



Champaign County Board Facilities Committee Special Meeting County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed 3/5/13

DATE: Tuesday, February 20, 2013
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lyle Shields Meeting Room
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E Washington, Urbana, IL 61802

Committee Members

Present	Absent
Stan James (Chair)	
James Quisenberry (Vice Chair)	
Josh Hartke	
Jeff Kibler	
Gary Maxwell	
Giraldo Rosales	
Rachel Schwartz	

County Staff: Alan Reinhart (Director of Facilities), Deb Busey (County Administrator), Beth Brunk (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Dr. Alan Kalmanoff (ILPP), John Jay & Patti Petrie (Champaign Co Board)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair James called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

II. Roll Call

A verbal roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Mr. Kibler to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Mr. Rosales. Upon vote, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

IV. Public Participation

None

V. Discussion of Institute of Law & Policy Planning (ILPP) Study

Dr. Kalmanoff, consultant for ILPP, explained that the process is too early to report on findings or recommendations. He has made some general observations but does not yet know where they will lead in a strategic plan for Champaign County. The first is that the two jails are not being maintained adequately. One person should not be responsible for maintenance but rather a system. Secondly, two buildings do not make sense as they replicate services. Thirdly, County jails do not provide services from social workers, healthcare workers, child protective custody workers, pretrial service agency, etc. for those people entering the criminal justice system. Finally, the County has plenty of real estate. The

community is rich in resources and assets – most of which do not appear to be utilized in the jail. Many people are unaware of the need to have social/health services for the inmates to change their character. The ILPP study will be examining building structures, jail operations, costs and attitudes about crime and punishment. It will also provide a recommendation for a maintenance system.

Dr. Kalmanoff felt that it was a crucial finding that the County jails are not overcrowded. Even categorical overcrowding of a specific group was not in evidence. This area has a very cold climate so heating costs would have to be considered if creating an inexpensive space for certain kinds of criminal justice and correction functions like a day reporting center. Dr. Kalmanoff explained that there is a classification system through risk assessment used to determine the level of security housing needed for an inmate. This state-of-the-art system is very important to the ILPP study as enough factors can be accumulated and assigned points to validate what is predictive.

In an effort to understand supervision in jails, Dr. Kalmanoff described the traditional jail configuration – a linear design like a telephone pole (large central corridor) with cross members (hallways that house double-loaded cells). This linear intermittent surveillance facility is mostly controlled by the inmates – con-bosses control their respective hallways. Unfortunately, correction staff must lean on a con-boss system to help them control the facility. The new generation jail is modular in design – the cells are all around a circle with the correctional officer at the center. Staff can control the inmates by direct supervision by being able to see in every cell anytime they want. If a prisoner does not cooperate, their kitchen and cable TV privileges are revoked. The direct supervision model is recommended by the National Institute of Corrections.

While there are unfilled beds in the County jails, new beds may be advisable due to the intensive supervision necessary in some locations. Some outlaying buildings could be repurposed to be a low-staff operation like a day reporting center staffed by a single probation officer or a drunk drivers' motel run by a single on-contract retired correctional officer who lives there. Dr. Kalmanoff is not making any recommendations at this time but is assembling information, alternatives and options. At the end of the study, ILPP will provide some facility scenarios with pros/cons, costs and impacts for each. The costs will not be precise – order of magnitude costs.

The County is paying ILPP \$119,000 for this study. Ms. Busey stated that the purpose of Dr. Kalmanoff's visit to the County Board tomorrow was to allow the 22 County Board members access to the consultant for questions and to get an update. The final study is due at the end of May.

Dr. Kalmanoff suggested that public meetings should be held to discuss what is the purpose and value of having a jail. This dialogue would help him with the study. He would not be organizing them but would like to attend them if given 2 weeks advanced notice. Mr. James thought that the Community Justice Task Force may be the appropriate group to organize the public meetings.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Kibler to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Quisenberry. Upon vote, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously**. Mr. James adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.