

**MCKENZIE COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**  
**JOINT POWERS GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 26, 2024**

The LEC Joint Governing Authority Board (JGA Board) meeting was called to order on June 26, 2024, at 5:15 p.m. CT in the Commissioner Meeting Room at the McKenzie County Courthouse in Watford City, North Dakota. Present: Commissioner Brown, Council Member Renville, and Community Member Gronos. Absent: Commissioner Skarda and Council Member Devlin. Also present: Auditor/Treasurer Johnsrud, Facilities Supervisor Loughnan, MCCF Administrator Werlinger, and WCPD Lt. Lass.

Moved by Gronos, seconded by Renville, to approve the agenda, as presented and the April 10, 2024, meeting minutes, as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Moved by Renville, seconded by Gronos, to approve the bill reports as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Facilities Supervisor Loughnan discussed proposed changes to the RTC camera system at the LEC. Camera are both within the WCPD and MCSO portions of the building, controlled by each separate department, but share one common server. Updates to the system are needed, which also requires the installation of a new server, approximate cost \$27,000. Moved by Gronos, seconded by Renville, to recommend approval of the RTC camera and server work to the City of Watford City City Council and McKenzie County Board of County Commissioners as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Loughnan discussed an update the BAC Net system, which is an update to the HVAC program that allows monitoring of heating and cooling for the entire LEC facility. Moved by Gronos, seconded by Renville, to recommend approval of the BAC Net system update to the City of Watford City City Council and McKenzie County Board of County Commissioners, as long as property security protocols are in place. All voting aye, motion carried.

Moved by Gronos, seconded by Renville, to recommend approval of the LEC UPS Backup system replacement as presented to the City of Watford City City Council and McKenzie County Board of County Commissioners as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

MCCF Administrator Werlinger discussed general updates with the Board on the Correctional Facility. Werlinger stated the new food service contract is going well. Inmates are being utilized for some of the labor to reduce the charges from the provider. Those inmates are getting food handler certificates that can be used when they are released as well. Changes have been made to the way attorneys are able to call and speak to their clients which has alleviated the Facility as the middleman. Monthly reports are being distributed to the Board. Work release is going well and the inmates on work release are being added to a Workers Comp Insurance policy as needed. A Native American minister from the New Town area will begin volunteering soon. A State program called T4C, Thinking For Change, has started and currently the State is picking up the costs associated. The new exercise equipment has been installed and is being utilized. Commissary options have been expanded to include healthier options.

Werlinger discussed the need for a documentation system, Guardian RFID, for the facility. Inmates would receive a wristband which would be scanned when medication is distributed. The system will automatically record the event. The system would also include buttons outside the cell for bed checks and meal distribution. The annual fee is \$25,000 and implementation cost is approximately \$37,000.

Werlinger has seen it at work in both Ward and Burleigh Counties. The item would need a 2024 budget amendment and to be added to the 2025 budget is approved. Moved by Brown, seconded by Gronos, to recommend approval for the purchase of the Guardian RFID system to the McKenzie County Board of County Commissioners as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Werlinger presented information on an autonomous health monitoring solution, Reassurance Solutions, which allows for contact free and real time monitoring of inmates. Werlinger stated the information is transmitted to a computer at the work station and if changes are present an alert is sent. Werlinger stated he was requesting to purchase two units at a cost of \$12,300 for both and an annual subscription of \$1,800. The system doesn't replace physical checks but would be useful for monitoring of inmates in more fragile states. Moved by Renville, seconded by Gronos, to recommend the purchase of the Reassurance Solutions to the McKenzie County Board of County Commissioners as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Werlinger also reported he is currently looking at options for the replacement of the current control and video system. The projected cost is approximately \$225,000 and would need to be bid out. The current contract expires in 2025. Werlinger reported there aren't many companies certified for correctional facilities and is working on how best to move forward.

Moved by Gronos, seconded by Renville, to approve the ND Highway Patrol lease for office space as presented, no changes over the previous lease. All voting aye, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m. until October 9, at 5:15 p.m.

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Chair

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Auditor