

The sole purpose of the meeting on Wednesday was for the judges to ask the sheriff and commissioners while in the same room when the concept of building a new jail on Blackbrook Road surfaced, or resurfaced. We were informed that an alternate location was requested by the design firm, in the exercise of due diligence; an alternate was to be to the site across from the street from the current facility.

The urgency of the meeting was precipitated by a request by the sheriff's office upon Craig Berry as to where the Adult Probation department needed to be located and the space requirements. Adult Probation needs to be located within the jail facility, and close to the court. The questions posed to Mr. Berry by the SO cannot be answered without knowing the location of the jail because that requires a logistical or functionality analysis, which has yet to be done.

The logistical or functionality analysis must also be done in regard to the location of the jail/ SO and the courts' operations. We expect that to be addressed when the judges meet with the designer in a week or two and provide our information.

No decisions were made at the meeting on Wednesday, nor could they have been made. The local corrections board is not a deciding body. That would be the courthouse committee, as the judges call it, along with the commissioners. We are at the informational stage at this point, and the judges haven't provided any input so far except that we all agree a new jail facility is necessary, and it needs to be close to our court.