

January 19, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO:

District Board of Trustees

FROM:

William D. Law, Jr., President

SUBJECT:

Proposed Department of Corrections Re-Entry Center

Item Description:

This item describes the preliminary discussions about a proposed DOC Re-Entry Center at the Florida Public Safety Institute and the required Board of Trustee action if the Board gives approval to continue meetings with DOC.

Overview:

The Florida Department of Corrections approached the College about the possibility of locating a new Re-Entry Center at the Florida Public Safety Institute. This provides an ideal location since it is screened from the adjacent neighbors, it could provide training experience for FPSI students, and it could also provide much needed jobs to the residents of Gadsden County.

Salient Facts:

If the concept is approved by the Board, the DOC Re-Entry project would require a land lease between TCC and the DOC for the property. In addition, the College would enter into an agreement with Talquin to provide the utilities for this project and any future projects identified on the FPSI Master Plan.

DOC estimates the project would require approximately 60-75 acres. This means the project would be required to be built on property zoned for "public" use. This is due to the fact that it would take in excess of 2 years for a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to be approved through Gadsden County. DOC wants to have this facility open by November 2011. (See a possible location on the attached FPSI maps.)

Past Actions:

None.

Future Actions:

The Board would be required to approve a land lease with DOC for the project. The Board would also approve an agreement with Talquin for the utilities for the project and any additional extension of utilities for future TCC/FPSI projects. Finally, the Board would be asked to approve a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for Gadsden County to change the current zoning from Agricultural to Public use.

The President would continue meetings with DOC, Gadsden County and Talquin and inform the Board on a monthly basis of progress on the project development.

Funding/Financial Matters:

The project would be funded by DOC. However, there might be opportunities for the College to partner with DOC on the costs for site improvement work that would be in the best long term interest of the College for the Florida Public Safety Institute. This could include such items as roadway improvements, additional electrical service, and underground utility extensions for sanitary sewer and water.

Staff Resource:

Teresa Smith

Recommended Action:

Authorize the President to continue discussions with DOC and prepare any necessary agreements with DOC, Talquin and Gadsden County for future Board approval.











