

**Huddle Notes**  
**December 31, 2019**

**In today's huddle Bob Dixon, Presiding Commissioner, Harold Bensch, First District Commissioner, and John Russell, Second District Commissioner encouraged county employees to begin submitting ideas to help the 2020 vision of Greene County become a reality.**

2020 County Vision Ahead: Bob reminded us that in 2015 a campus facility plan was created and that a lot has changed since then. However that plan will provide an excellent platform for updates, as we change it to reflect the current needs within departments. Bob emphasized that the most helpful solutions would be provided from within, from county employees who are more familiar with individual department needs on a day to day basis.

Several questions were submitted to the Commissioners with a fun game of Q & A.

There was a little bit of seeking to find these questions hidden in the room.

Question posed to Bob:

How should we use current jail facility once new building completed?

The county is looking for the most efficient use of the space.

A limited amount of holding space will be needed for those attending court.

The Commission reminded us that wisdom is found in a multitude of council and really wants employee input.

Questions posed to John:

What are the plans for the Kansas Corridor project?

The lawsuit has been dropped.

The Highway Department is working with several federal departments and interested parties to coordinate this construction.

Construction could begin in 2020.

What is the role of the county in promoting economic growth in the region?

Advocacy & Relationships- The commission receives inquiries and requests, especially from smaller towns to seek help with gaining business growth in their area. On the other side, businesses want to be assured about the community's infrastructure and safety. The commission works to create relationships between businesses and smaller towns to promote the growth of the community and businesses alike, making doing business easier.

Questions for Harold:

Is the county in collaboration with other governmental agencies or nonprofits?

Yes, the county has been working with Community Partnership of the Ozarks for some time.

Our environmental division works with the EPA and has developed an integrated plan with the EPA.

This includes their involvement in the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks.

Another example is The Family Justice Center which is a collaboration with several agencies and departments, including the Prosecuting Attorney, the City Chief of Police, and Sheriff's department.

That collaboration lead to the purchasing of Tefft School and the future renovating to create a new Family Justice Center.

Is the county aware of the need for mental health programs? And how are we working to meet those needs?

The 2017 tax initiative set aside 2 million dollars from General Revenue II funds to help serve these needs. Additionally the Pretrial Department is set up to assist folks who may be better served with mental assistance, rather than incarceration.