



Dallas County, Iowa

December 22, 2017

Dear Dallas County Board of Supervisors,

As you are aware we have been very interested in your plans concerning the counties facility needs. Recently Judge Gamble shared in a letter his proposal for the rearranging of offices to accommodate the needs of the court while fitting current county functions into the courthouse. We agree with some of his proposals and have some disagreements with others. Below is our recommendation for office movement to satisfy the needs of the county and courts now and into the future.

First, we would agree that the Clerk of Courts office be moved to the west wing of the second floor in the space recently vacated by the County Assessor.

Second, we agree with the movement of the Treasurer tax division and motor vehicle division to the space vacated by the clerk of court. This frees up space at 918 Court, and a remodel of that space would need to be completed to satisfy the needs of Driver's License.

Third, The Recorder would move from the east wing of the second floor to the space vacated by IT. Physical records currently in the Recorder's Office would temporarily be relocated to the space vacated by dispatch. When this move is completed the entire east wing of the second floor would be vacated.

Fourth, we would agree with construction of courtrooms, judge's chamber and associated offices on the east wing of the second floor. Additionally, we would suggest that the space vacated by the Treasurer be used for a magistrate and initial appearance courtroom.

Fifth, we would propose that after the new jail is completed the existing jail facility be remodeled to house Juvenile Court and any other additional court needs.

Sixth, with the move of Juvenile Court, the remaining space on the west wing of the courthouse first floor would be remodeled for the Recorder for administrative purposes and a storage facility meeting archival storage standards for all of the Recorder's physical records currently housed in the Recorder's Office as well as in archives.

One of the shortfalls that we noticed in Judge Gambles plan was consideration of the needs of Dallas County taxpayers and allowance and planning for future county growth. Our proposed plan keeps all court activity together on the same floors and all county services on the same floor while giving Juvenile Court a space that is secure and private to accomplish the needs of their office.

Sincerely,

Chad C. Airhart
Dallas County Recorder

Mitch Hambleton
Dallas County Treasurer