

(Agenda of meeting was posted in the Administration Building Lobby at 4:23 p.m., on Thursday, June 19, 1997.)

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
June 23, 1997

The Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County met at 8:30 a.m., with the following members present: Robert N. Dick, Chairman; John Selph and Lewis Harris. Members absent: None. Others present: Judge Jefferson Sellers, Bill Thompson, Clay Edwards, Dave Hill, Jerry Griffin, Wayne Carr, Bob Mackechney, Ray Jordan, Don Wilson, Buck Rudd, Linda Webber, Linda Johnston, Richard Bales, Michael Woody, Johnny Dobbins, and Pam Hayes.

Sellers reported that the Oklahoma State Legislature approved a new district judge and that judge or other judicial personnel would be assuming a new felony docket September 1, 1997. He said the courts are already short of space due to managing the needs of a number of special judges and they are in critical need of another courtroom. Hill added that ideally a new courtroom would need 4,500 square feet.

Dick advised he had previously instructed Edwards to look at options that may be available to comply with Sellers request for courtroom space in the courthouse; the basic criteria was to seek space that would have the least impact on the court system with the least expenditure of money.

Sellers reported they had discussed off-site space for some of the less traveled courts such as probate and mental health but there were some problems involved in operating satellite courtrooms. The City of Tulsa had been contacted regarding Convention Center and/or City building space but their response was that no space was available in nearby city buildings to allow the county to shift court functions there. Space in the north wing of the Tulsa County Emergency Shelter had been discussed as a possible place to move the Pre-Trial Release/Work Program. Other options mentioned were to move the Sheriffs records, Building Operations office staff, or Public Defender.

Sellers advised legislation was passed recently which allows the Court Fund to share the cost of the Public Defenders office. In their budget request for the coming year the Courts included a request for funding to help with the current space needs of the Public Defenders office. There is space available in the Denver Building that would require little renovation and allow the Public Defenders office nearly twice the space they have now, if they would be willing to relocate. Then the space they currently occupy could be utilized for a new courtroom. However, Hill said that would only be approximately 3700 square feet.

The Board agreed with the need to find space for a new courtroom in the courthouse and assigned the following study group the task of reviewing and reporting as soon as possible on space options for a new courtroom: Selph (Harris if Selph is unavailable), Edwards, Hill, Wilson, Rudd, Johnston, Thompson (or Sheriffs designee), and Pete Silva.

Johnstons request to utilize the north wing of the Tulsa County Shelter was deferred until after the study groups report.

The Board discussed Bales request for an organizational study of the Parks Division. Bales said the Park Board shared his concerns about limited funding for a study such as Morey Villareal proposed and that TESCOT would do a good job on the study. However, he added it would take a longer period of time to complete the study with TESCOT than the six to eight week time period Villareal proposed. It was a consensus of the Board that, although either group would do a good job, the report needed to be completed as soon as possible. Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Selph, directing Bales to work with Villareal to develop a contract proposal immediately and bring it to the July 7 meeting of the Board for approval. Upon roll call: Harris, yes; Selph, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried. Carr will work with Bales on funding.

Thompson said that the jail population was holding steady at around 850.

Thompson reported on the need of the Sheriffs office for 30 vehicles at approximately \$20,000 per vehicle. Mackechney added that if existing emergency equipment, lights, radios, etc., are used on the new vehicles, the cost may be \$17-18,000 each. Thompson assured the Board that for each vehicle purchased, the Sheriffs Office would remove one of their high mileage vehicles from the fleet. Harris reported that the County General Fund may need to supplement or pay the fiscal year-end part of jail operations for an unknown amount. The Board agreed that there was a need to replace sheriffs vehicles on a yearly basis but that 15 vehicles may be all they could finance at this time. Chairman instructed Thompson to work with Webber to advertise for bids for 15 or more vehicles, carefully looking at various financing options to spread the repayment of debt across the calendar to have the least impact on the budget. The Board will consider how many vehicles to purchase when bids are received.

Griffin reminded the Board that courthouse security screening would begin on July 1. The Board agreed that day to day operations would be supervised by