

Reference: PRESS RELEASE LWVCC, February 5, 2026

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE COPPER COUNTRY

The Committee is looking to have a robust discussion based on the Abonmarche/Byce square footages noted in the table below as “Adjusted net square feet,” which detail the sizes needed for 5 departments under the Sheriff’s office, 6 departments under Corrections, and one support department. The Abonmarche/Byce Adjusted NSF numbers are based on 51 beds. A 51-bed jail would only just fit our current average daily jail population (ADP) when classification of inmates is properly accounted for. From discussions in 2025, the Sheriff is in favor of at least 60 beds and believes 70 is more prudent.

The NSF numbers by department include internal circulation square footages (hallways for getting from one place to another within the department). These numbers are “grossed up” to include circulation among departments and appear as the “Departmental Gross” square foot (DGSF) numbers in the table. Once the total DGSF numbers are agreed upon, the consultants multiply by 1.1 to account for external walls and other missing factors, arriving at the Building Gross square footage (BGSF).

	Source: Houghton County Master Plan Charette version 2-22-25 page 60 "Existing Space Evaluation Summary"	Current Net Sq Ft (NSF)	Rating (from 1-2 unacceptable to 9-10 appropriate)	Adjusted NSF (how big a 51 inmate jail should be)	Adjusted NSF/Current NSF (how many times larger the current space should be for current ADP with classification)	Adjusted DGSF (Dept Gross) (DGF applied)	Departmental grossing factor, DGF, back-calculated
I.	Sheriff's office						
A	Public	274	3.0	1,088	4.0	1,251	1.15
B	Exec Admin	1,674	4.9	2,344	1.4	3,047	1.30
C	Road Patrol	2,381	3.0	4,350	1.8	5,655	1.30
D	Investigations	1,138	2.9	2,708	2.4	3,520	1.30
E	Marine/ORW/Snowmobile	2,042	10.0	2,000	1.0	2,200	1.10
	subtotal	7,509		12,490	1.7	15,673	
	average rating:		4.8				
II.	Corrections						
F	Administration	216	1.6	933	4.3	1,213	1.30
G	Intake/Booking	653	2.4	2,234	3.4	2,904	1.30
H	Medical	98	1.0	588	6.0	764	1.30
I	Confinement Housing	2,366	5.2	5,070	2.1	7,098	1.40
J	Program	663	1.2	1,725	2.6	2,415	1.40
K	Kitchen/Laundry	647	2.5	1,410	2.2	1,622	1.15
	subtotal	4,643		11,960	2.6	16,016	
	average rating:		2.3				
III.	Support						
L	Support	899	2.6	2,288	2.5	2,517	1.10
	subtotal	899		2,288	2.5	2,517	
	average rating:		2.6				
	TOTAL Departments sq ft:	13,051		26,738		34,206	
	overall rating (av of avgs)		3.2				
	Building Gross Sq ft (BGSF), +10%			additional 10%:	3,421	37,627	BGSF, adjusted
	Existing BGSF:					16,448	BGSF, existing
	ADP=Average Daily Population						
	Faith Morrison 1/30/2026						