

Commission Urged Not to Destroy Old Jail

A Hiawatha resident urged county commissioners again today (Monday) not to destroy the old county jail.

Dean Tollefson said a group is interested in saving the old jail building.

Tollefson proposed turning the building into a bed and breakfast or a human rescue center

He said all efforts need to be exhausted for use of the building before it's torn down.

Tollefson comments came after Bill Howard, with Howard Auction Service, met with commissioners to discuss a possible date for the upcoming sale of the contents of the old jail.

Commissioners said to date no one has expressed an interest to them in purchasing the building.

Things then turned heated when Tollefson said he was disappointed that no elected officials had shown up for the Memorial Day Service held at the courthouse last week.

Commissioner Steve Roberts jumped up out of his chair to address Tollefson, saying he was decorating his father's grave on that day and couldn't attend.

County Clerk Debbie Parker said she also took offense, saying she was decorating family graves out of state.

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