

MONTGOMERY COUNTY JAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 8, 2009

The Montgomery County Jail Committee met Monday, June 8, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Basement Meeting Room of the courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Donna Robinson. There was a roll call of members with Ron Brown, Dan Cain, Roger Ehmke, Jim Parker, Drue Powers, Ken Rech, Clint Rubey, Julie Rubey, Donna Robinson, Joe Sampson, Jim Sifford, Margaret Stoldorf, Brad Wright, and Jon Young. Visitors included Don Prochaska of Prochaska & Associates and Greg Orear, editor of the Red Oak Express.

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

Motion by C. Rubey, second by Stoldorf to approve the minutes as read. All in favor. Minutes were approved and stand as read.

The Chairman called for public comments. Prochaska and Orear introduced themselves to the Committee.

The Committee moved into discussion of submitted Request for Qualifications which included Prochaska & Associates of Omaha, HMN Architects, Inc. of Overland Park, HOK of St. Louis, Durrant of Des Moines, CGL with BVH of Columbia, South Carolina, DLR Group of Omaha, and Voorhis Associates, Inc., of Lafayette, Colorado.

Motion by C. Rubey, second by Parker to limit the selection of firms to three for the "short list." Discussion followed with Stoldorf asking if the selection could be limited to Iowa-based companies. Several members disagreed, stating the best firms that would satisfy the needs of the county should be selected. Wright stated that restriction was not part of the RFQ advertisement. During additional discussion, it was stated that perhaps four should be considered instead of three. Stoldorf called for the question. Roll call: Yes: Robinson, Powers, Parker, Young, Stoldorf, Ehmke, Sampson. No: Wright, C. Rubey, J. Rubey, Sifford, Rech, Cain, Brown. Motion failed.

Discussion followed with pros and cons discussed on the submittals. C. Rubey said he favored DLR, Prochaska, and Durrant. Parker stated he did, too, and preferred firms that had done work in smaller counties who didn't have lots of money. Sifford said that Durrant had missed the bid in Mount Ayr by \$1.3 million, and a contractor should be able to get closer to the mark than that. Stoldorf stated that BVH had no contact information in their submittal with CGL. Rech said that BVH and HOK had no Nebraska or Iowa projects. He also said he would like to see HMN Architects considered, as they have done work in Mills County and in Dakota City. Wright agreed. Robinson said that Pete Franks, who is aligned with HMN, has been to the Board of Supervisors meetings and has followed the Jail Committee progress. Rech said that Prochaska has done work in his hometown of David City, Nebraska, and the courthouse and law enforcement center fits in very well with the aesthetics of the town. Sifford mentioned Voorhis, and emphasized that they have done numerous jail and law enforcement projects. C. Rubey said that Prochaska had put in bold text that they have worked on small projects, and that was important. Sampson stated that the Sheriff in Ringgold had been very pleased with Durrant.

Motion by Wright, second by Sifford to "short list" DLR Group, Durrant, Prochaska & Associates, and HMN Architects. C. Rubey called for the question. All in favor. Motion carried.

The committee discussed the important topics to be addressed during the interview. Rech believed the proposed costs should be addressed, as well as the timeline.

Discussion followed on whether the cost should be presented during the interview or submitted at a time after the interviews, and whether they should address previous studies in the presentation. J. Rubey stated the committee should let them decide what was best for the group, and have them present it. She said the committee should not restrict them so much that they are tainting the study, and the committee doesn't want to influence the firm's decision on what they do.

Wright asked if it was fair for the companies to bring their proposal, or should they have the chance to re-think the costs. Rech stated it would not be difficult for the companies to figure their costs, as they had all submitted their timelines, and would base the cost from the timelines. Sifford felt in fairness to all the groups they should bring the proposed costs to the interview. Wright stated if they did bring costs, they would have the opportunity to explain the proposed costs.

The committee then moved on to setting the dates and times for the interviews. Rech stated the presentations should be 45 minutes to an hour. C. Rubey proposed two each evening. Wright suggested the 22nd and 23rd of June from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. for interviews with one firm at 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. Clerk to the Committee Joni Ernst stated she would call the selected companies and follow-up with a formal letter.

C. Rubey asked if it was too soon to discuss funding for the facility. Rech said it should be started as soon as possible after the selection process, because it would be a large factor. Sampson said that Mr. Jackson at the National Institute of Corrections said not to sign a contract with an architect until they had attended PONI, and the selected architect could attend at his own cost.

The next meeting was set for Monday, June 22nd at 6:00 P.M. Wright said he would check with the Fire Station to see if the meeting room was available.

Motion by Stoldorf, second by Wright to adjourn. All in favor. The committee adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

DONNA ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: JONI K. ERNST, CLERK