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State of Illinois
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT
FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY
703 Stratton Ofc. Bldg., Springfield, IL 62706
217/782-5320 Fax: 217/782-3513

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/cgfa2006/home.aspx>

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AGENDA

Purpose: State Facility Closure Act Hearing:
Illinois Department of Corrections, Pontiac Correctional Center Closure
August 20, 2008; 5:00 pm, Pontiac Township High School, 1100 Indiana Ave., Pontiac,
Illinois

- I. Call to Order by Commission Co-Chairmen:**
Senator Jeffrey Schoenberg / Representative Richard Myers
- II. Illinois Department of Corrections:**
 1. Director Roger E. Walker Jr.
- III. Elected Officials:**
 1. State Senator Dan Rutherford
 2. State Senator Gary Dahl
 3. State Representative Shane Cultra
 4. State Representative Keith Sommer
 5. State Representative Jim Sacia
 6. City of Pontiac Mayor Scott McCoy
 - a. Alderman Frank Panno
 - b. Alderman William Kallas
 - c. Alderman John McGlasson
 - d. Alderman Robert Russell
 - e. Alderman Donovan Gardner
 - f. Alderman Brian Gabor
 - g. Alderman Curt Myers
 - h. Alderman Matt Stock
 - i. Alderwoman Kelly Eckhoff
 - j. Alderman Mike Stalter
 - k. City Administrator Robert Karls
 7. Village of Thomson President (Mayor) Duke Knebler
 8. City of Savanna Mayor Bill Lease
 9. Livingston County Mayor's Association President Mike Stoecklin
 - a. City of Eureka Mayor Scott Punke

- b. City of Minonk William Koos
- c. City of Flanagan Mayor Scott Knight
- d. *City of Forrest Mayor Jim Gulliford-Record of Appearance*
- e. *City of Gibson City Mayor Dan Dickey-Record of Appearance*
- f. *City of Dwight Mayor Jim Mixen-Record of Appearance*
- g. *City of Washington Mayor Gary Manier-Record of Appearance*

IV. County Officials:

- 1. Livingston County Board Chairman Bill Flott
- 2. Livingston County Mental Health Dept. Executive Director Carol Flessner
- 3. Livingston County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Ken White
- 4. Livingston County State's Attorney Tom Brown
- 5. Livingston County Board Finance Chairperson Dee Woodburn
- 6. Carroll County Board Member Gerald Barb

V. Economic Impact Analysis:

- 1. Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs, Robin Hanna

VI. Employee Organizations:

- 1. AFSCME
 - a. Council 31, Local 494 President Danny Jarrett and Joe Pluger
 - b. Executive Director Henry Bayer
 - c. Members Kevin Delong; Mary Eggelston; Larry Deatherage
- 2. Fraternal Order of Police
 - a. F.O.P. Illinois Corrections Lodge 263 President Jim Simmons

VII. Chambers of Commerce / Economic Development Organizations:

- 1. Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce, Chief Executive Officer Cheri Lambert
- 2. Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce, Chairman Terry Sullivan
- 3. McLean County Chamber of Commerce, Ryan Whitehouse
- 4. Streator Chamber of Commerce, Mike Neuenkirchen
- 5. Greater Livingston County Economic Development Council Mike Stoecklin

VIII. Businesses:

- 1. Livingston County Bankers Association, Wayne Taylor (Bank of Pontiac)
- 2. Livingston County Board of Realtors, Mary Stock and Bill Barrett
- 3. Illinois American Water, President Karla Olson-Teasley and Governmental Affairs Director Tim Leahy
- 4. Jo Carroll Energy, Russ Simpson
- 5. Carroll County Prison Focus Group Chairman Tomas Kocal
- 6. Lawrence Bruckner, Thomson businessman

IX. Health Care:

- 1. OSF Saint James Medical Center, David Ochs

2. OSF Family Medical Physician and President of OSF Medical Staff, Heather Schweizer, M.D.
3. Vice President of OSF Saint James, Teresa Grant-Quick
4. President of OSF Saint James, Tom Kahle
5. President of OSF Saint James Auxiliary Marilyn Oelschlager
6. Vice President of Human Resources and Organizational Development, Ken Beutke

X. Education:

1. Pontiac Township High School, Leo Johnson
2. Pontiac District #429 Pontiac, Steve Graham
3. Regional Superintendent of Schools, Mark Jontry

XI. Youth and Religious Organizations:

1. Pontiac Junior Football League, Ed Lewis
2. Flanagan School Basketball Coach, Kevin Edens
3. Pontiac Junior Football League, Frank Turner
4. Pontiac Area Ministerial Association (PAMA), Lon Alderman

XII. Employees & General Public Comments:

1. Employees Per Witness Slips
2. Restaurant Owner, Stephanie Delong
3. County Market, Store Manager Greg BesGrove
4. Former Chief Engineer at Pontiac Correctional Center, Bruce Koener
5. Former Pontiac Correctional Center Warden, Lewis Lowery

XIII. Adjournment:

COMMISSION MEMBERS ROLL-CALL
PONTIAC FACILITY CLOSURE HEARING
Meeting Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2008
Pontiac Township High School – 5:00 p.m.

	ATTENDANCE		V O T E		
	Present	Absent	YES	NO	Present
Representative Patricia Bellock (R)	✓		█	█	
Senator Bill Brady (R)	✓		█	█	
Senator Don Harmon (D)	✓		█	█	
Representative Frank Mautino (D)	✓		█	█	
Representative Robert Molaro (D)		✓	█	█	
Representative Richard Myers (R)	✓		█	█	
Representative Elaine Nekritz (D)	✓		█	█	
Representative Raymond Poe (R)	✓		█	█	
Senator Christine Radogno (R)	✓		█	█	
Senator Jeffrey Schoenberg (D)	✓		█	█	
Senator David Syverson (R)		✓	█	█	
Senator Donne Trotter (D)	✓		█	█	
Attendance / Vote	10	2	█	█	

**City of
Pontiac, Illinois**



**Pontiac Correctional Center
COGFA Public Hearing**

August 20, 2008

Testimony by: Mayor Scott H. McCoy

City of Pontiac, Illinois

COGFA (Commission On Government Forecasting and Accountability)

**Pontiac Correctional Center
Public Hearing**

**Wednesday, August 20, 2008 @ 5:00pm CT
Held at Pontiac Township High School - Pontiac, Illinois**

**Hon. Scott H. McCoy
Mayor, City of Pontiac, Illinois**

INTRODUCTION

Thank you Co-Chair Schoenberg, Co-Chair Myers, and the commission members.

My name is Scott McCoy and I'm the mayor of the city of Pontiac, Illinois.

Joining me this evening is the Pontiac City Council.

Frank Panno
William Kallas
John McGlasson
Robert Russell
Donovan Gardnew
Brian Gabor
Curt Myers
Matt Stock
Kelly Eckhoff
Mike Stalter

... and also joining me is our City Administrator, Bob Karls.

In attendance our all of the city's department heads, our city attorney, city clerk, and city treasurer.

TESTIMONY

I have two parts to my testimony. First, I want to speak to some of the facts and figures of this situation. Then, I'd like to share how the city of Pontiac will be affected.

I've read a lot of studies and reports during this process. I have to say that I find most of the reasons the Department of Corrections provides in support of closing the prison to be unrealistic and inaccurate. This will be effectively discussed by the AFSCME and Economic Development panels. However, I do want to say that I'm very disturbed by how the DOC proposed closure report was created.

The DOC report, which was titled "**Proposed Pontiac Correctional Center Closure -- Response to the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability**," dated July 15, 2008, provides a lot of numbers and figures that are only sourced; and no real information is provided on how they arrived at those figures. I specifically want to refer to Table #4 titled "**Pontiac Correctional Center Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Needs**." This table's information is also discussed within the DOC report several times. The table and report source the figures to an Illinois Capital Development Board Survey, dated February 26, 2008.

