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Citizens Bond Oversight Committee sees architect's drawings

In its quarterly meeting on July 21, 2008, the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee reviewed the architect's drawings of the County Courts building and Jail addition to be built under a bond approved by voters in May of 2007. They also reviewed the design package for the City of Waxahachie-funded parking garage. Jon Vidaurri of the Staubach Company and County Engineer Joe White updated the committee on progress of the multi-faceted project.

According to Vidaurri, the design package reached the 100% design development stage on July 11 and was turned over to Balfour Beatty, the construction manager at risk, for real-time pricing. The designs for the parking garage were presented to the Waxahachie City Council at a recent meeting. Elevations were presented to the Historic Preservation Committee as well and received that group's stamp of approval.

Other project milestones since the Committee last met included:

- The Commissioners' Court approved the contract for the Technology Consultant, Stravis Technologies and work on technology design began.
- The Commissioners' Court authorized purchase of four different tracts of land and the purchases were successfully negotiated within budget, closing on June 30.
- After an RFQ was issued for geotechnical testing and subsurface investigation, the County selected APEX Testing, and drilling for the testing began on June 3.
- The County contracted for asbestos and lead abatement in the 1929 jail and annex. Abatement will commence once the State-mandated public notification period has elapsed and is expected to be completed by mid-August.

Commissioner Bill Dodson, pct. 2, was in attendance at the Committee's meeting on Monday.

"I feel very comfortable having Joe White and Jon Vidaurri work together on this project," Dodson said. "What's been accomplished so far gives me every confidence that it's going to come out right."

The Committee set its next quarterly meeting for Monday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Historic Courthouse. Members of the public are welcome to attend.