

Penobscot County Jail Committee Final Report

February, 2019

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Executive Summary

The Building Committee has completed its charge of performing a site assessment with the significant focus on what direction the committee recommends to the Commissioners regarding the significant Jail situation(s) as they relate to the county budget and the Sheriff's Department.

It was and is of utmost importance to the committee that the recommendation or recommendations sent forward to the Commissioners were focused on the there following areas of importance to the committee:

1. The recommendation sent forward addressed "reasonable" costs to the tax payers of Penobscot County.
 - a. As the recommendation relates to total cost of ownership.
 - b. As the recommendation offers stability to operational cost.
 - c. As the recommendation offers a solution to the escalating cost of boarding inmates and the directly related staffing and transportation costs.
2. The recommendation sent forward addresses the needs of the Jail Administrator and the Sherriff's Department as related to actual and verifiable costs related to operation and ownership.
 - a. As the recommendation offers minimizing total staffing costs related to inmate management.
 - b. As the recommendation offers reasonable solutions to support services including but not limited to:
 - i. Food Services, preparation and storage.
 - ii. Staff related support areas such as; locker room, break area.
 - iii. Medical Suite including:
 1. Secure storage for medications inventory.
 2. Secure bed area for inmates with illnesses.
3. The recommendation sent forward also has taken into account and puts much credibility on the accuracy of the report submitted by WBRC supported by the jail design team of STV, Inc.

Based on the above criteria the Building Committee strongly recommends that the Commissioners move forward with what WBRC has described in the final report submitted by their firm as "Option Three – 300 Bed Facility".

On the following pages can be found criteria and support documentation used to determine the recommendation.

Projections for Inmate Population Through 2050

The Committee was fortunate that Lt. Keith Hotaling has been keeping data on many things since 1996, including “Average Daily Population”. Lt. Hotaling’s data shows the following.

Year	Inmates Boarded Out	Licensed Population Amount	Average Daily Population*
1998	45	157	200
2018	80	157	240
2033	144	157	300
2050	216	157	400
*Rounded to Nearest Tenth			

The committee considered what might be a prudent action item date/AVP. The year 2033 is nearly half way between now and 2050 and the 300 ADP amount would be a “build to this population” target. The recommendation sent forward is for a 300-bed facility that projections suggests will leave no inmate boarded out expense.

Scenario Development Used By WBRC

The Committee paid particular attention to the various scenarios developed by WBRC and their 30-Year Present Net Value Comparison. The following table also is presented in the WBRC document in a different format. It is based on 30-year out bond comparisons. Costs presented are in millions.

Scenarios	30-Year Cost	Percentage Over/Under Delta Amount	Dollars Over/Under Delta Amount
A Do Nothing	\$430,037,392	100%	\$ 0
B 144/157 Beds	\$452,643,059	105%	\$21,503,975
C 400 Beds	\$457,125,855	106%	\$25,804,770
D 300 Beds	\$430,079,506	100%	Amount is Delta

Observations:

- **Scenario A** shows that the cost of “doing nothing” results in expending slightly over \$430 Million Dollars.
- **Scenario D** shows that building a 300-bed facility also results in expending slightly over \$430 Million Dollars.
 - The scenario also provides for to an additional 100 beds in the future.
 - The scenario eliminates the boarding of inmates.
- **Scenario B** in expending an additional \$21.5 Million over the life of the bond.
 - However, the scenario dictates using and staffing the existing jail. Thereby retaining as an expenditure, the inefficient staffing ratio.

- **Scenario C** results in expending an additional \$25.8 Million over the life of the bond.
 - The scenario “overbuilds” to 400 beds now instead of allowing for expanding to 400 beds sometime after the mid-term of the bond.

