

(Agenda of meeting was posted in the Courthouse Administration Lobby at 4:13 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 1991)

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
February 14, 1991

The Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County met at the hour of 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Lewis Harris, Chairman; John Selph, Robert N. Dick. Members absent: none. Others present: Nancy Cooper, Jim Helm, Wayne Carr, Clay Edwards, Manny Gamallo, Vera Carroll.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and the following business was transacted:

Helm, representing the sheriff's office reported on the jail management contract. He said that it is with the city attorney and has not yet been signed by the City. Helm is not anticipating any problems with the finalization of the contract.

Helm reported the jail population has averaged 603 for the past month. The population on February 13 was 558. He noted that in addition to working with the Pre-Trial Release program to bring the numbers down, the sheriff's office is also working with the City to be certain they are coordinating the changes in the booking procedures.

Selph briefed the Board on a meeting that he and Juvenile Bureau Director, Bill Bledsoe had with officials from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to discuss the Juvenile Detention Center. Selph volunteered to represent the Board in discussions with the DHS on this subject.

Chairman noted that the agenda item on Zoning Changes Relating to Kennels (NB#3) will be deferred as recommended by Ron Fields, County Inspector, to allow his office time to assess whether a change in the code is really necessary.

Chairman introduced a draft from the sheriff's office relating to unscheduled closings of the courthouse. He said after the last severe ice storm there were some news media notices to the public of County operations closing that were not based on fact. After this incident, Harris visited with Helm to see if a method could be developed to prevent this type of problem from occurring in the future.

After a brief discussion, the Board concurred that: (1) the sheriff's office was the best vehicle to do the actual notification; (2) the decision to close the courthouse in the event of the need for an unscheduled closing should be made by the chairman or one of the other county commissioners depending on availability, and this should be done in collaboration with the presiding judge and the sheriff. Dick noted that the document under discussion is trying to address two different issues, one being the safety factor and inconvenience and two, the true emergency or danger factor. He said he was comfortable with the sheriff evaluating the second factor when it involved a true emergency or danger factor in ordering the evacuation of the courthouse if necessary.

The Board asked that the amendments suggested in their discussion be incorporated into a final document and the document then be scheduled for a Budget Board meeting for signatures by the Board members and the sheriff. Edwards and Helm will work on the details and present a final policy statement for Board action.

Cheryl Clay was present to discuss her request to re-enter the County retirement system. Chairman briefed the Board on the background of the subject, including detailing the initial action taken by the Board in 1980 which allowed elected officials and county workers to opt out of the County's retirement system.

Clay stated that non-elected employees were allowed to buy back their time in the system by returning the money withdrawn within 60 days, but elected officials were not allowed that option. Clay said, that Attorney General opinion #80-289 states elected officials should not be permitted to leave the retirement system. Chairman noted that the Board did not have that opinion until after the events took place.

Dennis Semler, Assistant District Attorney, stated the Board could allow Clay to rejoin the system, assuming she pays the amount she owes (approximately \$7,000) plus interest. The Board discussed probable funding sources for the County's portion of Clay's re-instatement, which would be about \$60,000. Semler noted one thing the Commission might consider would be for Clay to file a lawsuit, the County could confess judgement, and the County then levy for the money over a three year period of time. He added, however that this option should first be discussed with Dick Blakeley, Chief Civil Assistant.

Motion by Harris, seconded by Dick, that the Board agree in principal with the request of Cheryl Clay with details to be worked out by the Retirement Board and the District Attorney's office. Upon roll call, Selph, yes; Dick, yes; Harris, yes. Motion carried.