SPECIAL MEETING  JAIL EXPANSION  COMMISSIONERS

At 2:00 p.m. Vice-Chairman Jewell opened a special meeting to discuss jail expansion. Chairman McClain joined by phone.

Patti Johnson handed out a budget showing the projected costs from ART, architects for the project. She said she could break out the cost of construction management from the budget to save $100,000 but after the interviews for construction manager, this is not a bad projection. She said she thought for a year it would cost from $62,000 to $150,000. She suggested adding the construction management as an additional service that could be included, if they wanted at a later date.

Chairman McClain asked how many beds would be available with the new pod configuration. Jail Commander Hoctor said with the current 113 beds and the additional 118 beds, there would be 231 beds total in the jail.

Patti Johnson said that she, Judy Pless and Deanna Panattoni, Treasurer, had talked with Susan Mussleman, a financial bonding consultant and they have the rough numbers for the bonding for these projects. She said for every $1 million dollars the cost is $72,000 per year for 20 years. To just bond for the jail pod and mechanical repairs, it would cost $540,000 in bond repayment with operations costing $1,040,000.

Chairman McClain asked where the County would find the money?

Commander Hoctor said the County spends $500,000 for sending out prisoners now and 10 beds could be rented out on a regular basis for $400,000.
Vice-Chairman Jewell asked what was needed from the Board. Judy Pless, Budget and Finance Manager, said it would be 60 days for bonding. She said that to back fill other funds with the bond, a resolution needs to be done within 60 days before the bond and she recommended it state the County is borrowing up to $10 million.

Ms. Pless said that all the projects could be funded with one bond and the financial consultant would do the repayment schedule for the bond.

Vice-Chairman Jewell asked what dollar amount was needed for the Upper County District Court project? Commissioner Crankovich said approximately $1.5 million.

There was a discussion of the 7 major projects to be considered by the County this year: Jail Repair, Jail Expansion, Information Services, Armory, Upper County District Court, Courthouse Parking Lots and Morris Sorenson Building. The discussion centered on whether to bond each of them in one large bond, and which to have Department of Public Works do the work on.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.