



**Champaign County Board
Facilities Committee
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois**

MINUTES – Approved 2/8/2016

DATE: Tuesday, December 1, 2015
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lyle Shields Meeting Room
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington, Urbana, IL 61802

Committee Members

Present	Absent
Gary Maxwell (Chair)	
Giraldo Rosales (Vice Chair)	
Jack Anderson	
Josh Hartke	
James Quisenberry	
Jon Rector	
Rachel Schwartz	

County Staff: Dana Brenner (Facilities Director); Deb Busey (County Administrator); Tami Ogden (Deputy County Administrator of Finance); Linda Lane (Administrative Assistant)

Others Present: Pattsy Petrie (Board Chair)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Agenda

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

IV. Approval of Minutes- November 3, 2015

MOTION by Mr. Hartke to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2015 meeting; seconded by Mr. Rector. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

V. Public Participation

None

VI. Communications

Mr. Maxwell thanked Mr. Rosales for chairing the November meeting. He commented that he was in Australia and that he likes to try to get ideas from places he goes. He said he brought back some clippings about managing aquifers and noted they are very serious out their aquifer management.

He felt they were several years ahead of what is done in Illinois. Mr. Maxwell said he also has a clipping about problems a rural nursing home in Australia is having.

VII. Discussion of Facility Condition Assessment Report

Mr. Maxwell felt they needed to start a discussion regarding the report. He said he put this on the agenda for the committee to begin focusing work towards a solution for the deferred maintenance backlog on County buildings. He noted that the Bailey Edward report is not a capital renewal and facility master plan. Mr. Maxwell thought the report, along with the Sheriff's Operation Master Planning report should provide information for the committee to move forward in forming a rational approach to the deferred maintenance backlog. He stated that the report indicates some buildings should be removed from the inventory. Mr. Maxwell talked about the costs to remove the buildings from inventory and address the deferred maintenance backlog, and asked where the money would come from. He pointed out that they have a responsibility to provide a safe, efficient, and humane environment for the inmates and for correctional employees. He summarized what an updated facility needed to include. Mr. Maxwell said that Bailey Edward will send a report regarding ADA deficiencies and the cost to remediate those issues. He said it will be mandatory for the County Board to fund the ADA remediation. He noted that they have been funding building maintenance at about \$835,000 per year for the last 2-3 years and said going forward they must focus on the most pressing issues of ADA, life safety issues, and roofing. Mr. Maxwell said long-term they need to find the money to maintain the buildings or decide which buildings to remove from the inventory or defer maintenance on. He suggested it's not too early to discuss putting the funding issue before voters in November. Mr. Maxwell said it's his opinion they must have a plan to reduce the backlog, be united as a committee and County Board, and have the support of community leaders and organizations.

Mr. Maxwell opened the floor for comments, ideas, and questions from committee members.

Mr. Quisenberry commented he still has a concern the original courthouse building values are insufficient to maintain the buildings we have. He said the Bailey Edward report is based on a model that doesn't recognize fancier features of older architecture. Mr. Quisenberry said they need to have revenue dependency information regarding ILEAS before they can decide what to do with the building.

Mr. Hartke felt things that can save money on other bills should be looked at first. He thought they could should look at finding energy savings, consolidating office or storages space, and possibly liquidating some buildings before going to the public for a tax increase. He noted that he is not including the nursing home in this process though he knew others want to. He said he agrees with Mr. Quisenberry regarding the courthouse. Mr. Hartke suggested asking for private donations, such as the once received for the courthouse. He felt a ¼¢ facility sales tax isn't the way to go and he would oppose that.

Mr. Rosales suggested they hear from the Finance Committee about ideas they've explored concerning bonds or other sources of increased revenues or fees. He would like to know if there is any revenue they could draw from that they currently have. He agreed with Mr. Hartke about not increasing taxes.

Mr. Anderson said he agrees with Mr. Hartke but felt the nursing home shouldn't be excluded. Mr. Maxwell said he intentionally didn't want to include the nursing home in this discussion. He said the nursing home is currently funding its own repairs and putting money towards retiring the bonds. He felt it needed to be included in the long term maintenance backlog, but would like to set it aside for another discussion.

Mr. Maxwell said it sounds like they are beginning to make a decision and said what he is hearing is that they don't want a tax increase. He said if they want to reduce the backlog they will need to find

a new revenue stream. He said without it they won't be able to reduce the deferred maintenance backlog. Mr. Maxwell said they need to be united as a County Board to get a referendum passed.

Mr. Rector felt the nursing home is a big part of what's being subsidized from here and felt it's unrealistic to separate it. Ms. Schwartz asked for clarification on subsidized, and said there is no money that currently goes to the nursing home that can go to facilities because the nursing home tax is dedicated. Mr. Rector felt a lot of people question whether the County should be in the nursing home business, and it's the type of thing to look at if something needs to be cut. Ms. Schwartz pointed out that if it's closed the money won't go into facilities and they will actually lose money that currently goes to pay bonds. Mr. Rector commented that it's a philosophical issue.

Mr. Anderson said there are only so many dollars in the community. He suggested the potential sale of the nursing home, to allow it to operate freely within the marketplace as a way to remove it from our rolls, would mean they no longer have to pay the construction bond. He noted the subsidy of \$1.6 million annually to keep it going and will no longer be taxing the public to pay the bond. Ms. Busey said its \$1.1 million. Mr. Anderson said that money becomes revenue neutral and could be used for building maintenance. He stated everyone knows there is no money available and they will have to seek revenue. He felt the committee will have to decide how low they can go on maintenance costs. Mr. Anderson suggested they look at their real estate portfolio and operational needs to see how close they can get without affecting services. He said they should focus on what the committee can do before going to Finance.

Mr. Rosales asked if they were receiving any revenue from the wind turbine farm. Ms. Busey said that went onto the equalized assessed valuation a few years ago, and that is the basis for the property tax. Mr. Rosales questioned if they couldn't bond up to half of the \$30 million they were almost going to bond for the satellite jail. Ms. Schwartz pointed out that there is no plan to bond anything now because there isn't any money to do so. Mr. Rosales noted that several years ago the County had a good enough credit rating to sell bonds, and felt they could get a loan to tackle only the facilities that are in deplorable condition.

Ms. Schwartz inquired if the \$4.5 million is an annual amount or just the backlog, and if it's annual, she asked what the backlog is. Mr. Maxwell replied the \$4.5 million is the annual backlog over the next 10 years. Mr. Rosales asked if that was with no construction. Mr. Maxwell said that is correct.

Mr. Maxwell said that 60-70% of the money is tied up in personnel. Ms. Busey said the annual budget is \$125 million. She said \$35 million of that is the general fund and 70% of that is personnel. She noted 53% of the total budget is personnel. She said outside the general fund are special revenue funds that are dedicated to specific purposes. She said the real budget they have to work with is general corporate, which is \$35-36 million with 70% of that being personnel. She commented that cuts have been made. Ms. Busey noted, with regard to consolidating, that most department heads are looking for more space, and felt they have maximized the utilization of the buildings to the greatest extent possible. She suggested the committee could take a day to see how the departments use their spaces and look for ways to consolidate.

Mr. Maxwell said that he would like the committee to think on this some more and talk to their constituents. He said they can talk to him as well and give him some idea of what they'd like him to do the next month. He acknowledged they have a lot of work to do.

VIII. Facilities Director's Report

A. Update on Courthouse Window Replacement Project

Mr. Brenner reported that there are only two items left on the punch list, which should be done by Friday. He summarized what was still left to do. He said they expect one final payment request and gave a summary of the costs.

B. Update on Precast Concrete Panel Repair Project

Mr. Brenner stated that the satellite jail and JDC are 100% complete. He summarized what was done at each building and noted that Highway is about 60% complete. He explained that based on temperatures they are shutting the project down until the spring, and it will only take a few weeks to complete at that time. Mr. Maxwell asked if they were going to have to carry the money to next fiscal year. Ms. Busey said they will bring a budget amendment in January or February. Mr. Brenner said most of the funds will come out of Highway, but a few thousand dollars will be owed to ERA.

C. Update on CCNH Dryer Lint Project

Mr. Brenner reported GHR provided their proposed scope of work, which the CCNH Board gave approval to bid and it has been posted. He said three contractors showed up at the mandatory pre-bid meeting and all plan to submit bids this Friday. Mr. Brenner said he will report next month on the bids and take them to the CCNH Board for approval.

D. Update on CCNH Fire Damper Project

Mr. Brenner explained the purpose of fire dampers. He said they knew the nursing home had about 500, but because of litigation with the contractor when the nursing home was complete, they never received final as-built drawings. He noted that they had asked various contractors that had worked on the project and the City of Urbana, but no one had as-builts. Mr. Brenner said that GHR found another 200 dampers another project they did about five years ago. He said that Kirk Kirkland spent time going through the volumes of material from the construction project, including change orders. He said they are now looking at about 1,000 fire dampers. He explained they need to do this project because IDPH requires the working condition of the fire dampers has to be done every four years. Mr. Brenner said the nursing home has not kept up with that and said they need to have everything certified as working by April 15, 2016. He will go to the CCNH Board for approval to put a bid out, but the cost is unknown at this time. He said they will see what the bids come in at and what ability the nursing home has to cover the costs. He noted that this is a very significant issue and has been pushed forward as quickly as possible.

IX. Chair's Report

None

Mr. Maxwell wished all a Merry Christmas and thanked the committee members for all their hard work this year. He said he looks forward to working with everyone again next year.

Mr. Maxwell stated the next meeting will be Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

X. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

None

XI. Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Hartke to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Rosales. There being no further business, Mr. Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

***Please note the minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.*