

Carbon County Detention Facility Meeting

March 3rd, 2021, 6:00pm

In person at the Joliet Fire Department: Commissioner Scott Blain, Commissioner Scott Miller, Shane Swandal, Hal Lewis, Amber Foechterle, Gary Foechterle, Melvin Hoferer, Sheriff Josh McQuillan, Elton Kirtley, Kathleen Armstrong, Gary Levine, Rich Whitney, Chris Pugrud, Mark Keyes. Commissioners Office and on-line: Commissioner Bill Bullock, Angela Newell, Gary Morseman, Barbara Krizek, Jane Swanson Webb, Tara Reynolds, Denise Rivette, Pete Critelli.

1. **Approve Minutes:** Minutes from 02.17.2021 were unanimously approved.
2. **Sheriff's Comments / Update:** Sheriff Josh McQuillan advised the committee that he and Commissioner Blain met with Shane Swandal to go over details of the detention facility. Sheriff will meet with Alastair Baker with Carbon County News on Monday to discuss articles about the detention facility.
3. **Construction Budget:** Shane Swandal with Hulteng CCM gave an update on the working construction budget and explained some of what will be covered in the amount. Traffic studies will have to be conducted in case there are needed road improvements. There have been discussions about needed space in the facility for female inmates and food service. A full service kitchen will be built that will accommodate a 100 bed facility if needed. Decisions will need to be made for meal preparation or meal deliveries. Landscaping was also mentioned.
4. **Operating Costs:** Angela Newell went over a spreadsheet for future operating costs. Sheriff McQuillan stated that a decision will have to be made about medical services and they are leaning toward in-house medical. Hal Lewis suggested that there be space for mental health classes, etc. Angela also introduced a rough draft of Mills needed for operating and construction. Worst-case scenario will be 59 mills which would be around \$80.00 a year for a \$100,000 home. Gary Morseman asked for the total amount spent in 2020 for transporting inmates to other jails and stated that it is much cheaper to just transport inmates than it is to build a detention facility and the voters will not like that. Sheriff McQuillan explained that most people arrested aren't being transported unless it is a violent crime. Right now they are being turned down 50% of the time and running out of options. If there were room for every arrest the amount would be much higher for transporting inmates. There was much discussion; however, it was hard to understand with people talking at the same time.
5. **Strategic Planning Timeline:** No changes have been made at this point. Mr. Swandal will present a timeline at the next meeting. Sheriff McQuillan stated that we need to start having community meetings as soon as possible and there is no reason to delay them. Much discussion on when and where the first meeting should be and it was decided on April 14th, 2021, 6pm at the Fairgrounds in Red Lodge.

6. **Public Education:** The Committee discussed sending out a mailer and when the Sheriff should send his letter to the Carbon County News. Commissioner Blain suggested that the letter go in the same time as the article is written.
7. **Committee Comments:** Commissioner Blain brought up the subject of who needs to attend the community meetings. Pete Critelli suggested that we have one moderator and allow people to speak for only 3 minutes to try and keep the meeting under control. Commissioner Blain stated that Hal Lewis should be the moderator and Mr. Lewis agreed. Discussion about having the meetings available by Zoom.
8. **Items for the next agenda:** Mill Levy discussion and have Bridgette attend the meeting.
9. **Public Comment:**

Chris Pugrud asked for clarification with the operating levy. He wanted to know what happens if the operating costs go over what is budgeted. Angela Newell explained that the mills are capped for operating costs and if more is needed it has to go out to the voters. More discussion about mill levies and property values.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm. Next meeting will be Wednesday, 03/17/2021.