

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Monday Aug 29, 2005

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

EXCUSED: Commissioner Burton

The Meeting was called to order 9:11 AM

Commissioner Gabler moved to accept the minutes from the August 22, 2005 meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Cryans. All were in favor

The Commissioners signed the check register.

Executive Director Clough presented the Commissioners with a formal proposal for the Air Conditioning work in the Nursing Home. Total cost for the proposed project is \$135K and will involve the services of H.P. Cummings, VT. Mechanical and Royal Electric. Cost also covers engineering fees. If funding is to come from the NH Capital Reserve Fund, the full delegation must vote on it. Executive Director Clough has already sent information to the executive committee in advance of this meeting. The structural engineer needs to make sure that the roof will support the weight of the new units.

Commissioner Gabler moved and commissioner Cryans seconded the motion to accept the proposal from H.P. Cummings. The Commissioner's felt it was important to maintain the contractors who have been involved with the project from the beginning. Commissioner Burton was contacted after the meeting for his affirmative vote. All were in favor

Supt. Jim Oakes arrived to further discuss fuel bids that were tabled from the last meeting. He received fixed prices on August 26, from Johnson & Dix for 2.118 and Sprague Energy for 2.122. The Commissioners asked if that price was still good for today. Supt. Oakes called both companies and the reply he received was that they were unwilling to offer locked in prices as this time due to the volatility of prices, and the current hurricane in the Gulf. The decision was again tabled until further notice. Supt. Oakes had also spoken to both Gary's Fuels and Jock oil, and neither company would offer a lock in rate. Supt. Oakes spoke further with Johnson & Dix and reported to the Commissioner that they would offer a locked in price of \$2.16, but the offer had to be accepted and the contract signed on this day. Commissioner Gabler asked what terms or conditions they had if the price of oil were to go down. Upon investigation, Johnson & Dix also offer a range with maximum price of \$2.30 a gallon. It was decided to accept the locked in rate of \$2.16. Supt. Oakes will proceed with the paperwork.

Executive Director Clough received a question from Human Services Director, Nancy Bishop, regarding the OAA/APTD increase, and whether it should be paid at the old rate, or at the

increased rate, as her software was processing at the old rate. Further investigation needs to be done before this decision is made.

Attorney St. Hilaire and Alison Farina from the Attorney's Office arrived to discuss a couple of items and thanked the Commissioners for their support on the budget.

Atty. St. Hilaire expressed his desire to have a credit card available to his Department for items that need to be paid for in advance, such as airline tickets, internet items, etc. Executive Director Clough informed him that the Commissioners Office currently has a credit card for each Commissioner and that it can be used for such items. The Executive Director will set this up with A. Farina.

A. Farina showed the Executive Director and the Commissioners the floor plan and how certain furniture, desks etc. will be arranged once they move into the old Deeds space. The Attorney's Office asked for a waiver of bid, due in part to the fact that there are simply not that many companies that handle the work. Atty. St. Hilaire said he was quite pleased about the move and the progress that had been made up to this point, noting that R. Thompson had done a lot of work in that area. The waiver for bid will be brought up at the next Commissioners Meeting on September 12, 2005, when all three Commissioners are present to vote on it.

Commissioner Cryans asked Atty. St. Hilaire for an update on the Drug Court. Atty. St. Hilaire noted that Bob Gasser had come recently and did a training seminar for free.

Atty. St. Hilaire said that the Federal Grant request was almost complete and that they may be able to secure a fulltime LADAC person through the Grant that would be beneficial to the jail as well.

Commissioner Cryans thanked Atty. St. Hilaire for all his effort in putting the Drug Court together.

Atty. St. Hilaire said that he would like to forge a better relationship with the Vermont Law School, feeling that it would be advantageous to do so.

Supt. of Corrections Glenn Libby gave his report on population in the jail * See report
So far the Farm Stand is at \$9600 gross sales, which is a bit down from last year. There are currently requests from Glenncliff, Mt. View Hotel and Sullivan County, for potatoes.
The work program has logged 5000 hours so far with work such as painting, cemetery clean up and work for the Water Department.

Supt. Libby commended Supt. Oakes and his staff for the terrific job they've been doing over at the jail. Many new improvements have been made.

Supt. Libby presented the Commissioners with an apology letter from an inmate, which referenced an earlier letter that was written by that same inmate.

Supt. Libby informed the Commissioners of the Certification training that was currently taking place, utilizing an office in the Administration Bldg.

Commissioner Cryans queried Supt. Libby about what direction should be taken in assessing the needs of a new Correctional Facility. Supt. Libby had suggestions for what he thought would be the best way to proceed.

1. Contact the National Institute of Corrections (NIC). This organization provides information that will walk you through the process and gives good direction. Carroll County used this option to prepare for their new facility.

2. Decide on a time frame, and preferably the sooner the better to get the most out of the money spent. The Superintendent stated that there is a chance that he may not be here after 5 years due to retirement.

Commissioner Gabler stated his thoughts on the process, saying that the County has to sell the need for a new jail first before proceeding with any plans and that a committee should be pulled together to do just that.

Supt. Libby asked that that be done in concert with the NIC as they will help to provide the initial information to do exactly those things. Supt. Libby had put together a list of potential committee members which included judges, law enforcement and delegation members. Supt. Libby will contact NIC and start the process.

The Executive Director noted that the Pro Share Repayment had been miscalculated by the State of NH and that there was actually \$52K more owed than was originally escrowed for payment. Director Clough also noted that as of the end of August there will still be \$3M left in invested money and \$1M set aside for the bond payment.

The Commissioners signed the amended lease for Probation, which now includes the renovations, which will be paid for by the State.

The Commissioners signed the Federal Annual Certificate report for Drug and Seizure money, provided by the Sheriff's Dept.

A notice of intent to cut timber from the unincorporated town of Livermore was signed.

Commissioner Cryans is planning to attend the Cooperative Extension Advisory Council Meeting.

All three Commissioners attended the opening of the Homeless Shelter in Plymouth, which was fully occupied with twenty residents.

Commissioner Cryans spoke on behalf of the three Commissioners, at Drug Court Day. Commissioner Cryans openly thanked, Judge Burling, Attorney St. Hilaire and Bob Gasser for their support and efforts.

The next Commissioners meeting will be held on September 12, 2005.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:30 PM

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk