

(Notice of the meeting was posted in the Courthouse Administration lobby at 4:12 p.m. on March 23, 1995)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE  
April 6, 1995

The Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County met at 9:30 a.m. with the following members present: John Selph, Chairman; Robert N. Dick, Lewis Harris. Members absent: none. Others present: Donna Edmondson, John Milosovich, Brian Farmer, David Moss, Mayor Susan Savage, Sheriff Stanley Glanz, John Benjamin, City of Tulsa Police Chief Ron Palmer, Dick Blakeley, John Piercey, Ralph Schaefer, Ray Jordan, Rodney Ray, Wayne Carr, Buck Rudd, Marshall Stewart, Dwain Midget, Neal Kennedy, Clay Edwards, Melody Bishop, and a number of employees from the sheriff's office.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and the following business was transacted:

Chairman stated the purpose of the meeting is to a) discuss and possibly act on the selection of a new jail site and b) hear a presentation by the consultants on the projected operating costs associated with a new jail. He stated that the Board is not ready to make decisions regarding total costs of the jail or to discuss other issues which may be included on the June 13 election ballot. He added that he would like for the Board to postpone the June 13 election for about 30 days. Dick concurred and said he believes the City of Tulsa and outlying cities have several questions which need to be answered and that it is important to have a coalition. Harris also concurred.

Benjamin made the following comments, assuring everyone present that he was speaking as one City of Tulsa councilor only and not for other Council members or Mayor Savage. He said he endorses a 30 day delay of an election and that some of the questions he and his fellow councilors have are (1) what is the best site?; (2) have all alternatives to incarceration been explored?; (3) should a property tax increase rather than a sales tax be used to finance the jail? He said that if the Board seeks a sales tax for funding a new jail, (1) the tax should not exceed one-half cent; (2) part of the tax should retire when the jail is paid for, leaving enough of the tax in place to fund the increased operating costs; (3) a sales tax funding method should eliminate the City's need to pay operating costs to the sheriff's office (the City presently pays approximately \$2 million/year as its share of operating expenses). He agrees that Site #4 as recommended by the consultants is the best location for a new jail.

Mayor Savage agreed that county jail issues are community issues and sees the City of Tulsa in a partnership with Tulsa County in getting a new jail built. She also said she is glad the Board is receptive to delaying the election for approximately 30 days.

Harris stated that if voters approve such a sales tax, it would not take effect until 90 to 120 days after the one-half cent sales tax commitment for the Whirlpool project is collected; that is expected to occur around July, 1995.

Dick wanted to make it clear that (1) no new jail will be built at the Adult Detention Center location and (2) a new jail meeting all requirements can't be built for \$37 million as has reportedly been stated in a recent Chamber of Commerce's Criminal Justice Committee report.

Glanz said the June 13 date was more beneficial to him since it allows him greater flexibility in planning next year's budget which begins July 1. He would like Board assurance that a sales tax will be the only funding source. Selph reminded Glanz that a sales tax is the funding source which was approved by the Board at its last meeting.

Milosovich gave a presentation on two additional sites for a jail, identified as Site #4 and Site #5, and stated that although the consultants recommend Site #4 as the best site, he did not know how Benjamin and the City of Tulsa officials came to know that Site #4 is the consultants' first choice of locations. It is a 25-acre tract of land west of Denver Avenue and north of Brady Street near down-town Tulsa. The purchase price and utility relocation costs for this site are estimated at \$4.5 million. Moved by Dick, seconded by Harris, to approve Site #4 as the site for a new jail. Upon roll call, Harris, yes; Dick, yes; Selph, yes. Motion carried. Selph added that this motion is contingent upon there not being significant environmental problems in the Site #4 area.

Moved by Harris, seconded by Dick, to rescind a previously approved Board motion which set June 13 as the sales tax election date and to set a new date for the election at a later meeting. Upon roll call, Harris, yes; Dick, yes; Selph, yes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

John Selph, Chairman

ATTEST:

Joan Hastings, County Clerk

(DETAILS OF THE ABOVE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS)