

July 30, 2020

To: Yavapai County Board of Supervisors and Yavapai County Jail District Board Members

Subject: Suspension of Official Business Re: Criminal Justice Center (CJC)

Dear Members of the Boards,

The undersigned request the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors suspend all official actions related to the Yavapai County Criminal Justice Center until the new Board is elected and sworn into office in January 2021.

The voters have twice rejected an additional jail being constructed in Prescott during elections in 2008 and 2014, by voting down a quarter-cent increase to the county sales tax for the jail district each time. Regardless of recent statements by various board members and others, the public believed they were voting against a new jail on both occasions.

A recent professional poll taken by a candidate in this primary election determined that 54% of registered Republican voters in Yavapai County oppose the construction of a new jail, while 26% approved, and 20% were undecided. This should be further evidence that the public understood their votes in the previous two elections and expect the Board of Supervisors to honor their wishes.

Voters in the Primary Election on August 4<sup>th</sup>, and the General Election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, will select the members of a new Board of Supervisors, and by their vote will finally establish the direction the public wishes to take in regard to the CJC. It is your duty to listen and conduct official business in accordance with the voters' will. Your recent actions thus far have been taken against their will, and by January 2021 there will be a clear mandate on how to proceed in this matter. Therefore, we the undersigned request that all Board actions concerning the new jail and justice center be completely suspended until the newly elected Board is seated in January 2021.



Sincerely,

Candidates for The Yavapai County Board of Supervisors:

*Harry Oberg*  
Harry Oberg  
District 1

*Wiley Cline*  
Wiley Cline  
District 2

*Jane Anderson*  
Jane Anderson  
District 4

*Steve M. Irwin*  
Steve Irwin  
District 5

CC: Phil Bourdon, County Administrator  
Jack Fields, Assistant County Administrator  
Martin Brennan, Board Legal Counsel