



New Courthouse News from Roger Gilbert: The brickwork is over half done and window installation on the North side is complete for phase 1. Nearly all of the interior walls are framed and are being topped out with drywall so Mechanical trades can rough in above ceiling systems. The storm sewer line is installed on the west side of the property and phase 1 parking is pored. Bob McKeever is leaving as Superintendent and Kevin Shale will be taking his place October 1st.

Project Budget Summary: The total of approved change orders to date with change #18 is \$164,910.00.

Project Photos Taken: Roger has not taken any photos this month, but has been supplied a number of them taken by the architect. These can be made available to those who desire them.

Project on Schedule? No. There is a new schedule coming out this week which will show completion of phase 1 to be in mid- February.

Safety Issues? No. Job continues with no lost time injuries.

Critical Issues: Rubber shingles are to start next week. All trades must complete their work in a timely manner to stay on the new schedule and they have confirmed they can do this. Delivery of special light fixtures is critical.

Planning and Zoning: During the September P&Z meeting, Northwest Iowa Planning presented the draft version of the Dickinson County Comprehensive Land Use Development Plan. The Plan has grown to 83 pages and still has sections on Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment, Economic Development, and Community Facilities and Services to be included. The document includes statistics predicting population trends, future housing trends, employment trends, transportation and infrastructure plans, airport information, water sources and usage, parks and trails, the Nature Center plans, etc. etc. Northwest Iowa Planning indicated that the remaining four sections should be done in draft form for the next P&Z meeting. They also asked for any input on sections that might need to be added that have not been mentioned. There was discussion about the impact of tourism on the county and the affects of part-time residents. Northwest Iowa Planning is going to work with the Chamber and other sources to get current tourism statistics and predicting information to be used for planning purposes in the Land Use Plan. One of the Supervisors attending the P&Z meeting will try to address a request from the public to get the Land Use Draft Plan online in a read only document.

Phase I Transition: Beth Will has been leading an effort to clean out the Attic, and the East and West Vaults. The attic is planned to be emptied and moved to the law library where things will be cleaned and pack for moving. Anything in the East vault not thrown away is planned to be cleaned and pack in the hallway outside the vault. The BOS and Beth have been interviewing potential moving companies. Each mover has indicated a color coding system is important and they would like to have someone from each office in the old and new area during that office's move. Among other things, there have been discussions about moving file cabinets full or empty, about personal items, about the 10 days to move and about whether to build a skywalk from the Records vault to the new Courthouse. The plan thus far is for the offices to be responsible for moving their own personal items and to pack their own office areas.

New Courthouse Furniture: The Board of Supervisors awarded the furniture bids on September 13, 2005, with the exception of Bid Group O, Courtroom seating and Bid Group Z, appliances. These two groups did not receive any bids during the initial bid letting. RDG has re-submitted those groups for bidding and will receive bids on September 23, 2005. RDG estimated those 2 bid groups and added their estimates to the awarded groups and presented an estimated total cost of \$399,189.44; just \$810.56 less than the \$400,000 budget. After some discussion about 43 chairs and 1 table to be refurbished, it was decided to buy new at a lower cost, making the estimated total cost \$380,851.44. For those of you that might be wondering this bid does include all shelving that was proposed for storage in the basement.

No Smoking Resolution: On July 26, 2005, the Board of Supervisors was presented with a proposal for a No Smoking in county buildings policy. They discussed if the policy should only be for the new courthouse or all county buildings. Moved by Johnson that effective January 1, 2006 or upon occupancy of county employees in the new courthouse at the end of the construction of Phase 1, smoking will not be permitted in the Dickinson County Courthouse. Employees who wish to smoke must leave the building premises. All employees, customers and visitors are expected to comply.

Emergency Management: In the aftermath of the hurricane disasters, the Board of Supervisors asked Mike Ehret to review the County Disaster Plan and present it to the BOS. No date for the presentation has been set but watch for postings and plan to attend.

Assessor's office: You might remember the May 2005 article from the Assessor's office reporting that the Assessor chose not to change the agricultural and commercial property values. Pat also reported that she expected the State to step in and mandate a State ordered equalization. It appears the State will mandate an across the board 12% increase on Ag land and 13% on Commercial property.

Sheriff's office: During a meeting with the Sheriff on an unrelated subject, the question came up of who is responsible for the acquisition and installation of the new Courthouse Jail's security and audio/visual systems. Roger Gilbert made a call to RDG to make sure that the equipment and installation of the equipment was in the construction document. The following answer came back from RDG: Jail security audio and visual system equipment noted within 1200F on E3.11 indicates that data port, cabling & software hook-up to the CCTV network is to be provided by the Detention Control Contractor (This is within the construction documents). This is to allow the Sheriff to view any video & audio currently occurring or archived over the CCTV network. However, the physical computer (desktop) for this is not included within the construction documents and will need to be purchased by the Owner.

IT Department report by Alissa Julius: This past month brought exciting technology changes for a few offices. The assessor had a representative from Sidwell come and start integrating the GIS software with CMS and Vanguard. The integration will provide a powerful tool for getting detailed information from the GIS software. The auditor received the new state voter equipment and software for registering voters. Last October the Assessor, Engineer, Treasurer and Recorder put together the plan to install CMS's new Invision and Inforum software. The Invision installation took place first in the Assessor's office last winter. This month is planned for the installation of the Inforum software, which will among other things, allow the engineers office to tie in with CMS as well as allow offices to easily view budgets and expense reports. Alissa looks forward to working with the departments during their transition phase.