

**TWO RIVERS REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY**

**HARDIN, MONTANA**

**INSPECTION AND FAMILIARIZATION**

**DECEMBER 18-19, 2013**

**Patrick W. Keohane, Correctional Consultant**

I am Patrick W. Keohane, Correctional Consultant, Retired Federal Bureau of Prisons, Senior Executive Service for the U.S Justice Department, Washington, D.C.. I have served as a Chairperson on approximately eighty prison and jail audits throughout the United States and Mexico. While employed by the United States Justice Department I served in many Federal Prisons and Jails in various positions throughout my career.

I was retained by Mr. Mike Harling, Municipal Capital Market Group Inc. to look and inspect the Two Rivers Regional Detention Facility and to render an opinion if the facility could pass an ACA accreditation audit. The facility was built to be used as a Detention Facility approximately seven years ago. I explained to Mr. Harling the process used by the American Correctional Association, Policy's, procedures, files set up for each Standard, and that there were 61 mandatory standards and Approximately 460 non-mandatory standards. He understood at this stage it would take a lot of work and effort to pass an ACA accreditation audit, but would the facility design and physical plant meet the ACA standards.

On December 18-19, 2013 I made a trip to Hardin, Montana to visit the Two Rivers Regional Detention Facility in Hardin, MT. I was met on the afternoon of the 18th by Jeff McDowell, Representative of the owners of the property. He and I conduct an inspection of the entire facility. I was surprised to find a Facility that was seven years old and in such good physical shape. The Facility has been vacant but maintained. Some area's needed additional sanitation efforts but the Facility has all the necessary potential to be used as a Detention Facility that could meet and in some cases exceeded the ACA Standards.

### History

This facility was built in 2007 and has sat empty since being built. The buildings appear to be in good shape and the design and equipment appears almost new. Since I have seen many jails and prisons throughout the United States my thoughts are that some other States, Counties and Cities would jump to have a facility like this one. It appears to me that this is such a waste to let such a fine facility stay empty.

The Facility is located on 40 acres of land close to the city of Hardin and in Big Horn County.

## **Security**

**The Facility is surrounded by two 12 ft fences with razor wire on both fences. The fences were inspected and are in good shape. I also inspected the fence line during the night hours and found the lighting very good.**

**When entering the facility the front lobby had a walk through metal detector and the central control room was adjacent to the lobby area. I inspected the central control unit and it contained surveillance monitors and up to date cameras and monitors to watch inside the facility as well as the fence line.**

**The central control area also had key and radio equipment, chargers for radio's and smoke and fire alarms in cases of emergency. The control room also had a bathroom.**

**The Facility also has an Armory and some various security equipment within it such as batons, second chance protection vests, helmets, shot guns, pistols, ammunitions, chemical agents and other type equipment that would be used in a Detention Facility.**

**Most of the locks are electric with the capability of key override should the need arise.**

**The Special Housing Units consist of 3 areas of 12 single cells. This totals more secure area to house 36 offenders should the need arise.**

**Other Housing units are 12-24 man dormitory, 10-8 man dormitory, 24-2 man secure housing cells and 12-1 man cells. The rated capacity for the facility is 464 offenders. (10-Medical cells are not included in the rated capacity).**

## **Kitchen**

**The Facility Kitchen and Food prep area was first class. In fact the local High School during the time of remodeling at the school used the Detention food kitchen to prepare meals. The food Service area also had a staff dining room, a walk in refrigerator, freezer, dry storage, food carts, pots, pans, ovens and all appeared to be almost brand new.**

## **Fire & Safety**

**The facility fire safety was impressive. The facility has Fire extinguishers throughout the facility. It has Fire and smoke detectors and sprinkler systems in all areas of the facility with a Fire Hydrant in and within short distances and proximity of the buildings. The main Hardin City fire station is within a mile of the facility.**

## **Offender Housing**

**The Offender Housing area ranges from special housing single cells to multiple-occupancy rooms. All housing was roomy and would meet space requirements and unencumbered space standards.**

**Overhead lighting throughout the facility is sufficient to meet the required standards and foot-candle required standard.**

**Three “Non-mandatory standards” pertaining to “natural light” would not meet the standards that address this issue. However the recreational areas do have Natural Light and as an auditor who has audited many similar facilities I don’t think this issue would lessen the quality of life of those detained at this Facility. These three “non-mandatory standards” would not fail the ACA accreditation audit.**

## **Environmental Conditions**

**Ventilation systems and heating and air are installed in the Facility. Some of the units were working properly while some apparently needed adjusting and maybe repair. A back-up generator that will carry the whole load of the facility in an emergency loss of power situation exist and on sight.**

**Water and sewage are provided by the City.**

## **Medical**

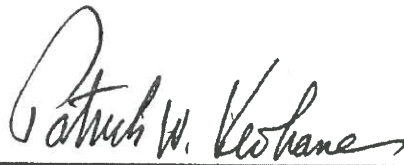
The Facility is equipped with a Medical area that includes offender housing rooms, treatment rooms, x-Ray equipment room, Dental treatment room, pharmacy and waiting space for offenders.

There is also within one and a half mile Big Horn Hospital. The local Hospital has an emergency room equipped for Critical Care should the need occur. Response time to the facility and moving the offender is well within the standard.

**Opinion of Expert:**

**It is my opinion that if this facility was staffed with personnel and had custody of offenders it could be accredited by the American Correctional Association. Obviously, it would take work to develop Policy and procedures, train staff and put together documentation to meet all the standards, but I think it could be done in this facility the way it is built and designed.**

Patrick W. Keohane



Date

12/26/2013

**Photo's of the Facility Attached:**