

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Tuesday April 22, 2008

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

Commissioner Cryans called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM

Human Services Administrator Nancy Bishop arrived to discuss the latest draft of an MOU that's being worked on between the State and the Counties regarding HB2. HSA Bishop gave the Commissioners a draft of the MOU and discussed some of the issues. At this time there still have been no decisions made.

Commissioner Burton asked if the MOU complies with the 28A in the constitution and HSA Bishop said that if it does not, the attorney will make sure that it is not signed. Commissioner Burton asked who would be looking at bills if the HS Dept. dissolves and the reply was that would have to be decided upon by each County and by the board of Commissioners.

HSA Bishop said that parental reimbursement needed to be determined as to whether or not Grafton County will continue to handle it. Director Clough and HSA Bishop will need to discuss this.

Commissioner Cryans asked where things stand with the HS staff and HSA Bishop said that she is waiting to see how things play out. Commissioner Cryans said that time is running out and he could understand that there really needs to be some determination of what is going to happen with them. HSA Bishop said that both staff members have met with departments in the Nursing Home who could use them. Commissioner Cryans said that he really would like to see something more concrete about the future of these two people should the department dissolve.

Farm Manager Kimball and Supt. Libby arrived. FM Kimball had put the John Deere 430 Dozer out to bid within the County and received four bids.

D. McLam	\$100
J. Bishop	\$310
B. Aldrich	\$550
M. Derosia	\$562

Commissioner Burton moved to accept the bid from M. Derosia in the amount of \$562, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

Commissioner Richards asked FM Kimball if he had ever considered the production of ice cream for the Nursing Home, to which he answered no. She asked him to please look into an ice cream maker and the costs involved.

FM Kimball asked the Commissioners if it would be possible to use \$10K from the current timber cut to build a wooden structure, walk in, farm stand and get rid of the canvas tarp one.

Commissioner Richards asked if there were plans and if it would be protected from the elements. Supt. Libby said that it would in fact be protected and that right now there is only a rough plan.

Commissioner Burton asked if it were possible to get by another year with the existing structure and FM Kimball said that it gotten torn last year and they would likely need something new anyway. FM Kimball said that he thought that having a more presentable structure would certainly increase revenue.

Commissioner Cryans said that he would be in favor of a more aesthetically pleasing structure and said that it would tie in nicely with the already fine looking County complex. Commissioner Richards agreed saying that it would offer a lift to the image of the County and hopefully bring in more customers. She also suggested contacting other local vendors and seeing if they were interested in selling some of their wares there. Supt. Libby said that he could check into that.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve using \$10K from the timber cut revenue to construct a permanent farm stand, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

Supt. Libby presented the Commissioners with a budget adjustment increase of \$10,400 in the consultant line to be used for an educational tutor to work with both special education and general education inmates.

*10:00 AM – Commissioner Richards moved to enter into Executive Session as per RSA 91-A:3, Paragraph II, Section e). Commissioner Burton seconded the motion. All were in favor.

*10:20 AM – Commissioner Burton moved to come out of Executive Session and to permanently seal the Minutes from the Session. Commissioner Richards seconded the motion. All were in favor. No motions were made and no actions were taken while in Executive Session.

Commissioner Burton moved to accept the recommendation of Supt. Libby and to waive the balance of the probationary period for one of his staff so that medical leave can be authorized and that the Superintendent be allowed to hire an LPN in the interim, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Commissioner Cryans moved to accept the minutes from April 8, 2008, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. Corrections were made. All were in favor.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that the first invoice for legal fees incurred for the lawsuit against the proposed jail, from 3/10 to 3/31 have amounted to \$33,028.

News has been received that the expedited hearing will be held the week of either July 14th or July 21st. It is presumed that the legal bills to the County will be quite substantial.

It is the opinion of Financial Advisor D. Ranaghan that the Standards and Poor process should go forward.

Director Clough presented an out of state travel request on behalf of Dispatch, to travel to Vermont on May 19 & 20 and for the Sheriff's Dept. to travel to Danvers MA. on June 10th.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the out of state travel for both, which was seconded by Commissioner Richard. All were in favor.

A request was received from B. Gasser to be able to buy a table for the NH Taskforce on Women & Recovery Dinner to be held at the Radison in Manchester on June 16th from 5:30 to 8:30. Cost for the table is \$500.

Commissioner Cryans said that he thought it is an important step to take.

Commissioner Burton moved approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

Commissioner Cryans signed the closeout paperwork for the 2007 MicroCredit CDBG grant.

A letter was received from the Lebanon Police Dept. in recognition of the Grafton County Sheriff's Dept. and Sheriff Dutile for their help in covering the city of Lebanon while the police Dept. was away.

The Commissioners signed a drawdown request for the AdiMab CDBG grant.

A thank you was received from a Dorchester student for money received from the BBH Fun(d).

An acknowledgment letter was received from Senator Reynolds regarding a request of support from the Commissioners regarding HB1645 which deals with the NH Retirement System. The letter said that she would keep their concerns in mind.

Director Clough gave an update on the March NACo Prescription Discount Drug card saying that there were 953 adjudications, for an average savings of \$10.70 or 22.06%. Overall savings for the month were \$10,197.

A letter was received from Tri-County Cap who will be applying for a Housing Preservation Grant, which welcomed the Commissioners concerns or questions about the project.

Commissioner Richards signed the Foresite Engineering Basis of Design report on the water tank project.

A Workman's Compensation claim has been settled in the amount of \$25K and an employee's resignation.

Commissioner Richards has received nine letters of interest regarding the formation and participation on an alternative energy committee. According to Commissioner Richards, all the applicants have something valuable to contribute to the committee and it was suggested that all the applicants be participants. Commissioner Burton said that he would like the meetings to be open to the public and that others may be put on the committee at the recommendation of Commissioner Richards. Commissioner Richards said that she would like to appoint a chair person as it is not something she would prefer to do. Director Clough said that Superintendent Oakes should also be on the committee as ex-officio (no voting rights). Commissioner Richards said that she will expect a report in December.

Commissioner Richards moved to approve the alternative energy committee with the aforementioned conditions, which was second by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

There will be no Commissioners meeting on Tuesday the 29th but will be held on Wednesday the 30th.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Burton asked about the old heifer shed that is down by the holding pond and asked if there were plans for that. Director Clough said she would look into it.

Commissioner Richards asked if the corn crib should be sold if it's not being used and it was determined that last year the Farm dried the soldier beans in it.

Commissioner Cryans noted that the Nursing Home received the Quality of Life Award on April 18th.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk