by HMN and DLR had the exact same wording. He noted that HMN had a very large quote of \$44,000, so maybe they did not want the job as badly as before. Robinson said she had spoken with Steve Davis of HMN, and their price was negotiable. Ernst stated she had spoken with both DLR and Prochaska. She said the \$9,600 price from DLR is only for Phase I, and there would be additional cost for Phase II to be negotiated later. Prochaska said the \$15,000 quote from Prochaska would be a maximum case scenario and included Phase I and II.

Young asked where the Durrant bill stood. Robinson stated nothing had been paid yet, and would be decided by the Board of Supervisors on Thursday. Parker stated it had cost them credibility with the public, and Stoldorf said it also cost the committee time towards the project. Robinson said these were consequential damages that would be considered by the Board when deciding payment.

Stoldorf asked if HMN was out of the discussion. Consensus of the Committee not to consider HMN Associates.

Stoldorf voiced concerns that Prochaska has never done an Iowa jail, and questioned their expertise. Rubey stated that they had fleshed out more detail than the other two firms and all three were more than qualified.

Wright stated his biggest concern was that DLR seemed to be doing boilerplate work and taking shortcuts, not really addressing Montgomery County's needs. Ehmke said that Prochaska had addressed the bond issue support more than DLR. Cain and Rubey said that Prochaska would stick with Montgomery County through the bond referendum. Parker agreed that Prochaska was directing their comments to Montgomery County individually, and HMN and DLR had stamped-out proposals.

Wright motioned that the committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they enter into contract negotiations with Prochaska, second by Parker. In discussion, Stoldorf asked if the supervisors were going to contract to take this through all phases. Rech stated that there was a difference between consulting and serving as an architect. Wright suggested that County Attorney Bruce Swanson work with Prochaska on the wording in the contract. Stoldorf asked if the committee would want to bring in both firms to discuss their proposals. Robinson said that the consultants spelled that out in the first interview in June.

Roll call: Yes: Wright, Rubey, Robinson, Powers, Parker, Sifford, Young, Rech, Ehmke, Cain, Brown. No: Stoldorf. Abstain: Sampson, stating he had missed too much of the discussion while he was out on a phone call. Motion carried.

Stoldorf recommended that Prochaska meet with the Committee as soon as possible.

With no additional comments, motion to adjourn by Brown, second by Stoldorf. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

DONNA ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: JONI K. ERNST, CLERK