Being the guy I am, I like to dig deeper and get the details. So, I sent in a Freedom of Information Act Request to the Capital Development Board for this survey on July 30, 2008. I also know that Mayor Mike Stoecklin also submitted a FOIA request for this survey. I received a reply from the CDB just yesterday afternoon. My FOIA request was denied. The denial reason was "The requested reports contain preliminary data and are in draft format."

I respectfully have two problems with this. First, it appears the DOC is using preliminary data as fact in their report. Second, how can the Department of Corrections simply use totals and figures from another source -- when that source is not available to the public for public review? Where is the accountability that the public is entitled to? There is something inherently dangerous with this practice; and in my opinion it not only harms the tax paying citizens of the state of Illinois, but it dupes them by providing possibly inaccurate numbers. I ask the commission to take this finding into consideration as you review the DOC proposed closing report and the unsupported figures it provides.

Let's talk about Pontiac's impact. I'll begin with a little background on the city of Pontiac.

Pontiac's history begins on July 27, 1837. At that time, the State of Illinois was only 19 years old. Only 34 years after Pontiac became a town in central Illinois, the city of Pontiac and the state of Illinois became partners as the state built the Boys Reformatory in 1871. Only 21 years later, the Reformatory was converted into the Pontiac Correctional Center that still operates to this day -- a state of Illinois and city of Pontiac partnership that began 137 years ago.

This unique partnership began essentially at the births of our great state and the city of Pontiac. Today, a key facet to my role as mayor is this partnership -- a partnership that began back then with Pontiac Mayor James Terry.

As mayor, I have a vested interest in our partnership and a responsibility to the citizens of the city of Pontiac. However, I also have a unique personal connection to the Pontiac Correctional Center. You see, I was born and raised across the street from the facility.

Tower #7, located on Division street, overlooked my home as I grew up. It was part of my life from my first day. And my father, who also grew up on the same block, directly next to the prison all of his life, provided me with a very valuable lesson when I was growing up.

My father taught me, and my brother and sister, the importance of the prison and its relationship with the city of Pontiac. As you can imagine, anyone visiting from out of town would ask questions like *'how can you live next to the prison?'* But my father told us that a prison is a necessary part of life and it serves a very valuable purpose in our society. He told me that Pontiac was a community that took on that responsibility. He said Pontiac played a key role in helping keep down crime and keeping the state safe. I learned that Pontiac wasn't a NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) community, but a partner in helping the state of Illinois.

Today, over a century later, the Pontiac Correctional Center continues its important role within the Department of Corrections. And, the city of Pontiac continues to be a key partner with the state of Illinois -- a partnership that was forged 137 years ago. A partnership of dedicated employees who do one of the hardest jobs there is. A partnership of the families of employees. A partnership of local businesses and organizations. A partnership of a community that embraces the day-to-day challenges; on behalf of all the people of the state of Illinois.

A partnership... **a partnership**... that deserves much more than a 6 month termination notice.

With the closing of the Pontiac Correctional Center, the impact will be felt far and wide. It will impact the local economy, local businesses, social and civic organizations -- but most of all, it will impact the families of the hard-working and dedicated men and women who make that facility work.

I want to share with you the impact this closure will have. While those speaking a little later this evening will provide greater details on these topics, I want to paint the broader picture as it pertains to the city of Pontiac, because we will be impacted the most by the closure. You see, the impact can't be found by entering data into a computer program and calculated. It goes so much deeper than that.

Ok, first, the economic impact is clear. The loss of almost 600 jobs from the closure will unquestionably have a massive impact on our local economy. But that's not the entire story, and it's a story that isn't found in any of the impact studies that I've read.

Many, if not most of these employees have spouses who also work. If the prison were to close, it will pull more like 1,000 to 1,200 people out of the local work force. The calculation of only PCC employees is unrealistic. Many of the spouses of PCC employees are our nurses, doctors, school teachers, business owners, child-care providers, and so on. They are partners within our community -- and this is what makes us the community we are. The loss of these employees and their families will have an immeasurable impact on Pontiac.

Now, the loss of these employees will affect other aspects of life in Pontiac and central Illinois as these people are also our community volunteers, blood donors, charity workers, pee-wee football and Jr. Baseball coaches, church members, organizational leaders, PTA parents, and most of all, our friends and neighbors.

Even the announcement of the closure back in May of this year has had a major impact on the city of Pontiac:

First, we had several home sales fall-through the first day it was announced.

Second, I've had a lot of people tell me of how they are holding back on purchases, home improvement projects, and vacations, because they don't know what will happen with their job, or they are worried about what the closure will do to our community.

Third, I want to tell you about a project that I've been working on, that the citizens of Pontiac haven't heard about until tonight.

I've been working with a large development group that I approached about a year ago. I pitched the idea of coming to Pontiac and developing in our commercial area at Route 116 and Interstate 55. They were very interested and we began working together -- the city and the developer -- in an effort to partner together to bring a large commercial development project to Pontiac.

During the process of working out the details, the Governor made the announcement that he intended to close the Pontiac Correctional Center. This was the final blow, and the developer decided to pull out.

You see, the announcement alone was the straw that broke the camels back. What's hard to think about are the long hours of work that I, the city staff, and the city council put into this project in hopes of growth for our wonderful community. What's more difficult to swallow is what Pontiac has now lost:

- 1) We lost a project that would have spanned over 100 acres in size; over the next 10-20 years; through three development phases.
- 2) The loss of 10-12 million dollars of development work and construction for the first phase alone.
- 3) The loss of potentially hundreds of full-time and part-time jobs.

But most of all, it's hard to accept the fact that this developer decided to develop in another area -- and that area IS NOT located within the state of Illinois!

Now let's discuss the horrible housing market. What happens to the housing market in Pontiac and central Illinois if the Pontiac Prison was to close? Some studies touch on this, but again they miss the local story and personal impact that computer data and multipliers don't include.

In early January, just a few months ago, the city of Pontiac was hit with the worst natural disaster in recorded history -- the flood of 2008. Nearly a third of our city's residential areas were affected or destroyed. We evacuated people from their homes, opened shelters, and did everything we could for each other. This community survived. Once the waters receded, it was the partnership between the city, local churches and organizations, and local businesses and residents that got us through. Some homes were completely destroyed. To date, we have a list of 32 homes that are being demolished, have been abandoned, or are up for sale. Piles and piles of personal belongings that were destroyed in the flood were lost forever. Lives were turned upside down.

Governor Blagojevich was there for us in our time of need. He not only declared us a state disaster area, but he signed the request for a FEMA appeal after our first request was denied. Those actions by the Governor showed compassion toward our community and the families of those affected. Many of these same families are now affected by the closing of the Pontiac Prison.

What you don't see in reports and printouts are all of the PCC employees who now have second mortgages or SBA loans, in order to put their homes and lives back together after the flood. Now, what will these families do if they have to relocate?

You see, we WILL lose these families from our community. These men and women are highly trained employees who cannot give up their jobs with the DOC. They have pensions, health care, and years of service with the Department of Corrections. If the prison closes, these employees and their families will either be forced to relocate, or they will have to make the hard choice of leaving their employment because they can't financially afford to relocate.

When you think about it, with the loss of the spouses second income, and the need to sell your home in a declining market -- in order to relocate -- I don't know how anyone can ask these families to do this. What a horrible place to be put in after you've given so much of yourself to your job -- or your partnership with your employer, if you will.

The affect of the housing market will impact all of Pontiac and surrounding communities. The Realtors will be speaking to this impact, but I'd like to let you know that we estimate about 170 homes in Pontiac alone will go on the market if the prison closes. That will drastically harm everyone's home values in our community.

As you are aware, the housing market is pretty poor overall; and adding 170 homes to our local market alone would be quite a blow. If you include only Livingston county, there are hundreds of homes that will hit the market overnight. I see home values dropping and equity shrinking -- or worse, being lost altogether. Then, how does that affect a family's ability to borrow against their asset? This is normally a way for parents to send their children to college or to invest in a larger home. And what about those PCC employees who will have their home values drop below what they owe -- they still need to relocate, but now can't get a new mortgage? These are serious questions that I can't answer for these families. Nor, do economic reports and studies generated with computer formulas answer these questions.

