

Richland County Campus Reconfiguration Committee

July 31, 2025

The Richland County Campus Reconfiguration Standing Committee convened on July 31, 2025 in person and virtually at 5:02 PM in the County Boardroom of the Richland County Courthouse.

Call To Order: Committee Chair Turk called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

Roll Call: County Clerk Kalish conducted roll call. Committee members present: Steve Carrow, Randy Schoonover, Gary Manning, David Turk, Melvin “Bob” Frank, and Steve Williamson. Committee member(s) absent: Ingrid Glasbrenner.

Verification Of Open Meetings Law Compliance: County Clerk Kalish confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

Approval Of Agenda: Motion by Manning second by Carrow to approve the agenda. Motion carried and the agenda was approved.

Approval Of Minutes From July 2, 2025 Meeting: Committee Chair Turk asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the July 2, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Committee Chair Turk declared the minutes from the July 2, 2025 meeting approved as published.

Public Comment: None.

Reports-UW Campus Status Update: Administrator Clements reported the UW has removed the computers and personal documents that were left on campus.

Reports-Venture Architects Updates: Cory Beyer reported that the building assessments for Pine Valley Community Village, Symons, and the Ambulance Services buildings are still in progress. Beyer also noted that the prioritization phases for the county’s master building plan are being reviewed and that cost estimates for the fairgrounds and downtown possible building sites are being prepared. Beyer noted that prioritized concerns include the courtroom and jail. Beyer reviewed the county’s Master Building Plan and provided cost estimates for various building upgrades and costs to relocate various departments to other buildings/locations.

Reports-Update On Assessment Of Specialized Items In Campus Buildings: Administrator Clements noted that Ithaca and Richland School Districts have removed furniture and musical instruments and that the pianos remain. Committee Chair Turk noted efforts to preserve the artwork will need to be coordinated.

Reports-Campus Redevelopment Project Update: Administrator Clements noted that the kick-off meeting with Short Elliott Hendrickson is scheduled to occur August 12, 2025.

Discussion & Possible Action – UW Redevelopment Grant Application: Mike Ward and Ela Kakde of WEDC reviewed various requirements and components of the UW Redevelopment Grant application. Kakde noted that reimbursements are based on present costs. Ward noted that amendments to the grant application may be possible, reimbursements may not exceed the two million allocated, and that no matching funds are required. Ward also noted that there is a two-year timeframe to complete the project once the contract has been finalized and a final report due 90 days after project completion.

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Administrator Clements asked for clarification regarding the requirement of community participation and Kakde stated that a letter or support from a municipality would meet this requirement. Supervisor Frank inquired about next steps and Administrator Clements noted that the application has been started, the committee needs to fine tune the project list and gather corresponding cost estimates. Ward noted that demolition and RFP costs are eligible for reimbursement as they are items that advance the site for economic development. Administrator Clements asked the committee what additional items should be added to the project list. Supervisor Schoonover asked for the cost of sidewalks and Supervisor Manning asked for demolition costs to be added to the project list. Ward noted that facility operational costs are not eligible for reimbursement and provided summary of how other organizations with a campus are redeveloping the former UW buildings. No action taken on this item.

Discussion & Possible Action – Prioritization Of Future Utilization Of County Facilities:

Administrator Clements asked if the Campus Reconfiguration Committee was the proper committee to determine the prioritization of future facility usage. Committee Chair Turk expressed desire for the creation of an ad hoc County Facilities Committee to handle the future utilization/reorganization of county buildings. No action taken on this item.

Discussion & Possible Action: Set Future Meeting Date(s): Next meeting scheduled for 5 PM on August 20, 2025.

Correspondence: None.

Future Agenda Items:

Reports: UW Campus Status update, Venture Architects update, and update on assessment of specialized items in campus buildings

Discussion & Possible Action: UW Redevelopment Grant Application

Adjourn: Motion by Manning second by Frank to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:06 PM.



Derek S. Kalish
Richland County Clerk