

## GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners  
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
N. Haverhill, NH 03774  
Tuesday March 18, 2008

PRESENT: Commissioners Ray Burton and Martha Richards, Executive Director Julie Clough and Secretary Jeri Martino. Commissioner Cryans arrived at 10:30 AM

PUBLIC: Resident Harold Brown

Commissioner Richards called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM

Human Resource Director Joanne Mann arrived with her report.

Vacancies:

3 - spare dietary

1 – RN or LPN

The Nursing Home hasn't had to use any travelers lately which has been beneficial.

- HRD Mann is still working on the retiree drug subsidy.
- HRD Mann and K. Clough attended an LGC workshop.
- NEEBCO, new brokers for AFLAC and dental, will be meeting with HRD Mann.
- Union negotiations have not yet been scheduled.

Nursing Home Administrator Bolander and intern Craig Labore arrived.

Census at end of business today should be 135 with three admissions expected.

NHA Bolander said that HHS Commissioner Toumpas will be making a trip to visit Grafton County but no date has been set yet.

There is a staff member with a confirmed case of the flu so the Nursing Home is being very careful.

NHA Bolander said that inmates have been asking for a lot of special dietary requests lately and the most recent is a request for a kosher diet. NHA Bolander said that the Nursing Home is not set up or equipped to provide a kosher diet as it has very stringent requirements. It will be very expensive if the Nursing Home is required to provide such a diet and NHA Bolander said that she wouldn't even be able to accept a resident who required such a diet.

Commissioner Richards asked if the Nursing Home is required by law to abide by that request and NHA Bolander said that the Nursing Home is not but that she did not know about whether or not the Jail was required to. NHA Bolander said that she and Supt. Libby had planned to meet and discuss this request.

Commissioner Burton said that he would be interested to see if New Hampshire law requires the County to follow this request.

Commissioner Richards questioned whether or not a Rabbi could excuse a kosher meal if the person is incarcerated.

Commissioner Burton wondered who would make that religious inquiry and added that he would like to see this resolved by the end of the day.

NHA Bolander said that there will be a Governor and Council breakfast on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and the theme is Protecting Our Children.

NHA Bolander said that she would like to offer the staff at the Nursing Home a “make your own sub day” as appreciation for the Quality of Life Award. The Commissioners said that they heartily agreed with that and said that everyone is to be commended for such an award.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the minutes from March 11, 2008, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Director Clough gave the February NACo Prescription Drug report. There were 987 prescriptions adjudicated for a savings of \$11,138 or 22.71%.

UNH Forester Nory Parr put an RFP together for a timber cut. The review of the area will be done on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup> with bids being opened on April 15, 2008. The money from the sale will be considered revenue for the farm.

An email to the Commissioners was received from someone who had concerns regarding the fireworks that are displayed over the dam in Warren every year. It was suggested that the email be forwarded to the Department of Environmental Services as that is what the email referenced.

Commissioner Cryans arrived

According to a new Haverhill statute the Selectboard will be holding a public hearing regarding the jail project and will do so on March 31, 2008 at 6:30.

This evening there will be a meeting with the planning board and site information will be discussed.

Register of Deeds Bill Sharp brought forth a foreclosure report for the year 2007, which stated there were 95 foreclosures in Grafton County. He also reported that there were 26 foreclosures in the first two months of this year.

RD Sharp also brought a revised copy of his budget.

Commissioner Burton attended the Sullivan County Conversations that was put on by UNH and emphasized lands and conservation.

Commissioner Burton said that he suggested to Paul Bonaparte-Krogh, from UNH, that he would like to see the premier of his video on County Farms shown here at Grafton County.

Maintenance Superintendent Oakes, Shannon LaRocque of Foresite Engineering and Bob Dufrane of Dufrane Assoc. arrived to discuss the basis of design report which addresses the water flow issue on the County property. A plan and a report were presented to the Commissioners some weeks back which outlined the project and costs. The plan included putting in a water tank across the street and running pipe.

Commissioner Burton asked if both men had physically been on the property where the tank was to go and they both confirmed that they had and that borings had already been done. The proposed tank is to be 25 feet below grade and according to S. LaRocque is at an excellent location.

There are two different tanks available, one was glass fused to steel, or more aptly baked enamel, similar to the finish on a stove, and the other was pre-cast concrete.

A discussion of the site and the hydraulics were discussed.

Commissioner Cryans asked if Wal-Mart has an effect on the water flow and B. Dufrane said that Wal-Mart did tap into the Woodsville water supply and if they were to have a fire there, it would create a decrease in the pressure to the County. Once the tank is in place there won't be any problem.

Commissioner Richards asked about finding funding or grants for the project and S. LaRocque said that first off it could extend the time of the project if the County were to seek funding from the US Rural Development and it would mean there would be higher regulations, restrictions and specification put on it. This would eventually end up costing more money in the long run. It was suggested that the County investigate all options for funding.

There was a discussion about the two different types of tanks. B. Dufrane said that the baked enamel tank was a good product and completely inert, whereas the concrete tank could eventually have issues with leaching calcium, but it would not be detrimental. Both tanks will last 50 years and perhaps 100. This would be a 360 thousand gallon tank.

Time to complete the project would be approximately 40 weeks.

There was further discussion about funding the project and Supt. Oakes thought he had some money in his budget. \$57K was the amount needed to proceed with the project.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve proceeding with the final design basic services for the water storage tank, not to exceed \$57K and to waive the bid at this time as Foresite Engineering has provided all of the work and reports on this project to date, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

Commissioner Burton asked that Director Clough and Supt. Oakes seek out any and all loans, grants and financial opportunities beyond the date of July 1, 2008.

Director Clough said that she will discuss the topic of ownership of the water tank with Woodsville Water & Light.

Commissioner Burton questioned if Woodsville should be required to pay toward the construction of the water tank given the fact that it will help them bring water to places other than the County. Supt. Oakes said he would like to see Woodville take over the maintenance and ownership of the tank in exchange for better water rates and the elimination of certain fees to the County. Commissioner Burton suggested asking for that and possibly some other extras since the main financial burden will be on the County.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 AM

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Raymond S. Burton, Clerk