

# IOWA VERTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 11th, 2008  
Meeting Minutes

**-DRAFT-**

## **Call to Order, Introductions and Roll Call**

Committee Members Present:

Les Holland, Chair  
Terry Slinde  
Mary Krier  
Dennis Bennett  
Gary Benshoof  
Dan Prymek

Committee Members Absent:

Eve Palmer

Others in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting included:

Christine Suckow, Dept. of Administrative Services, General Services Enterprise  
Dean Ibsen, Dept. of Administrative Services, General Services Enterprise  
Captain Mark Probst, Iowa State Patrol  
John Dostart, Department of Human Services  
Brad Wittrock, Department of Human Services, CCUSO  
Lt. Rich Henderson, Iowa State Patrol  
Mark Buschkamp, Cherokee Area Economic Development  
Mike Thompson, Department of Human Services, CCUSO  
Jim Stowater, Department of Human Services, CCUSO  
Tony Morris, Department of Human Services, CCUSO  
Dr. Joliette, Department of Human Services, CCUSO

Via conference phone:

Ruth Ashton, Department of Human Services, Woodward

## **Call to Order and Introductions**

Les Holland called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Dr. Joliette introduced himself as the superintendent of Cherokee Mental Health. He said that the building is 106 years old but mentioned it is the most efficient building in Human Services. He said that philosophically it is thought that restraint and seclusion is a bad idea so they have really cut down on these techniques as this facility.

Dr. Joliette said that they have 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the beds they need to suit the needs of the patients. Any length of stay is 7 months. 150 people get admitted annually. He said that they are not the biggest mental health but they are the most accomplished and that the institution looks the best and is the most efficient. They do a lot with the resources they get. One building is slated for demolition. Les Holland asked Dr. Joliette what the future of the MHI is. Dr. Joliette said that he wants buildings to be fit for at least minimum clinical operations. He also wants to get to a point where the level of care to be more regional instead of community based. Total population right now is 58 with 210 employees.

Dean Ibsen stated that there is a question whether Major Maintenance money should be used for Donahue Hall since its vacant but could be used for leasing to local non-profits.

### **Questions and Comments from Committee Members**

Gary Benshoof had a meeting with Governor Culver and they talked about putting together a list of infrastructure projects. Dan Prymek was also in a meeting last week and said that President Elect Barack Obama has asked for lists of projects that are ready to start. Dan suggested that DAS put together a list to give to Governor Culver and add demolition projects on this list. Dean Ibsen said that Chad Kleppe from Master Builders had sent the Governor a letter about the new North office Building and other Vertical Infrastructure projects.

### **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Gary Benshoof moved to accept the November minutes. Terry Slinde seconded. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **Discussion of 2008 Annual Report to Governor**

Dean Ibsen explained the changes so far that have been made since the last meeting. Dan Prymek moved to accept the changes. Mary Krier seconded. Les Holland had several changes and Gary Benshoof moved to accept his changes. Terry Slinde seconded. Dean Ibsen read the changes and said that they would be incorporated into the final document. Nick Smith called roll:

Les Holland - Yes  
Terry Slinde - Yes  
Mary Krier - Yes  
Dennis Bennett - Yes  
Gary Benshoof - Yes  
Dan Prymek - Yes  
Eve Palmer – absent

Motion carried.

Discussion moved into whether or not the report should be sent to legislators such as Senator Gronstal.

### **Ongoing Issues/Staff Reports**

Major Maintenance Progress: Christine Suckow reviewed the project status reports and specifically discussed the on-complex list. She said that before the list consisted of primarily outdoor projects and now it includes indoor projects as well. The list is now more comprehensive. She said that 7 projects have been closed out since the last meeting.

Routine Maintenance Update: Dean Ibsen said that the MOU's have been sent out and that money is being distributed.

Alternative Delivery Systems: Several ADA projects on complex as well as the elevator code upgrade projects will more than likely be bundled to save money.

Other Initiatives: No update.

### **Staffing, Database, Training**

Dean Ibsen said that the State is currently under a staffing freeze. There is a meeting tomorrow about the status of the bond sale. He said that DAS, DOT and Iowa State will be hosting a project management training in March in Ames.

Les Holland asked about the database and Dean Ibsen said that the inventory and assessment update is on hold due to lack of funds.

### **Discussion of 2009 Plan of Action**

Dean Ibsen said that they would talk more about this in January. Les Holland talked about earmarking operating budgets of agencies. He asked the committee what they thought. Dan Prymek said that the committee can't do that and Les said that the committee would just be making a recommendation for legislation. Tony Morris said that it's better if they get the money through the committee. Les decided to take this idea off the list because it wasn't resonating with the committee or staff.

Les Holland asked about the agenda item regarding agency infrastructure appropriations vs requests. He said it would be helpful to know how DAS compares to other agencies and this information could be used as a selling point for more major and routine maintenance funding.

### **Consent Calendar**

There were 3 items on the consent calendar. Les Holland went through each one: Centennial Building, Clarinda MHI and the Statewide Elevator Upgrade. Les asked the committee to vote separately on each item.

Mary Krier moved to approve. Gary Benshoof seconded.

#### 1) Centennial Building:

Les Holland - No  
Terry Slinde - Yes  
Mary Krier - Yes  
Dennis Bennett - Yes  
Gary Benshoof - Yes  
Dan Prymek - Yes  
Eve Palmer – absent

Motion carried.

#### 2) Clarinda MHI

Les Holland - Yes  
Terry Slinde - Yes  
Mary Krier - Yes  
Dennis Bennett - Yes  
Gary Benshoof - Yes  
Dan Prymek - Yes  
Eve Palmer – absent

Motion carried.

Terry Slinde moved to approve, Dennis Bennett seconded.

#### 3) Statewide Elevator Upgrade

Les Holland - Yes  
Terry Slinde - Yes  
Mary Krier - Yes  
Dennis Bennett - Yes  
Gary Benshoof - Yes  
Dan Prymek - Yes  
Eve Palmer – absent

Motion carried.

## **Other Business**

### Questions and Comments:

Mark Buschkamp from Cherokee Area Economic Development said that this MHI is the most efficient in the State and it does a lot to bolster the economy in Cherokee. He asked the committee to be good stewards of state funds and to look at what this facility does and the care the facilities provide. He said there would be a return on investment.

Les Holland agreed and said this is what the committee is trying to do but funds are just not available.

Terry Slinde asked Mark to put his comments in a letter and send them to the legislature as well.

John Dostart said that the security screens would be looked at on Monday.

Tony Morris said that vacant buildings still need routine maintenance even though they are vacant. Mike Thompson said that he has worked here for 31 years. Since VIAC has been around their ability to get money has increased. He listed the following projects as examples.

Electrical Upgrade – 100%

Tuckpointing – 30%

Elevators – 40-50%

CCUSO – 60%

Ruth Ashton, on the phone from Woodward said that the top priorities were elevators and tuckpointing.

Dean Ibsen said that reducing the number of meetings for the committee in 2009 should be considered in light of the States tight budget. Terry Slinde asked about web conferencing. Dan Prymek asked about meeting at the Facilities Management Center in Des Moines. Dennis Bennett said that it's important to see the institutions. Dean said that staff would look into costs and look into options.

Terry Slinde moved to adjourn. Mary Krier seconded. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings: January 14<sup>th</sup>, joint meeting of CPC and VIAC at the Jessie Parker Building board room.

## **Adjourn**

Prepared by Nick Smith and Dean Ibsen

1/3/2008