

**JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC FORUM AUGUST 22, 2017 7 P.M.**

All members were present.

Matt Sporleder opened the meeting with leading the pledge to the flag. Mr. Sporleder welcomed everyone and noted that anyone who would like to address the committee needed to sign up with Charles Waggoner. Mr. Sporleder then turned the meeting over to Dan Zuerner, Vice President of Garmong Construction Services and Construction Manager for this project.

Mr. Zuerner introduced the members of the committee for the jail project: Matt Sporleder, Larry Maschino, Dave Woodall, Ellie Bright and Sheriff Gary Driver and noted that Mrs. Bright was not able to be at the meeting due to being on maternity leave for her new addition. Also attending were Mr. Rick Hall with Barnes and Thornburg, Bond Counsel, Andrew Lanham with George Baum Bond Underwriter, Jeffrey Peters, CPA with Peters Municipal Consultants, LTD, Financial Advisor, Kenny Whipker, State Jail Inspector and Eric Ratts with DLZ, Principal Architect.

Mr. Zuerner had a power point presentation explaining the project goals, project efforts, discoveries and determinations and determining the project size and scale. Mr. Zuerner stated the goal was to develop and execute a plan that best serves the taxpayers of Jennings County; to determine the size and scale of the project necessary to achieve the desired objectives. The current jail is rated for 104 inmates and in 2017 alone the population has well exceeded that number. January 186, February 210, March 207, April 219, May 181, June 187 and July 203. The report from the July 28, 2017 jail inspection stated the following: there was a significant lack of air movement in warmer portions of the jail. Humidity and stagnant air in the hygiene areas; HVAC system should be replaced. At 193 inmates in-house on the date of the inspection, the jail is 71 inmates over rated capacity. IDOC jail standards require one toilet and one shower for every 12 inmates - not in compliance. IDOC jail standards require a bed for all incarcerated inmates - not in compliance. The rated capacity of the current jail is 104 inmates, with 122 total beds currently available. Classification for both male and female inmates continues to be an issue. 57 female inmates were in-house as of last week.

Mr. Zuerner stated that the project goal is to have an efficient-to-operate and functional jail that fully meets State of Indiana Department of Correction's Indiana Jail Standards. To be flexible in terms of meeting inmate housing and classification requirements and to have a safe living and work environment. To have a facility that will withstand the "test of time" and provide the "best value" for the dollar expended available to taxpayers.

After the presentation the Committee opened it up for the taxpayers to ask questions and give their concerns and suggestions. Those speaking were Alex Murphy, Jeanette Harr, Bert Corya, Earl Taggart, Jarrod Daeger, Jeff Gee, Edna Ernstes and Howard Malcomb.

In conclusion the location of the jail at this site on the Richard Martin property was deemed unacceptable and the Commissioners voted unanimously No on the purchase of the property.

Attest:



Kay Sue Vance, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, President of Commissioners



Robert Willhite, Commissioner



David Lane, Commissioner

Howard Malcomb, President of Council

Mike Kelley, Vice President Council

Paul Belding, Council Member