Our local schools will feel the impact with the loss of students. Our local educators will be speaking shortly on this topic, but this again affects our community, our families, our students, and our education system.

Now, I'd like to take just a moment and tell you about how the city itself will be impacted.

First, the Pontiac Correctional Center is the city's largest user of water. This means the facility produces a large amount of waste-water. The city of Pontiac will lose an estimated \$300,000 per year in waste-water treatment. This accounts for about 25% of the city's total income from waste-water treatment services. The loss of this income will affect all other residents and businesses within the city of Pontiac in the form of higher rates and possibly decreased services.

State revenues in the form of state sales tax, Illinois use tax, and motor fuel tax will decrease by \$220,000 per year to the city. This, in turn, affects our infrastructure, and just about every city service. In addition, declining property values will affect the city, county, our schools, and other taxing bodies.

And I haven't even talked about the loss of sales tax or business closures.

Even our Fire Department will be largely impacted by the Prison closure. We have a full-time fire department that relies heavily on POCs (or Paid-On-Call firefighters). When we respond to a fire or other emergency situation, our paid-on-call firemen respond. This provides us with the manpower needed to react effectively -- and save lives and property. With the closing of the Prison, the Pontiac Fire Department will lose one-third of our POC firemen. This is bad for the safety of our fire department, and bad for those people who's lives our heroes protect.

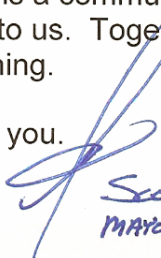
This year alone, POCs were instrumental in saving the life of a woman who fell into the river, rescuing residents during the flood, responding to several large structure fires, and even responding to a fire at our Junior High School just two days ago, on the first day of school.

To wrap-up my testimony, I'd like to ask the commission and the Governor to consider the impact to the city of Pontiac and the families of the employees of the Pontiac Prison. The impact can't be measured by a spreadsheet or computer program. It's personal, it's emotional, and it's devastating.

The city of Pontiac is very proud to be a partner with the state of Illinois. We began together; we've worked together for over a century; and we've been through a lot. Pontiac is a wonderful community, filled with wonderful people. Many of our people work for you; and we ask you to keep the Pontiac Prison open. There is too much at stake. There are lives and livelihoods on the line. There are families that will be uprooted or torn apart.

There is a community here that has been dedicated to you -- and we ask for you to be dedicated to us. Together, we are the great state of Illinois. Partners with each other from the beginning.

Thank you.



SCOTT H. MCCOY
MAYOR, CITY OF PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

**STATEMENT BY STEVE STOCKTON, MAYOR OF BLOOMINGTON,
REGARDING PONTIAC PRISON
August 18, 2008**

On behalf of the City of Bloomington, I am writing this in opposition to the potential closing of Pontiac Prison.

Much has been said about the economic impact of the prison on Pontiac and Central Illinois. I certainly agree with importance of the prison to our economy, and acknowledge that Bloomington, located about 35 minutes south of Pontiac on I-55, shares in the dollars generated by the hundreds of employees and suppliers of the facility.

However, I believe that there are other issues that are of concern to the entire State of Illinois:

1. Prisons are necessary and vital to law enforcement. We are often frustrated when offenders, especially those who are repeating, receive mild sentences. This is often attributed to the cost of incarceration and the shortage of prison space. Pontiac Prison is older, but still very functional, and I believe that we need its capacity in our fight to protect our citizens from crime.
2. Pontiac Prison has necessary specialized units. I have no objection to the opening of new prisons like Thomson, but it is not a direct replacement for Pontiac, which has space for special needs, such as segregated populations, mental health, etc.
3. Pontiac is much closer to our population centers. If we are to rehabilitate, family and community support is important. Pontiac is ideally located not only for the Bloomington area (with 1.1 million population within an hour's drive), but also for the much larger Chicago area, which is only a 60-90 minute freeway drive from Pontiac. Closing Pontiac and moving capacity to western Illinois is not in the best interests of the population.

As a mayor, I respect the need to make tough choices in our budget process, but law enforcement must be a priority. Therefore, I firmly believe that the money already appropriated for Pontiac Prison should be released by the Governor, and the facility kept open.

Steve Stockton
Mayor, City of Bloomington



Fraternal Order of Police Illinois Department of Corrections Lodge #263

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DISTRICT 3 TRUSTEE
vacant

DISTRICT 4 TRUSTEE
vacant

DISTRICT 5 TRUSTEE
Doug Pyle

WHEREAS: Pontiac Correctional Center is a valued part of LaSalle, Livingston, McLean and Woodford Counties economies providing more than 600 jobs and is a substantial asset to the aforementioned communities of Illinois; and

WHEREAS: Pontiac Correctional Center is a maximum security institution and for the past six years has been dangerously understaffed, rather than address the hiring freeze with more officers the IDOC believes their answer is to move operations to an institution that they believe it can be operated with fewer staff; and

WHEREAS: Pontiac Correctional Center closing would require hundreds of employees to move to distant parts of the state, far from their families or to lose their jobs altogether; and the availability of employment does not consider the enormous expense that each family would be burdened with who must attempt to seek employment at other State of Illinois institutions; and

WHEREAS: IDOC claims that moving inmates to other facilities will allow greater access to education and training programs, but in fact budget cuts in recent years have decimated such programs at virtually every IDOC facility; and

WHEREAS: IDOC claims that Pontiac Correctional Center is in disrepair and would require extensive and costly repairs, but has produced no evidence in support of this claim; and

WHEREAS: In reality, the IDOC would have the money for the "so-called" repairs needed at Pontiac CC if they would not have to pay a minimum of 19 million dollars at each maximum security institution in overtime wages due to insufficient staffing; and

WHEREAS: IDOC claims that they will increase staff throughout Illinois institutions by 360 and another 377 collectively to staff the proposed TCC site they give no applicable timetable for this hiring process. The IDOC has had ample time to raise these levels during the past two fiscal years but has failed; and

WHEREAS: The IDOC has not presented any credible rationale for the closure of Pontiac Correctional Center and it is their attempt to bring economic hardship to the citizens and the employees that this closing would affect; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Fraternal Order of Police Corrections Lodge #263 opposes the closing of Pontiac Correctional Center by IDOC Director Walker and Assistant Director Benos; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Fraternal Order of Police Corrections Lodge #263 calls on the Illinois General Assembly to adopt a budget that maintains full operation of Pontiac Correctional Center and to take whatever legislative action is needed to ensure that the facility is not closed; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution is sent to the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, Senate President Emil Jones, House Speaker Michael J. Madigan, House Minority Leader Tom Cross, Senate Minority Leader Frank Watson and all legislators in Pontiac CC vicinity.

Respectfully,

President James E. Simmons
"Corrections Lodge #263"
Fraternal Order of Police

cc.

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability
Speaker Michael Madigan
Representative Tom Cross
Senate President Emil Jones
Senator Frank Watson
Senator Dan Rutherford

P.O. Box 3175 Joliet, Illinois 60435-3175

**PRESIDENT JAMES SIMMONS
FOP "CORRECTIONS LODGE" #263
P.O. BOX 3175 JOLIET, IL**

**OPPOSING OF CLOSING PONTIAC CORRECTIONAL
CENTER:**

IDOC'S PROPOSAL:

THE PROJECTIONS THAT THE DOC HAS PRESENTED TO THIS COMMITTEE AND THE COMMUNITY REFLECT A BIAS OPINION BASED ON DIRECT INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CURRENT GOVERNOR'S FAILURES TO IMPROVE THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FISCAL SITUATION. THE DOC FAILS TO CONSIDER THE GREAT EXPENSE THE RELOCATING OF THESE EMPLOYEES TO OTHER STATE INSTITUTIONS. THE DOC STATES IN THEIR REPORT THAT 4 INSTITUTIONS ARE WITHIN 90 MINUTES OF PONTIAC. HOWEVER TRUE THIS STATEMENT IS THE DEPARTMENT FAILS TO PRESENT THE COST TO THE EMPLOYEE FOR AN AVERAGE OF 30 MINUTES MORE OF COMMUTING AT \$4.00 A GALLON FOR GAS THE YEARLY AVERAGE FOR THIS ADDITIONAL MILEAGE WOULD COST THE EMPLOYEE ON AVERAGE 2800-3100 A YEAR IN GAS ALONE. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE WEAR AND TEAR ON THE VEHICLE. IN ADDITION TO FORCE AN EMPLOYEE WHO HAS LIVED IN AND AROUND THIS COMMUNITY FOR MAY YEARS TO TAKE UP AND MOVE SO THAT THEY CAN STILL RETAIN EMPLOYMENT IS NOT ONLY UNPROFESSIONAL AS AN AGENCY IT IS ALSO DISRESPECTFUL TO THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE. THE ECONOMIC REPURCUSSIONS IN THIS AND THE SURROUNDING COUNTIES WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC.

