

January 24, 2022

BOARD OF FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Location: Franklin County Annex Building Commission Chambers

Chair Dunn called the study session to order at 8:30a.m.

All Commissioners present.

Dustin Coureton, IT Director, gave an overview of the Enterprise Resource Software Project. Franklin County looked for a new solution in 2015 and 2016 and decided to table the project. In early 2021, staff started the process again including various department heads and elected officials. On August 11th the Board of County Commissioners approved issuing the RFP that committee presented. The committee reviewed all the proposals that were received and participated in discussions and demonstrations with the vendors. The proposed software solutions will cover 10 county departments and indirectly affect all departments.

Derek Brown, County Administrator, discussed the hard work and diligence of the committee. He discussed the job of the committee to bring the best solutions since these will be long-term solutions.

Janet Paddock, County Clerk, discussed the benefits of the Orion Tax System and Encode Financial Management. Orion would provide one continuous process in tax that has not been there in the past. The Appraiser's Office is mandated to use the Orion system by the State of Kansas, and adding the Clerk and Treasurer Offices makes a seamless transition. The Encode Financial Management product will give each department control over their own invoices create a level of checks and balances that the county hasn't had before.

Jody Edwards, County Treasurer, discussed her support for the transition to Orion and Encode. She added how sharing the same process throughout the tax year would hopefully eliminate addressing errors on the tax statements.

Jamie Wilson, County Appraiser, discussed how all tax users being on the same system will benefit by digitally transferring information eliminating the need for paper transactions that cause errors while still providing levels of approval for checks and balances.

Sari Maple, HR Director, discussed the additional benefits that her department would see from the change. The new software would provide a self-service portal to update tax documents. Also, the reporting capabilities will be greatly expanded. There should be a lot of benefits when it comes to budgeting to provide better information to the leadership team.

Kenneth Cook, Planning and Building Director, discussed using Intergov software from Tyler. Planning does all of their work on paper, and having software to track the process would be a significant upgrade.

W. David Lee, Public Works Director, discussed a solution for Public Works that would transform the way information on projects is collected. This solution is PubWorks and is not from Tyler Technologies. This solution would allow for field staff to input data on phones or other handheld devices to assign resources and materials. This will also help with FEMA Reporting in the future.

Dustin Coureton, IT Director, said the annual spend for current maintenance is \$66,000. The proposed software has implementation costs of \$568,000 and annual maintenance costs of \$225,000. These are not apples to apples solutions.

The Commissioners asked about the solution for the Register of Deeds Office, and Dustin let them know that Sue was interested in a product named Fiddler. Several neighboring counties are on this program, and the annual cost is less than the current solution.

The Commissioners gave their support for Dustin and Derek to go forward and negotiate contracts with the identified vendors. The Commissioners will review the contracts when they are ready. Decisions will be made when the contracts are presented to the Commission.

Chair Dunn adjourned the meeting at 10:10a.m.

Clerk

Chair