

(Agenda of meeting was posted in the Courthouse Administration Lobby at 8:35 a.m. on Wednesday, February 27, 1991)

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE  
FEBRUARY 28, 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: John Harris, Jim Smith, Mickey McDaniel, Manny Gamallo, Wayne Carr, Stanley Glanz, John Cantrell, Dave Bercaw, Jeanette Bradley, Dick Blakeley, Clay Edwards, Vera Carroll.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., and the following business was transacted:

Smith, Chairman of the Retirement Board of Trustees, urged the Board of County Commissioners to pass a resolution changing the retirement vestment period for county employees from 10 years to 8 years, along with proportionally reduced benefits. Smith said this recommendation was based on the current actuary report showing the current rate of contribution is sufficient to fund the change and still reduce the unfunded liability.

Chairman introduced Mickey McDaniel, an actuary, with the firm of William M. Mercer, Inc. McDaniel presented a report on a study his firm recently completed regarding actuarial assumptions of public employees and his firm's review of the Tulsa County Employees Retirement Fund and System in particular. McDaniel reported the study shows funds are available to fund this change without negatively impacting the retirement system.

Smith informed the Board that Tulsa County's Retirement System is the only county retirement system in the state that still requires 10 years for vesting. He added that in both the Oklahoma County and the state retirement system, vesting periods are eight years.

Cantrell told the Board he favors eight year vesting, provided it is financially sound for the pension plan. However, he does take issue with figures used to show the return on investments and the salaries of contributing workers.

Chairman stated he is for employee benefits, but only if it can be shown we can afford them. He added if we are dealing with a liberal actuary report, it could lead to an increase in benefits we cannot reverse, thereby causing the fund future financial problems. He added this was his only concern and if he could clear his mind on that subject, he would be able to support the requested change.

McDaniel stated that he senses a feeling of uncertainty among the group about the actuarial assumptions. He stated he feels that uncertainty would not be present if in the past, we had done a detailed experienced analysis on a year-by-year basis. He added with the hiring of his firm we have set in place procedures to do that. Also, his firm will have gathered year-by-year statistics on every actuarial assumption to test these assumptions against actual experience of the Tulsa County Retirement System. They will detail every aspect of the valuation and present those figures in very clear, visible, and simple graphic presentations. He also stated he feels no hesitancy in advising the Board in changing the vested time from 10 years to 8 years. Selph asked McDaniel for the figures which correspond the decrease in benefits. McDaniel reported the figures are: 20% at 8 years, 22 1/2% at 9 years and 25% at 10 years.

Dick remarked that in his experience, if you have a professional giving advice, he is inclined to proceed on the basis of their recommendations.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board complimented McDaniel on his presentation and thanked those in the room who contributed to the effort that went into presenting this subject to the Board.

Motion by Selph, seconded by Dick, to request Chairman and Dick Blakeley, Chief Civil Assistant for the District Attorney's office, to develop an appropriate resolution for consideration at a Board of County Commissioners meeting. The resolution would reflect the reduction from 10 to 8 years along with proportionally reduced benefits, with April 1, 1991 as the effective date for the implementation of the resolution. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Dick, yes; Harris, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman asked for discussion of the Criminal Justice System agenda item and Sheriff Glanz reported the current jail population is still over 600. Glanz and Selph informed the Board they are already working on a City/County Jail management contract for next fiscal year.

Dick reported he is continuing to track the progress of both the Juvenile and Adult Detention Centers expansion projects for the Board.

Motion by Harris, seconded by Dick, to partially close the streets around O'Brien Park for the annual St. Patrick's run on Saturday, March 9th as requested in Richard Bales' February 22 memo. The lanes will be closed at 7:30