OVERTIME:

IF THE COMMITTEE WOULD PLEASE ALSO INVESTIGATE THE AVERAGE EACH INSTITUTION THROUGHOUT THE STATE THAT OVERTIME IS BEING UTILIZED AT AN OUT OF CONTROL RATE. MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISONS DUE TO THE

MASSIVE MANPOWER THAT IS NEEDED ALONE FOR SPECIFIC SECURITY REASONS. 19 MILLION WAS THE TOTAL FOR JUST ONE INSTITUTION FACTOR IN THE OTHER INSTITUTIONS THAT WOULD PUT THE AVERAGE FOR A FISCAL AT 34-36 MILLION IN JUST OVERTIME COMPENSATION ALONE. IF THE DOC WAS TO ADDRESS THE UNDERSTAFFING THAT PLAGUES EACH INSTITUTION THEY WOULD INDEED NOT BE SITTING HERE COMPLAINING ABOUT NO MONEY TO KEEP THESE CRITICAL INSTITUTIONS OPEN.

STATE PAROLEE PROGRAMS:

THE DOC PRESENTS THE FINDINGS THAT RECIDIVISM IS ON THE DECLINE AND THE PROGRAMS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO ASSIST RELEASED OFFENDERS WOULD ASSIST IN THESE MEASURES TO FACILITATE A LOGICAL REASON TO CLOSE PONTIAC CC. THE EMPLOYEES OF THE PRISONS IN ILLINOIS AND THE PAROLE DIVISION CAN SAY WITH CERTAINTY THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAMS FOR RELEASED OFFENDERS ARE INEFFECTIVE AND MANDATING AGENTS TO SEND IN EARLY DISCHARGE REQUESTS FOR PAROLEES ARE LUDICROUS. FELONS ARE SENT TO PRISON TO REHABILITATE BUT THERE ARE NO PROGRAMS IN THE PRISONS WHERE THEY NEED TO BE. WHY IS THAT MR CHAIRMAN? I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT BEFORE ANY STATE PRISON IS EVEN CONSIDERED FOR CLOSURE AN OUTSIDE AUDIT COMMITTEE BE APPOINTED BY THE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE TO ASCERTAIN IF THE DOC EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAS EFFICIENTLY UTILIZED THE FUNDS THAT WERE ALLOCATED TO DEAL WITH PROGRAMS THAT ARE IMPLEMENTED IN THE INSTITUTIONS. IF THE DEPARTMENT CAN PRODUCE LEGITIMATE RECORDS THAT INDICATE RESPONSIBLE SPENDING THEN THEIR PROPOSALS MIGHT HAVE SOME LEVITY AND TRUTH.

QUALITY OF LIFE:

PROBABLY THE MOST TROUBLING OF CLOSING PONTIAC CC IS THAT THE DOC DOES NOT INCLUDE THE ADDITIONAL TIME THE EMPLOYEE WOULD HAVE TO SACRIFICE TO COMMUTING AND

MOST OF ALL STAFF SHORTAGES WHERE THEY ARE ADMINISTRATIVELY MANDATED TO WORK AN ADDITIONAL 8 HOUR SHIFT. TIME AWAY FROM FAMILY INCREASES AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE DIMINISHES DUE TO THE BREAK DOWN IN FABRIC OF THE EMPLOYEES HOMELIFE. THE OUTCOME A HOME THAT IS NOT WHOLE DUE TO MOM AND DAD BEING AWAY FOR LONGER PERIODS OF TIME BECAUSE IT IS MORE CONVENIENT TO THE DOC.

IN CLOSING:

FOR THE RECORD THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE #263 ALONG WITH THE STATE FOP LEADERS SEATED HERE WITH ME OPPOSE THE CLOSING OF PONTIAC CC AND RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE COMMITTEE TO FIND THIS PROPOSAL BY THE DOC TO BE NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS.

THANK YOU CHAIRMAN LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!!

9/4/2008

**Senator Dan Rutherford
320 N Plum St.
Pontiac, IL 61764**

Senator Jeff Schoenberg, Co-Chairman
Representative Rich Myers, Co-Chairman
Commission on Government
Forecasting and Accountability
703 Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

August 15, 2008

Dear Gentlemen:

Members of the Pontiac Area Ministerial Association (PAMA) met on August 13th to discuss the proposed closure of the Pontiac Prison. What follows is the consensus of those members gathered.

As spiritual leaders in the Pontiac area we commit to praying about this situation and praying that God's purposes will be served. We are also praying for you, and other governmental leaders involved in this decision, that God will guide your decisions related to this matter.

In addition, as spiritual leaders in the Pontiac community we voice the following concerns:

First, we are deeply concerned about the economic impact that closing the prison will have on our church families, our community, and the greater Pontiac region.

Second, we are deeply concerned about the potential hardships imposed on prison employees and their families as a result of the proposed closure.

Third, we are also concerned about the impact that the proposed prison closure would have on the prisoners themselves and their families.

We prayerfully submit these concerns with the hope that through this decision making process God will be revealed and glorified.

Sincerely,



Pastor Lon Alderman
Pontiac Area Ministerial Association, President

815.735.6095 w
815.844.4646 h
Lon@AcornMinistries.com

Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce
Pontiac Correctional Center Testimony
Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability
August 20, 2008

Members of the Commission: My name is Cheri Lambert and I am the President and CEO of the Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce. Also with me representing the Chamber is the Chairman of the Board, Terry Sullivan. I would like to thank the commission for holding this much needed hearing so that interested parties have an opportunity for input regarding the Pontiac Correctional Center.

We are here as the voice of business - uniting in our efforts to show our dedication and support of keeping the Pontiac Correctional Center open. The Chamber's mission is to create and retain jobs in the Pontiac Area. As this community's 2nd largest employer, PCC jobs are critical to the economic health of the community and would be devastating to this area in their loss.

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge our support for Thompson Correctional Center to be opened as well – not as a replacement for Pontiac, but as a facility to be used in addition to Pontiac, to help ease the 134 % overcrowding issues many facilities are faced with, Pontiac in particular.

Since the announcement of intent to close PCC in May, we have witnessed businesses challenged even more in what was already a struggling economy. Importantly, because they realize the importance of Pontiac Correctional Center, our community, our region and numerous communities across the state have reached out supporting PCC. Never at anytime has our organization heard from any business both locally or statewide that is a proponent of closing Pontiac Correctional Center. In our evaluation and of those we represent, it is felt that this would only devastate a 15 county region with a loss of over \$100 million of direct, indirect and induced revenues as reported by Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs. Just as our community has supported our National Guard troops that left for Afganistan on Monday and the two that will follow, we come united. We are concerned the message that we are sending those to will be defending our nation's country is not in anyone's best interest. What type of message are we sending to our troops, many of which are local residents and some of which are Department of Corrections employees with the closure of the Pontiac facility? What do they have to look forward to when they come home if this facility closes? Decreased property values, uprooting of families and a depressed environment.

