

## GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners  
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
N. Haverhill, NH 03774  
Tuesday August 1, 2006

PRESENT: Commissioners, Michael Cryans, Ray Burton and William Gabler, Executive Director Julie Clough, and Secretary Jeri Martino.

The Meeting was called to order at 9:13 AM

Commissioner Gabler moved to approve the minutes from July 24, 2006, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Executive Director Clough relayed a message from Supt. Libby that stated that the Farm Stand would not be holding a grand opening this year due to certain circumstances. Commissioner Burton stated that he believed that it was very important to commemorate the opening of the stand and asked Executive Director Clough to speak to the Supt. about the possibility of an alternate date. Commissioner Burton said that Grafton County events should be made celebrated.

Executive Director Clough read letters from both Coos and Cheshire Counties, which stated support for MicroCredit.

Commissioner Cryans signed a cover letter to CDFA regarding the Gile Project.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that repair work would begin on the side entrance stairs within the week and that people would have to enter from the front or rear of the building until work was complete.

Executive Director Clough reviewed a letter from NHAC regarding HB638 and the bed moratorium and asked the County to submit recommendations for change to the current system and to seek a common ground. Commissioner Cryans stated that he didn't believe much change would be taking place regardless and that each County has their own individual needs and that it is difficult to find common ground.

Executive Director Clough provided the names of the individuals that would be going to St. Louis for the Drug Court, to Commissioner Cryans. Attendees are as follows:

Judge Jean Burling, Clerk Robert Muh, Superintendent Glenn Libby,  
Robert Gasser, Esq. Greg Norman, Gary Apfel, Esq., Chief James Alexander  
County Attorney Rick St. Hilaire

Executive Director Clough presented the revised personnel policies for the Commissioners to review and approve. Most changes and revisions were approved by the Administrative Team, the Union and the Employee Council with the exception of the Drug and Alcohol Policy.

Commissioner Burton asked the Executive Director when a D & A Policy would be instituted and the Executive Director said that more work needed to be done on it.

Commissioner Burton asked if there was some kind of policy in place that addressed current issues should they arise, to which Executive Director Clough said that there is no actual policy for testing if a (non-bargaining) employee is suspected.

Commissioner Burton then commented that there must be some other County that has a policy in place that Grafton County can refer to for guidance, to which Executive Director Clough said she would check into.

Commissioner Gabler asked if the same policy that is used for the Union could be used for non-bargaining employees and Executive Director Clough said that the policy for the bargaining unit does not seem to be the best choice to imitate.

Commissioner Gabler asked the Executive Director if she thought it was necessary for the Commissioner to become involved in the matter, to which she answered that the policy has to be palatable to the Supervisors and the employees and right now it is not accepted. To mandate an unaccepted policy would simply not work, but that she would talk to HRM Mann and try to get everything worked out.

Commissioner Cryans asked Executive Director Clough if she thought it would be necessary to bring in outside council to help write the policy and Executive Director Clough reiterated the fact that more work needed to be done on the policy and that though it's not an easy policy to draft, it could be done in-house. Executive Director Clough will report back at the next meeting as to the progress made.

Commissioner Gabler moved to approve the current changes and revision to the Employee Manual, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The check from the Timber Cuts in Livermore was received in the amount of \$50K. Commissioner Gabler suggested that a new van be purchased to transport inmates for the Community Service Projects. Commissioner Burton agreed that making a good impression in the proper vehicle was important.

Executive Director Clough said that she would like the Commissioners to consider the purchase of a County vehicle as there currently has not been one for quite a while and it doesn't appear that the Sheriff's Department will have a reliable vehicle to offer.

Commissioner Cryans agreed saying that it he would also like to keep fuel efficiency in mind and noted that if there was money left, perhaps something could be done for the Nursing Home residents as well.

Commissioner Burton suggested that the Executive Director be given the authority to make choices given the suggestions noted.

Executive Director Clough read a letter from the National Center on Addition regarding Family Day, which asked the County to consider a press release and perhaps a payroll stuffer to be given to employees, as the date gets closer. Family Day is September 25<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioners agreed that those things should be done.

The Commissioners read a letter from Hillsborough County which thanked Supt. Libby, Cpl. Paronto and Farm Manager Kimball for all the help they had given them on their garden this year.

The Commissioners have chosen to hold a Town Manager's Day and invite Town Managers/Administrators, to visit the Grafton County Complex and tour the facilities. Commissioner Gabler noted that after speaking with Town Manager's in his district, they had thought that being able to meet of other local Town Managers would be of value. Town Manager Day is scheduled for October 17, 2006 and Executive Director Clough will see to the details.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that the NHAC Conference would be held on September 24 – 27 and asked the Commissioners to provider her with information about who will be attending.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that the Vice President of the Ammonoosuc ATV club had been made aware that there were ATV'rs, who were riding in the area where the logging was being done, which they should not be, and that he had made arrangements to put signs up at both the intersection where the shooting range is, and down at the rest area by Aldrichs', which would inform riders of which way to go. This solution would hopefully deter riders from interfering with the logging production. There would also be more riders patrolling the area on the weekends. This is being done in an effort to eliminate the total ban of riders in that area while the logging is going on, which may happen if they continue to ride in the logging area.

Commissioner Burton said that the ATV club is to be commended for trying to circumvent the situation and for stepping up before any real problems occurred.

Supt. Libby has informed Executive Director Clough that there will be an inmate returning to the jail who will be in need of high level medical care and that he has spoken to NHA Bolander regarding getting some help in this area as his CO's are not trained to handle such things. It was also noted that the County will be held responsible for all medical costs incurred and that this inmate will be housed here for at least a couple of months.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that she, Sheriff Dutile, Lt. Elliott and Supt. Libby will be traveling to Wiscasset Maine to visit a newly constructed jail that H.P. Cummings has just completed.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that Supt. Oakes had spoken to a Fire Protection Engineer regarding the water shortage on site and that they found a spring across the road that may be used as a water source, which will lead into a holding pond and be pumped back across the road for use by the County.

The Executive Director has not received any response from Commissioner Taylor regarding state agriculture day.

#### COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Burton said that he had spoken to M. Fenn who has 14 acres along the CT River and would like to establish a campground.

The Commissioners will be meeting at the High School in Lisbon on October 23, 2006, which has been set up by Commissioner Burton. A full agenda will follow which will include students from the High School Social Studies Classes. Lunch will be in Lisbon and the day will include tours of the wire factory and DCI.

Commissioner Gabler has scheduled a meeting in Bristol on September 11<sup>th</sup> with details to follow.

Commissioners Gabler and Burton visited Mayhew Island, which is a camp/facility for disadvantaged youth and is located in Newfound Lake. The facility takes 42 campers per session.

Commissioner Cryans noted that there was an article in the Spectator Magazine about the new GCEDC Executive Director, and the incubator project at Dartmouth.

All three Commissioners attended the North Haverhill Fair and said that there was a great County presence there, but that it was too bad that they didn't have better weather.

Commissioner Cryans asked Commissioners Gabler and Burton for their support in a letter that he would like to send to the Executive Director of NH Postsecondary Education Commissioner, regarding their denial of Lebanon College's application for a four year degree in Nursing. Commissioner Cryans feels strongly that because of the need for Nurses at DHMC, APD, the VA, Cottage and of course the Nursing Home, that having a four year program is a worthy endeavor. The Commissioners all agreed and a letter requesting reconsideration will be drafted and signed, which will include copies to State Senators, the Governor and State Legislators.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM

---

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk