

(Agenda of meeting was posted in the Courthouse Administration Lobby at 1:29 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 1999.)

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
June 17, 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: Sally Howe Smith, Bill Thompson, Dave Hill, Clay Edwards, Wayne Carr, Janelle Stetzlen, John Harris, Buck Rudd, Leroy Jones, Linda Webber, Linda Johnston, Don Wilson, Bob Mackechney, Tom Trimble, Art Williams, Tim Hoover, and Pam Hayes.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m., and the following business was transacted:

Thompson distributed the jail population report and said the jail population average for May was 1,057 prisoners. He reported the manpower needs of the Sheriffs office had been met by hiring approximately 40 employees from applicants previously screened by Corrections Corporations of America.

Edwards shared the comments other elected officials and staff had made regarding the need for uniformed Sheriffs deputy presence in the courthouse and administration building after the Sheriffs Office moves into the old P.S.O. building. Hill explained it would be difficult to predict how many days per week a jury may need to meet after hours but that they often do meet after 5:00 p.m. Mackechney said it was not unusual for people to be in various courtrooms after 6:00 p.m. for court activities other than jury trials. Williams added that on Drug Court night his clients may be in the courthouse until after 8:00 p.m. Edwards suggestion was to provide one deputy to monitor equipment and one to roam 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.; one deputy to monitor equipment and two deputies to roam 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; and one deputy to monitor equipment and one deputy to roam 4:30 - 11:00 p.m. The approximate cost would be \$180,000 which Carr agreed had been budgeted for FY 1999-2000. Motion was made by Selph, seconded by Dick, to approve Edwards June 14, 1999 recommendation for courthouse security, effective as of the date upon which the Sheriffs Office is no longer responsible for monitoring county jail camera activity in the courthouse; and, in order to assess the need for continuing this additional security between 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., the Sheriffs Office will, after four months of providing said security service, make a report to the Board which explains in general the activity that occurred between 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. during said four months. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Collins, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried.

Williams requested that the Metropolitan Tulsa Counseling Services, Inc. be allowed to extend their occupancy in the North Wing of the Tulsa County Emergency Shelter until July 15, 1999. They have located a facility next to the Mental Health Association on Boulder and will be moving into that facility prior to July 15. Motion was made by Selph, seconded by Collins, to approve the request as stated in Williams June 14, 1999 letter. Upon roll call: Selph, yes; Collins, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried.

Trimble presented the request by the Tulsa County Employees Retirement System Board to change the Systems policy relating to military service credit. He stated several months ago they became aware of the October 7, 1997 Attorney Generals Opinion No. 97-35 which provides additional discretion to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) regarding the way it may choose to set up military service credit. Subsequent to that the Retirement board created a Policy and Procedures Task Force to look at options available and make recommendations. Their recommendation has been approved by the Retirement Board and is now being forwarded for BOCC consideration. The recommendation would permit existing eligible employees to continue to receive the military service credit but those hired after July 1, 1999 would not be allowed to use previous military credit toward their retirement. Trimble added that a majority of Retirement Board members felt this change in policy would be in the best interest of employees. Harris said that when legislation was enacted for military service credit it was worded so that retired military people, unless they were medically retired, were excluded from getting that extra military credit because they were already being paid military retirement. Employees consider that double dipping. Steltzlen suggested that a better change might be to specify that an employee who already receives service related retirement benefits would not get credit for service years; however, an employee who doesnt receive service related retirement benefits would get credit for service years. Dick pointed out that was not the recommendation being presented to the Board. The Board expressed concern about the Countys ability to compete with other employers to hire military service people if the policy is not consistent with what is being offered in the marketplace. Dick added that most counties are part of the state retirement fund and their employees would receive retirement benefits set out by state statute. They would, therefore, receive prior military service credit. Another concern mentioned was the inequity of one employee receiving military credit and another employee working side by side with them not receiving credit. The Board expressed belief that the current policy was not creating a financial hardship for the retirement fund. Motion was made by Selph, seconded by Collins, that the proposal submitted by the Retirement Board to change the employees retirement system policy relating to military service credit be denied. Upon roll call; Selph, yes; Collins, yes; Dick, yes. Motion carried.