

(Agenda of meeting was posted in the Courthouse Administration Lobby at 1:25 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 1999.)

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
May 20, 1999

The Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County met at 9:30 a.m., with the following members present: Robert N. Dick, Chairman, Wilbert E. Collins, Sr., Member, and John Selph, Member. Members absent: none. Others present: Sheriff Stanley Glanz, Bill Thompson, Clay Edwards, Wayne Carr, Buck Rudd, Leroy Jones, Terry Tallent, Richard Bales, Linda Webber, Becky Summers, Charles Crandell, Tony Bennett, Linda Johnston, Marshall Stewart, and Pam Hayes.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., and the following business was transacted:

Glanz distributed the jail population report and said the jail population average for April was 1,043 prisoners. He reported his staff was continuing to work with Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) to help alleviate staffing problems which occurred due to the inability of Epic Solutions, Inc. to meet deadlines for installation of jail computer components. The Sheriff has authorized overtime for existing jail detention staff and has transferred ten community policing unit officers to the jail. Thompson reported that additional staff are being recruited from a list of approximately 60 names CCA has already screened and tested. These individuals will then be employed by CCA when the new jail becomes operational. Thompson mentioned that the Sheriff's office is running short on people to staff the food service. Food is currently being prepared at the Adult Detention Center and is then being transported to the jail. He suggested this service could be taken over by CCA; Crandell agreed it would be a good test for the new jail kitchen.

Jones advised that the present voice mail system is not Y2k compliant. It is owned by the District Attorneys office and they have allowed other County employees in service related areas to utilize the system. Currently 25 employees utilize the system in addition to the D.A.s staff. Fred Morgan is aware of the need to replace the system and has advised that the D.A.s office will be able to provide \$5,000 toward payment for a replacement system. Jones said the technology had improved and that for \$20,000 the County could add a Y2k compliant voice mail system that allows up to 700 county-wide users. The Board agreed that the procedure to follow for requests to use the new County voice mail system should be similar to the procedure being followed to request Internet service access. Such requests are submitted to the Board for approval. Motion was made by Selph, seconded by Collins, to move forward with the plan to provide a Y2k compliant voice mail system for Tulsa County to serve up to 700 users, as outlined in Jones April 22, 1999 memorandum, with the understanding that the approval process will be identical to that adopted by the Board for Internet use. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Collins, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried.

Johnston discussed her request that the Board reconsider its decision to require the pharmacy be self-sufficient. Dick explained that about 5-6 years ago, when the County budget was short of funds, the Board had established the goal that the pharmacy be self-sufficient. Johnston suggested that the Board reduce the cost of medication by the amount of the filling fee. The fee is currently approximately \$4 per prescription, depending on cost of the medication. This fee covers the cost of pharmacy payroll, benefits, armored car, etc. The approximate yearly expense is \$117,526. She added that prescriptions are now so expensive that our clients are having difficulty paying for them and are doing without needed medications. Johnston said that she has been working with Dr. George Prothro on the Turning Point Initiative with the City-County Health Department. Dr. Prothro has ideas for identifying additional revenue support for Social Services pharmacy to help address the need in the community. It will take time, however, for additional sources of revenue to be located. Johnston also noted that she and Tallent have been negotiating with PacifiCare to identify the Social Services pharmacy as one of their prescription providers. This could increase revenue for pharmacy operations. She also mentioned that CCA may be an additional revenue source if the pharmacy's prices are competitive. A motion was made by Selph, seconded by Dick, to approve a 50% reduction in the prescription filling fee currently being charged by Social Services. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Collins, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried. Chairman directed Johnston to report back to the Board in 120 days with information regarding the impact of this filling fee reduction. Report is to include any additional recommendations deemed necessary.

Tallent discussed the request to change the personal leave policy to include payment for unused personal leave upon separation of employment. Idea was presented by Scott Swindell as a reward to employees with longevity who had not abused the personal leave program and who were leaving County employment. He had suggested paying the employee one day for every three days accrued but Tallent favored an improved exchange rate of two for one. Tallent has checked with various counties and there was a wide range of application of personal leave policies. Some counties allow a one for one exchange, some allow a two for one exchange, some allow time to be added to retirement benefits and/or vacation benefits. Current Tulsa County policy allows employees to accrue one day of personal leave per month following their six-month probationary period. At the end of each year current employees may be paid one days pay for every three days of personal leave accrued over and above 720 hours. The Board directed Tallent to work with Carr to estimate the budget impact that would