



(View from the air looking from North to South, taken on June 11, 2005)

New Courthouse News from Bob Schlaeger: Bob reports that the basement is 90% complete, with the fire sprinkler system the last thing to be installed. The jail cells are up and there is a lot of the block work completed in the jail area. The stairs from the Jail area to the basement are installed and poured with concrete. As you can see from the picture, the exterior walls are almost done and sheathed with yellow board and water proofing. Starting on Monday, June 27th, McHann will take about 3 to 4 days putting the roof rubber on the low pitched roof. McHann has already started sheeting the hip roof and will start applying plywood over the metal decking soon. Check out the base stone laid around the sally port. More samples of the brick will be made up and available to review around the 4th of July. If the color is okay, McHann will be able to lay brick mid July. Bob reports there have been 232 safe days on this project.

New Monthly Courthouse Budget Report: At a recent Supervisors' board meeting, Paul Johnson suggested reporting monthly updates to the public on the new Courthouse construction costs. He suggested reporting the total approved expenditures to date, total change orders to date, and total dollars budgeted verses actual to date. Paul thought displaying this type of information on the Courtyard and updating it on a monthly basis would be a way of keeping the public informed. The Supervisors are considering this and will be discussing it further.

In the meantime, for the County departments' information, the Auditors office reports the following:

Building/Grounds: As of May 24, 2005, Building and Grounds carried a balance of \$814,812.05. There were no addition monies budgeted in to this fund for the FY 2006. Some of the larger expenditures planned for this fund in FY 06 are the purchase of the Ferguson property and the payments for the Radtke property.

Capital Projects – Bond monies: As of May 24, 2005 this fund carried a running balance of \$10,866,904.47. Obviously, the construction costs are the largest cost coming out of this fund. Some of the larger expenditures budgeted out of this fund besides McHann Construction and the architect, RDG, are moving costs, asbestos abatement, vets plaza, owner's reps fees, and change orders.

New Courthouse Fund: The new courthouse fund was established with \$860,000 put into reserves for the new courthouse from the General Fund in 2004. The running balance as of May 24, 2005 was \$833,209.20. Some of the larger expenditures budgeted from this fund are the new courthouse furniture, the new phone system, and technology.

Transition Committee Report: Transition Progress June 2005 reported by Pam Jordan

The historical society received approval by the BOS to remove some items from the courthouse, such as a cupola, a swivel chair and some volumes of books and bound *Beacons* and one barrister's bookshelf. They have come and removed these items.

Transition Team members Beth Will and Pam Jordan met with judges and categorized all volumes in the Law Library.

Clark Reekers, who has the cleaning contract for the present courthouse, attended a recent transition meeting and offered several possible scenarios for cleaning and removal of items, as well as cost estimates. He investigated cost of storage for items to be retained that will have to be in a controlled environment to retard further deterioration through mold and moisture. Pam and Beth surveyed the DHS building storage areas. Eileen Skogerboe agreed to begin clearing out and rearranging space there which is also climate controlled with 12' ceilings.

Department Heads have met with BOS again to report scanning progress on paper that will not be retained and to quantify cubic feet of storage needed to house records that must be kept in the new courthouse, or just kept indefinitely per current Iowa Code. Nancy Reiman will survey the Auditors to see if they have followed the State requirements to keep all Assessment value records forever.

Decisions still have to be made by the Board on what course of action to take on the information that has been gathered.

Recorder's Office News: A quick note from Jan tells us that the Recorder's office is very busy. She estimates the office has done about 6,000 boat registrations to date and still has about 2,500 left for July and August.

New Telephone system report: The Dickinson County Board of Supervisors and the Telephone System Committee received bids on the new telephone system on June 7, 2005. As a result of a concern from R&D, an addendum to the RFP allowed the vendors to bid the system with and/or without Ethernet switches. Two vendors responded with bids, United Technologies combined with Heartland Technologies submitted a bid without switches of \$114,670. Celerity Wiring by Design submitted a bid of \$138,250.58 without switches and \$157,211.08 with switches. The estimated cost of the phone system was \$160,000. The committee is in the process of reviewing each response to make sure that the bids meet the County's needs and that they equal in what they are providing. On June 13th and 14th, the committee met with each of the vendors and went over 35 to 43 questions with them. In addition, Thursday, June 16th, the Board of Supervisors met with Don Van Oort on his proposal and cost estimate to provide Ethernet switches. Don presented 8 different proposals: Phone Ethernet switches at approx. \$21,205; Data Ethernet switches at approx. \$63,614; Off site network back up at \$8,220; Labor to move the County technology into the new Courthouse at \$26,675; two new servers at \$27,015; Thin Client set up at \$9,850; and renewal of Watchguard and Trend software at \$1600 and \$2097 respectively. The Supervisors, Alissa and the Committee will take all of these into consideration. In the meantime, the Phone Ethernet switch cost will have to be considered with the two phone bids. The BOS is expected to award the new telephone system bid on June 28, 2005.