In our review of the economic impact studies, we are clearly concerned with what we consider to be an overestimate in the workforce in the economic impact

study. The Department of Corrections report, in question 2, states 377 jobs would be added at Thomson however in reviewing the economic impact study it uses a 540 employee workforce. That is a difference of 163 jobs – a significant overestimate of the true impact.

The overall business impact should be carefully considered before any final decision is made. In reviewing the most recent addendum to the Economic Impact of PCC prepared by Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs dated July 22nd, the direct losses in the PCC 15 county region for reduction in spendable income are \$36.5 million compared to Thomson's at \$31.8 million gain. Local purchases are \$6.4 million loss for this area when the increase is \$4.56 million in the Thomson area. Such a decision to close one facility and open another – is truly only crippling the entire State of Illinois especially when we are looking at an overestimate of workforce. .

In viewing the Department of Corrections report, it was stated in question 10 that if Pontiac Correctional Center were to close that \$500,000 would be budgeted annually for the maintenance and upkeep of the facility. However, over the past 6 years the state budget has included maintenance and upkeep of the Lincoln Development Center, just 60 minutes from here, at a total \$900,000 per year for that facility alone. Lincoln Development Center is much smaller in scope and in magnitude than Pontiac Correctional Center. We, as representatives of the business community are extremely concerned again that either numbers to close Pontiac are vastly underestimated or what the devastating conditions and shambles this would leave the Pontiac facility- located in center of our community, should it be closed?

The stability of a community is based on family and business. Removing family and small and large business sectors from a community will contribute and cause it's ruin. The impact of losing nearly 600 employees will be devastating. Transferring of jobs from one area of the state to another – with estimates lower than it's gains – is not solid fiscal responsibility. We need priorities that are about attracting private investment to achieve economic growth.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns. We are confident that the Commission will make the correct choice when recommending to keep Pontiac Correctional Center open.

Testimony from
Timothy J. Leahy
Director of Government Affairs
Illinois American Water
Opposing the Closing of
Pontiac Prison, Pontiac, Illinois

Wednesday, August, 20th, 2008

Hello my name is Timothy J. Leahy. I am the Director of Government Affairs for Illinois American Water. On behalf of our officers, the employees, our shareholders -- and most importantly, the customers that Illinois American Water serves in the Pontiac area, I would, like to thank the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability for allowing us the opportunity to testify this evening. Illinois American Water strongly opposes the closing of the Pontiac Correctional Facility.

Illinois American Water is the largest investor-owned water and wastewater utility in Illinois. It provides high-quality, reliable water and/or wastewater services to more than 890,000 people in our state. Our parent company, American Water, operates a state-of-the-art, Quality Control and Research Laboratory in Belleville as well as a state-of-art, Customer Call Center in Alton. We have a significant presence in the State of Illinois.

We have proudly served the Pontiac community for over 115 years, serving more than 4700 customers and businesses in Pontiac. In all, the Pontiac Correctional Facility provides over \$360,000 in annual revenue for Illinois American Water. This constitutes about 18% of our total revenue in Pontiac. Like all the businesses in the Pontiac area, affected by the closing of this facility, a \$360,000 loss of revenue would be a significant loss for our company. Realistically, despite our never-ending attempts to make the delivery of high quality water to the residents of Pontiac more efficient, an 18% loss in revenue is substantial, and would have an impact on future water rates for the rest of our customer base as many of our costs are fixed.

According to an Economic Impact Analysis prepared by The Rural Economic Technical Assistance Center, a unit of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) at the request of this Commission (The Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability)

- *The closure of the Pontiac Correctional Center (PCC) would have deep and significant negative impacts on the local and regional economies. The consequences will extend far beyond the loss of employment, personnel compensation, and operating expenditures from the PCC facility.*
- *Closure of the Pontiac Correctional Center (PCC) would have a significant impact on the area's total economic output. The loss of the facility, and its employees, would result in a reduction in overall sales and the production of goods and services. Livingston County would experience a loss exceeding \$45 million. The industries anticipated to lose employment are also forecasted to experience declining sales and production. Downsizing, reduction in services and relocation are among the likely responses by at-risk industries. Such action would result in lack of access to a range of health care providers and remaining residents.*

- *While these numbers reflect substantial economic impacts to the region, they do not represent all of the losses that would occur with the closing of the PCC. The study's geographic focus was constrained so as to represent a more realistic picture of the effects on Livingston County and the surrounding region. As reported, the impacts represent the losses associated with up to 84 percent of the facility's total workforce. Should the loss of the facility's entire workforce be examined, the results would identify even greater negative impacts for the economy and the residents of Central Illinois.*

These numbers, dramatic as they are, must be weighed against the possible gain in the opening of the Thompson Correctional Center (TCC). If one weighs the economic loss to the Pontiac area, if the Pontiac prison closes, versus the economic gain to the Carroll County area if the Thompson prison opens, this whole idea becomes even more disturbing.

Using the numbers provided by the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, on all strategic economic levels the gain to the Carroll area does not offset, or barely offsets, the loss to the Pontiac area. For example:

	Pontiac	Thompson
Employment	- 466 positions	+ 360 positions
Labor Income	- \$12.1 Million	+ \$12.5 Million
Economic Output	- \$45.2 Million	+ \$47.5 Million
Public Revenues (local/state/fed)	- \$5.7 Million	+ \$3.3 Million

Once again, it must be remembered that this study looked at a LARGER region in assessing the benefits associated with the Thompson facility versus using a SMALLER region in assessing the negative impact to the closing of the Pontiac Correctional Facility.

While the Pontiac Correctional Facility is an older facility it still remains a safe and secure facility. While the facade of the facility remains older, the inside has received millions in dollars of upgrades. Again, it remains a safe and secure facility successfully carrying out its mission for the Illinois Department of Corrections and ultimately the State of Illinois.

Over the next several months this Commission will hear and see scores of studies, reports, facts and figures. It will hear and see cost analyses on almost every aspect of this issue. It is the hope of Illinois American Water, and most importantly, our customers and the entire Pontiac community that this Commission, and our Governor, come to the only rationale conclusion, which is to keep the Pontiac Correctional Facility open. As the facts presented in this investigation demonstrate, closing this Facility would have a devastating impact on the Pontiac economy. For these reasons, Illinois American Water, and I, respectfully urge you to keep this facility open.



OSF®

SAINT JAMES - JOHN W. ALBRECHT
MEDICAL CENTER

August 20, 2008

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability
703 Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

RE: CLOSURE OF PONTIAC CORRECTIONAL CENTER

Dear Commissioners:

My name is David T. Ochs and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of OSF Saint James - John W. Albrecht Medical Center in Pontiac, Illinois. Standing with me tonight are Dr. Heather Schweizer, a Family Medicine physician with the OSF Medical Group in Fairbury, Illinois, and President of the Medical Staff of OSF Saint James Medical Center; Tom Kahle, Executive Vice President of Heartland Bank in Chenoa and President of the OSF Saint James Medical Center Foundation Council; Teresa Grant-Quick, Livingston County Farm Bureau Manager and Vice President of the OSF Saint James Medical Center Community Advisory Board; Marilyn Oelschlager, President of the OSF Saint James Auxiliary; and Ken Beutke, Vice President of Human Resources and Organizational Development at OSF Saint James Medical Center. We are here tonight to comment on the negative impact the closing of the Pontiac Correctional Center (PCC) will have on our organization, the community, and the availability of healthcare services for our area in the future.

OSF Saint James - John W. Albrecht Medical Center and the OSF Medical Group clinics employ 511 professional, technical and clerical staff in Livingston County. Many of these employees have spouses or significant other wage earners within their families who work at the Pontiac Correctional Center. The loss of their jobs at PCC will not only cause immediate financial hardship for these employees and their families, but it will also have a negative impact on the workforce at OSF Saint James and OSF Medical Group because many of these employees will leave our community in order to be with their spouses as they take new jobs elsewhere. At a time when recruitment of skilled healthcare professionals such as nurses, therapists, and clinical technologists is already at a crisis level, and is even more pronounced in the rural areas such as ours, to lose already existing and experienced employees would cast a hardship not just on our organization, but on the patients who depend upon them for their care when they become sick or injured. This would be especially critical in our area where we are already experiencing a 16.6% vacancy rate in RN positions, and the projected additional cost to fill these vacancies with agency and registry staff would be in excess of \$311,000 annually. However, the greater cost would be the impact on the access to healthcare in our rural health clinics and at the medical center. The OSF Healthcare System currently serves the Livingston County area with seven rural physician outreach clinics that bring needed primary care to the rural population. Several of these clinics are federally qualified rural healthcare centers because they provide healthcare services to an isolated rural community. The loss of these federally qualified rural centers would have a severe impact on the access and availability of needed primary care physicians and pharmacy services.

