

to hire additional employees to provide this service which would be more costly to the taxpayers. Also DVIS is trained in the area of domestic violence. Semler said DVIS is located in the Federal Court building now but must be relocated due to Federal Court space needs and security issues. Harris said he believed DVIS was renting space at 201 W. 5th. He spoke about the services already being provided in the Traffic and Protective Order Court area by the District Attorney's office staff and how badly they need additional space to do their job. Smith said during the past two years her office has absorbed stranger protective order cases as well as non-traditional domestic relation protective order cases. Winslow said DVIS did not represent 100% of the public and that this private agency is servicing only a portion of the people requiring protective order services. He added that the Court Clerk, District Attorney's office, Public Defender's office, and Judiciary represent all of the people and are all publicly supported. He said their space needs should come before any auxiliary groups are provided space in the courthouse. Harris agreed that he felt the present courthouse occupant needs should be taken care of before other entities are brought into the courthouse space. Motion was made by Dick to honor the request made by the Judiciary, the Bar, and the District Attorney to allocate the space as requested by the courts and allow the Traffic and Protective Order Court area to be expanded into the space on the first floor of the courthouse being vacated by the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Office. Edwards was directed to work with Harris and Smith to assist DVIS in acquiring space elsewhere. Selph seconded the motion with the condition that Edwards pursue assisting DVIS in finding space, possibly at 201 W. 5th or an existing building. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Collins, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried.

Baker presented the recommendation of the Tulsa County Retirement Board to change the employees' retirement system policy relating to military service credit. He explained that the current policy matches the Oklahoma State Retirement System and Oklahoma State Statutes with one exception. The exception is that Tulsa County currently provides service credit for military retirees whether or not they have service related disability for which they are receiving benefits. The Retirement Board proposes changing the current policy to bring it in line with State Statutes by prohibiting an employee who is receiving a military retirement benefit or is eligible to receive one, from receiving military service credit unless they are at least 20% disabled. He noted that current employees will continue to receive all benefits in place today. The Board concurred with the proposed changes. The Board also discussed its wishes to study the feasibility of changing the retirement board policy to provide military service credit for anyone on active duty in any military branch; the minimum service time to be determined later. The Board requested that a questionnaire be sent to all current employees to determine how many were in active duty in any military branch of service, what years they served, if any of them receive benefits from their active military service, and if any are more than 20% disabled. After the questionnaires are received, the Board asked that an actuarial study be conducted to determine if it is feasible to make this change to the Retirement Board policies. The Board agreed that if this change is made to the policies, the length of service should be capped at four years and the new policy would only affect current and future employees (not those who have already left Tulsa County employment).

Terry Tallent discussed the PEBSCO 401(a) deferred compensation matching program which could be used to encourage employees to participate in the County's 457 plan by utilizing matching funds. He said state law defines the maximum contribution as \$25 per pay period per employee. The employee would commit to contribute at least \$20 per pay period to the 457 plan and the County would match that sum up to \$25 per pay period and put that money in a 401(a) plan. The employee would choose how to invest their 401(a) funds. The Board agreed it wished to explore this as an additional possible benefit for the employees to get more participation in the 457 plan and propel employees to plan for the future. The Board asked Tallent to bring a finalized proposal to the Budget Board for consideration prior to budget preparation time for next fiscal year.

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Robert N. Dick, Chairman

ATTEST:


Joan Hastings, County Clerk

(DETAILS OF THE ABOVE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK.)