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Contract Approved for Design of New Nemaha Co Jail

(KMZA)--The Nemaha County Commission has approved a contract with a Topeka architectural firm for the design of a new 30-plus bed county jail.

The commission voted Monday to enter into a contract with Treanor Architects. The firm will design, produce drawings and specifications, and oversee construction for a fee of 8.5 percent of the project's estimated cost, which is to be determined by the project's construction manager at risk.

A construction manager at risk is a construction delivery method in which a construction manager/general contractor is brought on during the design phase to be part of the design team and to propose a guaranteed maximum price at or towards the end of the design development phase.

Jeff Lane with Treanor Architects reviewed with commissioners a sample request for proposals for construction management at risk services, which will be published and sent out to prospective contractors after some changes are made.

Sheriff Rich Vernon says they have outgrown their current facility, originally built to hold 10 prisoners in 1978.

The new jail, which will be connected to the existing law enforcement center, is to be completed by the summer of 2015.

Commissioners hope capital outlay funds will cover the cost of the new jail.

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