Without Pontiac Correctional Center, reimbursement to OSF Saint James Medical Center from the State of Illinois for the healthcare services provided to its State employees and their families would decline by more than \$1.2 million, which would be a significant financial set back to the medical center. However, this financial decline may only be the tip of the iceberg. If local businesses which depend on purchases from PCC and PCC employees close, and their workers move away or lose their healthcare benefits, OSF Saint James will see an increased volume of patients depending on our Emergency Room for primary care, with declining revenue to cover the expenses for treating these patients. As the County's only hospital, and the major provider of its healthcare services, the financial viability of the hospital is critical to maintain access to healthcare services for our County. The financial impact on OSF Saint James Medical Center will have a negative effect on the quality of life in Livingston County and attracting new residents and businesses for the future.

In addition, people without healthcare benefits or who fear a significant change in their financial status have a tendency to put off seeking healthcare services, refilling prescriptions and reporting symptoms to their doctor. Often, these actions lead to more severe health conditions or even medical emergencies which are more risky for the patient and more expensive to treat, sapping even more financial resources from these families and the medical center. After years of work to bring world-class levels of quality healthcare to our community, it's discouraging to see a decision made which may cause people to postpone treatment for their health conditions and suffer more serious consequences.

With the loss of \$1.2 million in reimbursement for care provided to PCC employees and their families, the access to healthcare for Livingston County will be jeopardized. The scope of services that OSF Saint James and the OSF Medical Group currently provide to Livingston County communities will have to be re-evaluated and adjusted to reduce the cost due to this lost reimbursement. In the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, OSF Saint James Medical Center's "Community Benefits," defined by the Illinois Attorney General as services provided to the community without compensation or at a below-cost discount, totaled \$7.68 million. With the projected loss of income related to Pontiac Correctional Center's closing, the community access to a number of services at OSF Saint James would be jeopardized. OSF Saint James would have to look at the possibility of curtailing patient education programs, monetary donations to local community service groups, community-based training services, guest speakers, support groups, rural health clinics, industrial medicine services, diabetic teaching and services, and EMS training. These changes would be necessary in order to use all remaining hospital funds for providing core patient care activities only – including an increased amount of unreimbursed care provided to people who no longer have health benefits because one of the community's major employers no longer exist.

The effect would also extend beyond OSF Saint James Medical Center to affect OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington and OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. Employees of Pontiac Correctional Center and their families use these tertiary care facilities frequently for services such as cardiac and neurosurgery, and for critical ill newborns and children who utilize the Children's Hospital of Illinois at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center. These medical centers would also see an increase in unreimbursed care at a time when the OSF Healthcare System already provides far more in community benefit than would be required. In Fiscal Year 2007, OSF Healthcare System provided almost \$224 million in "community benefits" for the people of central Illinois. This amounts to 16% of its net patient revenue (revenue before operating expenses are deducted).

The loss of the Pontiac Correctional Center would also cause OSF Saint James Medical Center to rethink its future investment in new technology and services for the area. In 2003, OSF Saint James invested approximately \$50 million in plant and equipment to provide a state-of-the-art medical center for the

August 20, 2008

people of Livingston County. This past fiscal year, the medical center has invested another \$2.7 million in plant and equipment for women and children's health services. The future expansion of ambulatory services over the next three years is projected at \$6 million, and this would have to be deferred due to the serious financial setback that the closing of Pontiac Correctional Center would cause. As the only medical provider in the area of round-the-clock acute diagnostic, surgical and emergency services in the County, this significant reduction in future capital investment will affect all citizens, particularly those most critically ill and injured.

Access to quality healthcare is a fundamental right to all people, and is a major factor in the quality of life for all its citizens. For over 100 years, OSF Saint James Medical Center has been a leader in providing healthcare services to Livingston County and beyond. The closure of the Pontiac Correctional Center would have a profound impact on the depth and breadth of services available to our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David T. Ochs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being the most prominent.

David T. Ochs
President/CEO

DT0:deh

Report on PCC Closing
By Bruce Koerner

My name is Bruce Koerner, I am the former chief engineer at Pontiac Correctional Center. I have been registered with the State of Illinois Plumbing program for 45 years. I am a former member of the Illinois Building Commission, Building Services sub committee. I have my State Plant Maintenance Engineer II certification (Chief Engineer), State Plumbing License, I am a State Certified Plumbing Inspector, and I have a Cross connection Control Device license and hold a Class B Public Water Supply License. I helped Livingston County design and over saw the construction of the new county jail facility and Public Safety Complex. I am presently a member of the Livingston County Board and the City of Pontiac's plumbing inspector. I am 13 hours short of completing a B.S. degree in Chemistry. I worked for the Department of Corrections at Pontiac for 17 years, retiring in December of 2002. I spent 14 of those years as the plumber and water operator. The last three years, I was the Chief Engineer in charge of all the maintenance and construction at the institution. The seven years before I went to work for Pontiac Correctional, I worked outside construction at Pontiac for various contractors on almost all the CDB jobs that were done at Pontiac Correctional Center during that time frame.

I am here to raise the awareness of the physical condition of Pontiac Correctional Center and inform you of some of the deficiencies in the report that you are basing the closing of Pontiac on. I have enclosed a copy of the information I requested, through the freedom of Information Act, from the Capital Development Board on all the projects they have done at Pontiac in the last 15 years to back up my statements. This covers most of the project done at Pontiac. Some of the smaller projects were not covered by CDB. These projects were done through Capital Programs, a division of the Department of Corrections and done in house. These projects were usually less than \$25,000 each. These smaller projects did contribute significantly to what Pontiac is today.

The actual record of what has been done at Pontiac is very poorly documented. Several times while I was working for Pontiac Correctional, projects were proposed that had already been completed. Even when I was working construction this happened. Projects would have complete drawings and on the day of the pre-construction meeting it was discovered that the project had already been done. This is why I take exception to your report regarding what Pontiac needs. Pontiac has been a well maintained facility during my watch. If you just read the report, you would think that Pontiac was an old institution that was falling apart.

On page 4 of your report, it states that the State Fire Marshal says that there are four buildings that require sprinkler or alarms to meet code. If this refers to the housing units, sprinklers and alarms have been installed in all four cell blocks, North, South, East and West. These were the most expensive buildings by far in which to install sprinklers.

In table 3, all the housing units are listed with the date of construction. These are the construction date and not the most recent remodel date. In the early 80's, the hospital

was gutted to the walls and completely redone. The Medium Security Unit is listed as 1937. This was when D dorm was built. A, B, and C dorms were constructed in 1978. D dorms was completely gutted and redone at that time. I left the LaSalle Nuclear Power House to work on these dorms for an outside contractor. The multipurpose building was built in 1979. G and F dorm were added in the early 80's.

Table 4, Pontiac CC Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Needs. As I stated earlier, these are figures that have been given the Capital Development Board for projects. Because this chart does not have the building number listed with it, it is hard to make sure we are always talking about the same building. The exception to this is the Guard Towers. These projects may have been completed or no longer needed because the change of use of these building. They are still part of the survey. I will point out some of the most glaring problems.

Administration Building

A new roof has been put on. The heating system has been updated. There has been a new air conditioner installed with a new chiller and cooling tower. A new electrical service has been installed. There have been two additions put on this building to expand the visiting room. The last addition was made to have non-contact visit with the inmates. Is this for another addition or other request?

