

**FACILITIES & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
MAY 6, 2015**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Committee Members Present: D. Pullen, C. Jessup, D. Fanton, K. Graves, A. McGraw, D. Root, N. Ungermann, C. Crandall

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Button, S. Burt, D. Decker, K. Dirlam, M. Evans, S. Grusendorf, D. Hanchett, R. Hollis, T. Hopkins, G. James, C. Jessup, B. Kelley, K. LaForge, J. Luckey, T. Miner, K. Monroe, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora, D. Scholes, R. Swarthout, R. Whitney
Guest: Mark Kukuvka, LaBella

Media Present: B. Quinn, *Wellsville Daily Reporter*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Facilities and Communications Committee Chairman David Pullen.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried to approve the Facilities and Communications Committee minutes of April 1, 2015.

Facilities-Related Matters

Updates on Renovation Projects

Deputy Superintendent of Public Works Dean Scholes said there were no major projects that needed to be reported on at this time.

Legislator Pullen asked Lt. Dan Hanchett for any updates on the E-911 Project. He said that they are spending to meet grant deadlines (although they will probably request a one-year extension as well) and that equipment is being delivered to a secure storage facility until it is time for it to be installed. He added that they are now waiting for the expansion of the equipment room so the equipment can be installed.

Legislator Pullen thanked Lt. Hanchett, who will be retiring May 13, for his efforts at securing the grants and overseeing the project thus far. He added that a few years ago, the level of communication system Allegany County is approaching seemed out of reach. Now, thanks largely due to Lt. Hanchett's efforts, that system is within reach.

Legislator Fanton asked if Lt. Hanchett would be available to answer questions if Lt. Grusendorf hit a snag through this process, and was assured that Lt. Grusendorf would be calling upon Lt. Hanchett if need be. Legislator Fanton also encouraged Lt. Grusendorf to come to the Committee with any problems he might face.

Communications-Related Matters

Establishing & Funding Local Development Corporation

Legislator Pullen read from an email sent by CONXX's Bill Risse, saying that the negotiations for tower locations is on-going and that County Attorney Tom Miner is in the midst of these negotiations; the equipment has been arriving at a steady clip at a secure location and installation should begin in the near future.

Legislator Pullen went on to say that it has not been the intention, throughout the Broadband Project, for Allegany County to operate the system. The standard model for the operation of a system developed in this way is the establishment of a not-for-profit Local Development Corporation. Mr. Miner has developed a draft of the Certificate of Incorporation as

well as the proposed Corporations' by-laws. The Committee will need to review these documents so that the County can enact a local law authorizing the creation of the LDC. That entity will oversee the operations of Broadband-related activities. A Board of Directors will be appointed by the Board of Legislators and will serve at the Board's pleasure. Tentatively, the LDC Directors will include County Administrator Mitch Alger, County Planner Kier Dirlam, Facilities & Communications Committee Chairman David Pullen, and Public Safety Committee Chairman Phil Curran. This group will adopt the bylaws which will include composition of membership, terms of membership, responsibilities of members, etc. There was some discussion regarding a loan from the County to the LDC until it is firmly established. Mr. Pullen said that CONXX has told him that most LDCs become profitable within a few months. The other model, he said, is a person or company hired by the County to run the system.

Because of the complexity of this issue, it was suggested that a special meeting be held to discuss this issue in more detail.

Old Business

WIC Building Issues

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee said she has been in conversations with County Administrator Alger regarding a search for new location which would offer easier accessibility for patrons. Some suggestions were discussed, but no definite decision was made. It was suggested that LaBella could perhaps investigate funding sources for WIC before any proposals were brought forward. Thus, the WIC Building issue was tabled on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

LaBella Space Study

The Committee reviewed the Space Studies presented to them last month. It appeared that Option 3, the "tabula rasa" option was the most popular. Option 3 provides for a "clean slate" on the third floor with new or reworked infrastructure for all mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and IT services for generic office space. This would include new exterior insulated windows that work in concert with the existing office building design, the construction would meet the requirement of the new energy code and meet requirements of the new building code. This option assumes demolition of most of the existing walls and salvaging the only walls that make sense for a new generic layout. This scenario essentially prepares the space for future work by others, in a phase construction approach as needed by the County. There was also some discussion of using the courtyard which is not part of Option 3 at this time. It was noted that the \$250,000 DASNY grant would underwrite approximately half of the cost of this option. It was also discussed whether the County's DPW could do some of the work as well. Eventually, it was hoped that Alfred State might construct the interior as a learning experience for its Construction students. It was determined that before any plans were finalized, the option of roofing the courtyard must be investigated. Subsequently, the Committee approved Option 3 of the LaBella Space Study with the proviso that the Ways & Means Committee determine the source of funding for the remaining costs on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. (One opposed: Legislator Ungermann) **Refer to Ways & Means**

Board of Elections Space Needs

Commissioner Rick Hollis updated the Committee on his progress regarding the security of his building, saying he has gathered the quotes and is working with DPW's Steve Brown to determine the next step. As far as space needs go, Mr. Hollis said that his storage areas are quite full and that he needs to order 18 sandwich board signs and there is no place to store

them. Additionally, because the signs will be paid for by grant funds, he has a deadline by which to purchase them. After some discussion, it was determined that the Tronetti House might be a viable spot and that it would be more convenient to the BOE than the old Jail.

Security Cameras & Scanners for County Buildings

The Committee was reminded that this issue had been tabled at Ways & Means and decided to re-open the discussion at the May 20th Ways & Means meeting.

New Business

Staffing Changes That Will Impact Departments with F&C Committee Projects

It was announced that IT Director Deb Button would be retiring on July 7, 2015. There were congratulations and appreciation for all she's done for the County. There also was discussion of how to replace her position, including the possibility of out-sourcing. She said she will network with her counterparts at an upcoming conference to see what other models are out there.

Belmont Betterment Association Re: Old Belmont School Building Development

Legislator Pullen distributed copies of a letter he had received from the Belmont Betterment Association requesting a meeting to discuss the use of the old Belmont School building. After much discussion, it was determined that he would respond, saying that he and several Committee members would be able to meet on Monday, May 11, at 4:30 p.m. It was discovered that all Legislators and Department Heads had received the letter and might be meeting with the Association at different times.

Mr. Alger reported that he had asked LaBella to do a brief space study for the CrossRoads Building, reviewing current usage and proposing more efficient use. It was determined that if there was some serious intent about using the old Belmont School building, perhaps we should not put yet another iron in the space needs fire at this time. It was decided to put the CrossRoads space study issue on the June Facilities agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Santora, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators