



Administration

Telephone: 701-241-5770

Fax: 701-241-5776

wilsonro@casscountynd.gov

MEMO

TO: County Commission

FROM: Robert W. Wilson

Date: December 12, 2024

Subject: Court Facility Improvement Grant Application

Court Facility Improvement Grant applications are due to the ND Supreme Court by December 31, 2024. Selected projects are eligible for a 75% cost reimbursement. The remaining 25% project cost is the responsibility of the County. Because the County is set to construct an additional secure courtroom I propose submitting applications to offset a portion of the cost to construct and outfit this new courtroom.

Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Gene Gartner, Information Technology Director Bob Henderson, District Court Administrator Chirs Iverson, project architect Steve Skoblik and I met last week to discuss features of the project may be eligible for grant funding. Based on our discussion we recommend submitting two applications:

- Elements Related to Courtroom Security:
Construction plans include a \$60,000 allowance for security features that tie into existing Courthouse security systems and are required to provide a secure environment similar to the other secure courtrooms.(\$45,000 grant request)
- Courtroom Furniture:
Lawyer and client tables and chairs in the courtroom and tables and chairs in the attorney/client rooms are not included in the construction project, but are essential to the proper function of the space. The cost estimate for this application is still being developed.

The application is due by December 31, 2024. At the Commission meeting on December 16th I request authorization to two submit two applications for Court Facility Improvement Grants once a courtroom furniture estimate is finalized and the application material is completed.

SUGGESTED MOTION: Authorize the Chair to sign and staff to submit Court Facility Improvement Grant Applications for 75% of the cost of courtroom security elements in the new courtroom and courtroom furniture.