Cottages 3

This cottage has a the market value of \$65,000 on the open market. Is it worth spending \$354,000 to maintain it? It would be much cheaper for the square footage to tear it down and build new one.

D Dorm was completely redone in 1978.

East and West Cell House

These buildings have had the plumbing completely redone with new fixtures water and sewer lines. New showers have been added on the galleries. The electrical has been completely redone. This includes new lighting and receptacles in the cells and new distribution panel and service entrance. New cell fronts and locks have been installed. New window were installed. The heating system has been redone. Service elevators and Food preparation area have been installed for the distribution of food. The sprinkler and fire alarms were added with its own fire pump. The roof was repaired. Outside pods exercise yards have been added to accommodate the segregation inmates. What can you spend \$8.6 million on?

Garage and Voc School

The Voc School has been gone for several years. This part of the building was taken over by the maintenance department and remodeled several years ago. The garage area is used to maintain institutional vehicles. It does need some work but not almost \$2 million worth.

General Hospital

This building was completely redone in the early 80's. At one time there was a request for a kidney dialysis unit to be installed. The hospital had changed many of its services over the years. What could cost \$6.4 million?

Guard Tower #16

This tower is in this report twice, once for \$280,000 and again for \$4,400. Are these projects overlapping?

Gymnasium

This building is not being used. Why do you need to spend \$3 million on a building that is not being used

High School The school was closed when the institution went on deadlock This building was turned into a training center. The building has a new electrical service and a new roof.

Industrial Building

This building has been turned into a warehouse for storage only. No one is working inside this building at this time. For \$8 million it could be torn down and new warehouse could be built for a lot less. I know there were project turned in on this to redo the plumbing and heating in the building when I was Chief Engineer.

Lincoln College

This building was turned into the B of I building. At that time, it was completely gutted and completely redone with walls, cells, locks, plumbing, electrical and heating. Later a new roof was completed. \$761,000 for what? The building is new.

Multi Purpose Building This building has been added onto once and remodeled once.

North Cell House

New plumbing fixtures were installed. Showers were added on the galleries. New cell fronts and locks were added. The electrical system was upgraded in the cells and on the galleries, with new light fixtures and outlets. The electrical distribution system was upgraded with new panels and a new service entrance. Elevators to help distribute the food were installed. The food serving lines were modified. The ventilation system was updated. The sprinkler and alarm system was installed. A new roof was put on. A large amount of tuckpointing has been done on the exterior of the building. Outside pods exercise yards have been add to accommodate the segregation inmates. Your chart says it needs \$12 million dollars of work.

Outside Maintenance Building

This building was proposed just before I became Chief Engineer. It was to replace the outside maintenance building and provide a new loading dock so the large trucks would not have to go inside the walls. The sallyport was small and was difficult for the large trucks to enter. The original cost was set at 1.2 million dollars. With a 10% rise in cost per year, that figure would be your 2 million dollars that is on the chart. Since that time, the outside maintenance has been moved inside and a new sally port has been constructed that allows the larger trucks to enter the institution. This building is no longer needed.

Programs Building

Programs Building is not used as it was design for. What is its use going to be? Today is used for offices, library and a conference room.

Resident Kitchen

The kitchen was completely remodeled in the 90's.

Resident Dining Room

The lowers dining room was remodeled into the counselor room for the mental health unit. The serving lines for the North and South house are set up in this building. It cannot be turned back into a dining room unless a lot of changes are made to it. There is no purpose to change it unless you are going to change the institution back to general population again.

South Cell House

New plumbing fixtures were installed. Showers were added on the galleries. New cell fronts and locks were added. The electrical system was upgraded in the cells and on the galleries, with new light fixtures and outlets. The electrical distribution system was upgraded with new panels and a new service entrance. Elevators to help distribute the food were installed. The food serving lines were modified. The ventilation system was updated. The sprinkler and alarm system was installed. A new roof was put on. A large amount of tuckpointing has been done on the exterior of the building. The wall between the south house and Tower 11 was torn down and completely rebuilt. Outside pods exercise yards have been add to accommodate the segregation inmates. Your chart says it needs \$11.7 worth of work.

Tower #16

Tower #16 is listed twice. Why? Is there more that need to be done one project cannot include all of it or is this another example of not keeping the records correctly?

Wardens Cabin

This building is used for conferences in the summer time. It has been remodeled in the late 90's. It could cost less to tear it down and build a new one then spend \$162,000 to maintain it.

This report needs to be looked at very closely. Many of these building are being used as described. The amount of improvements should be adjusted to the actual need and use of the buildings, not to once was asked for. Looking at this chart and evaluating it, only 10-15% of the cash listed is needed to maintain the main buildings.

The utilities at Pontiac have also been up graded in the last 20 years. The high voltage electrical distribution system has all been replace with new transformers, modern switch gear and new electrical lines. In the steam tunnels, all the high pressure steam and return lines have been replaced. The hot water supply and return lines have replaced. These been done from the power house to all the buildings in the institution. Pontiac has been well maintained.

Condemned? What are you going to do with the Condemned unit? This unit requires special dietary, special exercise yards, and special visiting room setting, and a special entrance. Thompson was not designed with this in mind.

Now to the real problem - Safety and Security.

There is a big difference in structures between Thompson and Pontiac. I have seen the prints of Thompson Correctional Center as well as the prints of Tams Correctional Center. I have worked with the people that from the Capital Development Board and Capital Programs about these two institutions. Thompson was designed as a maximum security general population institution. It was designed to take care of some of the overcrowding in the other institutions. It has pod construction type building. That means each cell was made somewhere and brought in and assembled together to make the cell block. The walls, floor and ceiling of the pods are assembled with all the plumbing, electrical, beds, and furniture was installed in the cell when they were ship to the job site. The plumbing and electrical are connected on the job site. The pods are assembled and the building is built around the pods. The walls, floor and ceiling are made of 3" poured concrete. The units are set together with a bonding agent between them. Livingston County looked at this type of construction when they did there County Jail. The reason that this type of construction was used at Thompson was there was a lack of skilled craftsmen in the area. The main drawback to this type of construction is how do you repair it if it is torn up? The supplier told us that you take the cells unit apart and put a new cell pod in. This would be like taking Leggo's set and making a cell block. Then when it is done, taking it apart and adding a different color block and putting it back together. The other choice is to repair the pod in place the best you can. The other problem is that the cell can never be modified. To make the cell bigger or into another purpose would be very difficult. These are several reasons why the pod system was not used for the Livingston County Jail.

Pontiac construction is of the old standards when labor was cheap. The corner stones in the North and South Houses are 8' by 8' by 8' limestone slabs from a quarry up by Joliet and shipped down here by rail. They were placed in the corners of the basement. The walls are 36" at the door opening at ground level. The back walls of the cells are 12"

thick. The wall between the cells is 6" reinforced block that are slushed and have reinforcing rods in them. And yes, we have had the side walls torn up but never the back wall that separates the cell from the utility tunnel. The side walls were repaired and steel plated. The repairs were completed in a reasonable amount of time.

The type of inmate that Thompson was design for is not the type of inmate that is at Pontiac. Thompson was designed for the non-violent inmate. Pontiac is a high security segregation prison. We have the worst of the worst. Pontiac is known for receiving the inmates that cannot get along anywhere else in the system. We had to create special cells for special people.

Have you ever seen a stainless steel stool made into a basketball? These stools are made out of 14 ga stainless steel and mounted to a 12" wall with 3 - 3/4" rods through this 12" back wall. An inmate tore the stool off the wall and beat it into a ball almost the size of a basketball from the time I left work one night until I returned the next morning. The manufacture told me, that they were the largest manufacture of stainless steel stools in the world, and they have never had one torn off the wall. The stool is down at Concordia Court at the academy today.

On one project, a mistake was made in the submittals for the light fixtures. We had specified 12 ga fixtures with 1/2" Lexon lens because we knew they worked. 14 ga fixtures with 3/8" Lexon lenes were approved instead. The inmates did tear these light fixtures up. It cost the contractor \$50,000 to correct the problem. Of course, that cost was passed on to the taxpayer.

