

**Dickinson County
Newsletter # 32
February, 2007**



Rich Parr – new McHan
Superintendent



2-15-07

Construction Update:

Roger Gilbert's Monthly Report - Most of the

structural steel has been erected with the exception of the tower. Work is still being done on roof bracing and small beams for the lower roof. The curved stairs were delivered Thursday and are being erected now. The extreme cold weather and the wind have made it difficult to get much accomplished outside. The floor decking has been installed for the attic and that floor will be poured soon. As soon as the curved stairs are in place, the balance of the second floor will be poured. Roof decking is planned to start next week. McHan plans to start at the East end and complete sections as they go so roofing can begin and follow their progress to the North end. Metal Studs are beginning to be installed and will also progress in the same direction. The warmer weather forecast for this week should be a big help. The new total of change orders with Change Order # 44 is \$713,168.00. At the last Job Progress Meeting, Mike McCline stated that the schedule we received last fall with an early start-late finish should still be on schedule. There is some discussion about changing the tower to the end of the schedule and moving up the parking lot and landscaping.

2008 Budget Workshops: The Supervisors conducted several budget workshops over the past few weeks. The Board also divided up into pairs and met with assigned Department Heads to review their re-forecasts, their projected revenues and their requests for the 2008 budget. In reviewing the 74% carryover in the General Fund at the end of FY06, the following was discovered: There was \$680,195 of revenues not forecasted for FY06. Of that, \$286,717 was Interest on Investments plus \$53,618 in other related taxes like local option sales tax collected; \$117,000 was the HAVA re-imbusement and approximately \$222,860 were revenues not forecasted across all county offices. In addition, there was \$459,950 forecasted to be expended that also went to carryover. These revenues and expenses together created an unforeseen \$1,140,145 in General Fund and thus the 74% carryover. The Supervisors typically budget for a 25% to 35% carryover with the understanding that if the Departments and the Board scrutinize their expenditures, there could be a slightly higher ending balance. With the FY2006 actual ending balance and the 07 forecast completed, the County is predicting a 63% ending balance for FY07. With all this in mind, the Supervisors are planning to lower the levy in order to return some of this money back to the taxpayer. It is estimated now that the 2008 General Fund expenses will be budgeted at \$6,059,994 and the General Fund revenues estimated at \$5,080,059, expending \$979,935 of the carryover and leaving a forecasted 41.3% ending fund balance for FY2008. The public hearing and final budget approval is planned for March 13, 2007.

Safety Committee Meeting 2/15/07: The CPR and AED (Defib) training is set for March 9. There will be two sessions; One from 8:00 a.m. to Noon and the other 1:00-5:00 p.m. This training will be set up in Jury Room A on the second floor of the courthouse. Please let Beth Will know if you are interested in this training - space is limited. The Annual Employee MANDATORY training will be held May 16, 2007. This is the Blood BORNE Pathogens, Haz-Mat, Fire Safety and Ergonomics training. These meetings will be held in the Engineers Conference room. There will be three sessions held: 8:00-9:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Please mark these training dates on you calendars.

As per the State Fire Marshall's request - NO space heaters should be allowed in any of the County Buildings. This policy will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval and then added to the Safety policies to be enforced by the Board of Supervisors.

IT report: The reporting software for the new phone system is now working. Alissa is able to print out various detailed reports for user and/or department's phone activities. Department heads can obtain such reports upon request. The county purchased a new file server which will house all the scanned documents. The Treasurer's office is planning for on converting from Filemagic to Alchemy in the next couple of months. With that conversion, the County and Alissa will be supporting only one scanning software. The Board of Supervisors approved hiring Barry Lawensen to write the specifications for an Audio Visual system for the Court House Community Room. Alissa and Mardi met with Mr. Lawensen on Thursday, February 1st to review anticipated requirements. The Community Room has been designated as the official site for the Command Center in the event of an EMA emergency. In addition to the A/V equipment, an EMA emergency will require cable TV be available along with several groupings of electrical, phone, and data wiring so police, fire, hospital and other responding groups can access information needed for the emergency.