

A meeting of the Fond du Lac County Jail Ad Hoc Committee was held on Thursday, December 19, 2024, in Room H of the City-County Government Center.

Thomas E. Dornbrook:	1-2:58 p.m.	Kevin Galske:	1-2:58 p.m.
Katherine B. Griffith:	1-2:58 p.m.	Mark Henschel:	Excused
George Koonce:	1-2:58 p.m.	Sam Meyer:	1-2:58 p.m.
Jonathon E. Venhuizen:	1-2:58 p.m.	Dean P. Will:	1-2:58 p.m.
Michael J. Will:	1-2:58 p.m.		

Also present were Sam Kaufman, Erin Gerred, Ryan Waldschmidt, Tyler Broderick, Trisha Walker, Shelly Weber, Steve Abel, Mary Hayes, Angela Luehring, John Rickert, Scott Rodman, Michael Streetar, Lisa Freiberg, Kurt Berner, Cory Beyer, Kyle Knop, Lorri Bohn, Laura De Golier, Amber Kilawee, Leigh Kohlmann and Kristel Lougher.

1. Call meeting to order.

Chair Koonce called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Approve minutes of the November 21, 2024 meeting.

Motion (Will/Griffith) to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

3. Members of the public who wish to address the committee must register their requests with the chair to speak on a specific agenda item for a period not to exceed three minutes. All public comments are subject to the reasonable control of the committee chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

Kristel Lougher spoke on literacy programs in the Jail.

Angela Luehring spoke on looking at all options for the Jail to remain downtown.

Scott Rodman spoke on looking at additional options on building and location of the Jail.

4. Summary of options previously discussed with Samuels Group.

Kurt Berner of Samuels Group and Cory Beyer and Kyle Knop of Venture Architects provided a presentation reviewing and summarizing meetings and options that were discussed over the past months.

- Reviewed the existing conditions of the jail. (July 23, 2024 meeting)
- Recap of committee tours at the Fond du Lac County Jail and Green Lake County Jail. (Tours for Fond du Lac County Jail were August 8 & 15, 2024 and Green Lake County Jail was August 22, 2024)
- Podular vs. Linear jail design. (August 29, 2024 meeting)
- Space programming/projected building size and bed count. (September 12, 2024 meeting) This included population growth, peak occupancy, maintenance factor and classifications.
- Renovation options. (August 29, 2024 meeting) This included complications of structure and additional staff.
- Renovation options. (September 12, 2024 meeting) Option with addition of pods to south and renovation of existing building.
- LEC (law enforcement center) option at highway site and renovation for court holding and elevator downtown. (October 10, 2024 meeting)
- Transport costs, if jail was moved to the highway site and courts would stay downtown. (November 21, 2024 meeting)
- Justice Center option. (October 24, 2024 meeting)

Judge Trisha Walker provided input on incarcerated individuals do have a constitutional right to appear in court in-person. Using video technology to appear is not always an option.

Sheriff Waldschmidt provided input on security when transporting incarcerated individuals.

An existing campus option was provided. This would include building the jail on the corner of Linden Street and Western Avenue (current employee parking lot).

If built at the highway site, there is enough land acreage to add additional housing pod options.

- Explanation of costs to build per square foot and how the price has increased over the years.
- Bond Buyer General Obligation bond index for 30 years approximate costs were provided, with the estimated mill rate impact per \$1,000 of a home on the property tax bill.

5. Recommendation on jail project scope and phasing.

A jail options comparison document was provided. This included costs for number of beds, juvenile expenses, staff transport costs and annual adult and juvenile housing revenue. The cost of phasing the project was provided.

The next suggested steps for the project are:

- Ad hoc committee recommendation to Board.
- Presentation to County Board of ad hoc information.
- County Board consideration/action on communication plan.
- Standing committee direct communication plan (3-4 months).
- Communication plan results/report to the County Board.
- County Board consideration/action on project approval.

County Board Chair Steve Abel explained the committee would provide a recommendation to the County Executive and the County Board.

The committee's recommendation is to no longer meet and move forward by providing a recommendation to the County Executive and the Fond du Lac County Board of Supervisors to consider further action that would require funding for more detailed design, along with planning required to complete a communication phase that would provide information to the community and seek the community's input.

The consensus of the committee is:

- There is a need for a Jail.
- The Jail and Justice Center need to stay together.
- The Justice Center module is supported, but the cost is a factor.
- A communications plan needs to be provided to the community.

6. Future agenda items and meeting date.

A future meeting date was not set.

7. Adjournment.

Motion (Will/Venhuizen) to adjourn the meeting at 2:58 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Freiberg
Fond du Lac County Clerk