Some of the cells have been steel lined with 12 ga steel plate. I have seen where an inmate peeled the steel plate down to about 4 feet from the ceiling with his bare hands. There was nothing else in the cell to work with.

The maintenance department would go in after the contractors redid the cells and have to modify the cell to meet the needs of the inmate. We learned by trial and error.

When I was the plumber, they were tearing up about 2-3 stainless steel stools a week. Springfield asked if this could be stopped. The inmate would sit on the floor and kick the stool until he had it torn off the wall. We stopped it by pouring the stool in concrete. This is how you have to adapt to solve your problem.

The food slots at Thompson are in the door. When the officer attempts to feed the inmate, he can and does have "stuff" thrown back out the food slot at him. When the cell fronts were redone at Pontiac, they were designed by an architect to put the food slot up high, next to the door thinking this would solve the problem. The food slot also had channel added at a right angle prevent the inmate from having a direct line to prevent this problem. The inmate quickly learned that if he stood on the bed, he could reach in the channel and still throw food or what ever back at the officer. Maintenance solved this problem by adding another channel at a right angle. This made two right angles opposite each other that did not allow the inmate to throw food back at the officer. These

modifications were done in house by the maintenance department after construction. This money was supplied by Capital Programs division of The Department of Corrections not by the Capital Development Board.

These are just two examples of the modifications done to Pontiac to solve problem. Some more examples are Lexon (clear) cell fronts to give better observation. Concrete beds because they would tear up steel ones. Special counseling rooms for the mental inmates were made at Pontiac. Thompson has none of these modifications. Until we figured out how to make these modifications, the inmates would tear up the cells. Pontiac was lucky in the fact that the maintenance department could make the necessary repairs and changes. One example is the steel to redo the cell front at the time I retired was \$1,500 per cell. Since that time, steel has more than doubled in price and when you add the labor cost, it would be about \$6-7,000 today.

My suggestion is to take 50 of the worst inmates from Pontiac to Thompson for a month and see how badly they tear the place up. I have seen how they can tear Pontiac up when they get the chance. We were able to put Pontiac back together in a reasonable amount of time and made it better in the process. There is no other place like Pontiac in the system and unless major changes are made, no one will be able to house this type of inmates. The cost of these changes will far exceed what you think you will save by moving the inmates to Thompson and closing Pontiac

Pontiac is a well maintained, well equipped institution for the type of inmate that is housed here. To read the original report, you would think that Pontiac was crumbling bunch of old building falling down upon itself. The Capital Development Board had spent more than \$20 million dollars on Pontiac on the last 15 years. This does not include the money that the Capital Programs Unit of the Department of Corrections of Corrections has spent. Until a complete evaluation of the correctional system can be done, Pontiac is the best place to house this type of inmate. Inmates do not want to come to Pontiac because we have the worst of the worst. I give the staff and administration a lot of credit for the manner they have protected the public and themselves while maintaining control of these inmates.

If I can be of any farther assistance to the commission, please let me know.

Bruce Koerner

309-838-5824

State of Illinois
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, GOVERNOR

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD



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August 18, 2008

Bruce Koerner
123 S. Walnut
Pontiac, IL 61764

RE: **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

Dear Mr. Koerner:

This is to respond to your Freedom of Information Act request dated July 30, 2008 but faxed to the Capital Development Board (CDB) on July 29, 2008. Enclosed, please find a listing of completed CDB projects at Pontiac Correctional Center from 1993 to present, including a brief description and the amounts expended.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

ILLINOIS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Office of Legal Counsel

Chris R. Miles

Chris R. Miles
Paralegal/FOIA Officer

Wm. G. Stratton Building
401 South Spring Street
Third floor
Springfield, Illinois
62706-4050

cc Fred Hahn/CDB
Dave Blanchette/CDB

James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph Street
Suite 14-600
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3283

Dunn-Richmond Economic
Development Center
150 East Pleasant Hill Road
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

1222 Shooting Park Road
Suite 108
Peru, Illinois 61354

217.782.2864
217.524-0565 FAX
217.524.4449 TTD
www.cdb.state.il.us

Jim Riemer, Executive Director



Pontiac Correctional Center

CDB Projects 1993 to present

Date: 8/18/2008

Project Number	Ph. Nbr	Phase Description	Project's Total Approp	Project's Total Expend	Phase Status Description
120-200-091	1	Utility Upgrade PHASE III	\$959,650.66	\$959,650.66	Completed Project
120-200-092	1	Replace Roofing Systems	\$384,876.02	\$384,876.02	Completed Project
120-200-093	1	Upgrade Utility	\$203,369.14	\$201,370.94	Completed Project
120-200-094	1	Replace Roofing Systems	\$135,402.58	\$132,949.60	Completed Project
120-200-095	1	Upgrade for Fire Safety	\$1,443,198.95	\$1,443,198.95	Completed Project
120-200-096	1	Demolish Leisure Building	\$45,420.00	\$45,420.00	Completed Project
120-200-097	1	H. Water Heating/Shower Upgrades	\$1,657,000.00	\$1,301,155.75	Completed Project
	2	Upgrade Hot Water System			Completed Project
120-200-099	1	Expand Main Sally Port	\$700,000.00	\$661,794.00	Completed Project
120-200-100	1	Emergency Repairs - N. Cellhouse Plbg	\$118,200.00	\$118,200.00	Completed Project
120-200-101	1	Emergency Conversion to Segregation H	\$3,895,786.12	\$3,851,270.56	Completed Project
120-200-102	1	Fencing & Outdoor Exercise Units	\$5,561,476.79	\$5,282,863.68	Completed Project
	2	Cellhouse & Related Area Conversion			Completed Project
120-200-104	1	Replace Roof - Administration	\$279,353.34	\$273,811.89	Completed Project
120-200-105	1	Emergency Demolition - Dairy Barn	\$155,012.10	\$155,012.10	Completed Project
120-200-106	1	Upgrade for fire safety (See 095)	\$3,009,801.05	\$2,313,420.45	Completed Project
120-200-107	1	Demolish Chapel	\$400,750.00	\$396,882.50	Completed Project
120-200-108	1	Upgrade roofing systems	\$1,145,550.02	\$1,142,705.14	Completed Project
120-200-109	1	Rehab HVAC for Administration Building	\$120,000.00	\$75,210.08	Completed Project
120-200-110	1	Upgrade Roofing	\$401,643.43	\$381,488.18	Completed Project
120-200-113	1	Emergency Water Line Replacement	\$8,200.00	\$8,200.00	Completed Project
120-200-500	1	ADA Compliance Modifications	\$183,499.78	\$183,499.78	Completed Project

Jim Riemer, Executive Director



CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Pontiac Correctional Center

CDB Projects 1993 to present

Date: 8/18/2008

Project Number	Ph. Nbr	Phase Description	Project's Total Approp	Project's Total Expend	Phase Status Description
120-200-701	1	Asb.Abatement for Utility Upgrade/Boi	\$1,294,420.49	\$1,294,420.49	Completed Project
	2	Asb.Abatement for Utility Upgrade/Boi			Completed Project
	3	Asb.Abatement for Utility Upgrade/Boi			Completed Project
120-200-709	1	Emergency	\$50,763.63	\$50,763.63	Completed Project
120-200-710	1	Emergency Asbestos	\$115,302.77	\$115,302.77	Completed Project
120-200-711	1	Emergency Asbestos Abatement/Crawlspa	\$63,670.42	\$63,670.42	Completed Project
120-200-712	1	Asbestos Abatement - Tunnels	\$248,370.09	\$248,370.09	Completed Project
120-200-713	1	Asbestos abatement (097&712)	\$423,000.00	\$209,543.55	Completed Project
120-200-715	1	Asbestos abatement (107)	\$183,467.62	\$183,467.62	Completed Project
120-200-800	1	CFC Facility Survey	\$11,850.00	\$11,850.00	Completed Project
120-200-801	1	CFC Replacements	\$90,332.09	\$90,332.09	Completed Project