

MINUTES
PUBLIC MEETING
BARTOW COUNTY COMMISSIONER
January 21, 2009

Commissioner Clarence Brown called the meeting to order. Commissioner Brown signed the only order of business; a resolution authorizing the commissioner to enter into an agreement with Peter R. Brown Construction, Inc. for the guaranteed maximum price on the construction of the Bartow County Jail Expansion project. The guaranteed maximum price for the project is \$27,721,453.00.

Mr. John Stewart, Executive Vice President for Peter Brown Construction made a statement to the media regarding the project. Mr. Stewart stated that this is the 12th county jail project the company has completed in the state. All other projects have been completed on time and within budget. The project was advertised in the local paper and a pre bid conference was held at the site. All interested subs were invited to attend. A total of 37 local subcontractors were contacted about the project, 31 of which responded with an interested in bidding on the project, 25 of which submitted bids. Of the 25 local bids submitted, contracts have been executed with three local subcontractors and another is pending. Mr. Stewart added that the company contacted 248 firms outside the county to solicit bids on various specialty items that could not be solicited from local firms. Of the 248 firms contacted, 166 responded with an interest in bidding, 80 bids were received. Mr. Stewart went on to say that the company has made an earnest effort to utilize local subcontractors and local vendors as much as possible in order to stimulate the local economy. They will also emphasize to all sub contractors the importance of utilizing local subs and vendors and will encourage them to spend local dollars as much as possible on items such as food, housing, recreation, dumpsters, tool rentals, concrete, grout, rock quarries and temporary labor forces.

Sheriff Clark Millsap commented on the project, stating that they hope to break ground in February. The expansion will allow for a separate work release area for inmates that will help stop contraband from coming into the jail. There will be more room for females and more room to house federal prisoners. In turn, the County will receive \$47.50 per day for each federal prisoner housed at the facility, which will help offset the cost. Currently there are 472 beds in the facility. The expansion will add 650 beds, making this the largest holding facility in the state, north of Cobb County.

Mr. Stewart stated that the scheduled completion date is November 2010.

County Administrator, Steve Bradley, stated that because of the current economic downturn, and the strain on the County's operating budget, many have asked why we are moving forward with these projects. He explained that SPLOST money cannot be used to help defray cost deficits in the general budget.

Mr. Stewart added that because of the economic slowdown, prices have begun to drop on many goods and services and the County could possibly complete the project under budget. The guaranteed maximum price (\$27,721,453.00) does not include the architectural fee of 3% of the overall cost. The County's budget for the project is \$30,000,000.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Gill
County Clerk
Bartow County