

## GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners  
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
N. Haverhill, NH 03774  
Tuesday May 20, 2008

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

Commissioner Cryans called the meeting to order at 9:12.

NHA Bolander arrived with her report. She said that on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM there will be a presentation of eighteen handmade quilts to the Nursing Home from someone who wanted to donate them on behalf of a resident.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> the Nursing Home will hold a huge disaster drill along with Horsemeadow Senior Center, Haverhill PD, Cottage Hospital, State Office of Emergency Mgt. and the Sheriff's Dept. There will be a mock disaster (tornado) which will take the roof off of one of the buildings and create a need for partial evacuation. This drill is designed to see just how well the structure of communication works and how well medical records are transported. Volunteers are needed to act as residents and or victims.

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, Commissioner of HHS, Nick Toumpas, will visit the Nursing Home. The time has not yet been determined.

Joan Bruce was selected as LNA of the year and there will be an awards ceremony in Concord. The Commissioners would like to have Joan come in next week so that they can present her with a proclamation.

There will be a volunteer recognition luncheon in the Activities room on June 13<sup>th</sup>, which all three Commissioners will be able to attend.

The current census is 129 and they are currently in their survey window time period.

Commissioner Burton asked what time the drill will begin and asked if the event would be videotaped. NHA Bolander said it will begin at around 9:00 AM and she will check into whether or not there is video equipment available.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that one of the Human Services staff will be transferring to the Human Resources Dept. on July 1<sup>st</sup> as the Dept dissolves. There may still be some work to be done in HS but the primary job of this person will be in HR. Salary and benefits will transfer to HR as well.

HR Director Joanne Mann arrived with her report.

Vacancies:

3-LNA's on various shifts

1 RN or LPN

Deeds Record Clerk

HR Mann is in the process of interviewing for a Staff Development Director at the NH

- There has been a suit filed in Superior Court against an employee who neglected to inform the County of a divorce which resulted in health insurance premiums being falsely paid out.
- There is a grievance being claimed on a discharged employee.
- HR Mann is working with the JAG program helping with interviews
- Both HR staff members attended a workshop on health management.
- There is a new dental insurance broker, New England Employee Benefits Co.
- The County benefit fair will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup>.
- HR is working on updating the personnel policy manual
- There was a switch in life insurance companies.

HRD Mann said that she has been very discouraged with LGC in regard to the RDS payments and said that because LGC had filed the retiree list late, the application for July 08 had been denied. HRD Mann was having great difficulty getting anyone knowledgeable at LGC to talk with her and the one person who knows anything is never available and doesn't call back.

Commissioner Cryans said that in his opinion that was unacceptable behavior and he called the person directly right then and there.

Commissioner Burton asked how much we pay LGC for this service and HRD Mann said \$1.55 per claim per employee. She added that if this claim remains denied it can mean up to a \$50K loss in revenue for the County.

Commissioner Burton said that as far as he was concerned he wouldn't be signing for anymore payments to LGC for this service until this is cleared up.

Commissioner Cryans was able to get through to the person HRD Mann needed to speak with and told him that HRD Mann would call him back within the next five minutes.

HRD Mann left

Commissioner Richards asked Director Clough if she knew why the Register of Deeds was only hiring a clerk to replace the Deputy Register and she did not know that answer. Commissioner Burton asked Director Clough to check the statute and what the law says regarding having a Deputy Register.

Commissioner Richards moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. Changes were made. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Commissioner Richards asked for copies of the Connor & Connor bills for the next meeting when they would be meeting with J. Young and Register Sharp.

The Commissioners reviewed the DoC Superior Court report.

Lt. Chad Morris arrived

Director Clough presented a letter from the NH Fish & Game for an OHRV grant which required the Commissioners approval for the Sheriff to apply for the grant, which was signed.

Commissioner Cryans signed an application for a DWI enforcement grant for the Sheriff's Dept.

There was a discussion between the Commissioners and Lt. Morris about the DWI stops and Lt. Morris said that there will be one this weekend which already received its court order and been released by the press. He explained how the stations are set up and what they include. Commissioner Burton said that he would recommend that educational information be supplied and that in the event of a bondsman being needed, that local bondsmen are used.

Commissioner Burton also recommended that Lt. Morris suggest to the Sheriff that he offer to have some kind of open house for the Mobil Communication Vehicle.

Commissioners Cryans and Burton signed a CDFA agreement for the MicroCredit 2008 grant.

There will be a one year celebration of the Drug Court, which will commence at 10:00 tomorrow morning beginning at the Courthouse and then moving over to the Community Corrections bldg for refreshments.

The Commissioners signed the Green Haven feasibility study paperwork, warrant and drawdown request for the grant.

Director Clough read a copy of a letter that was sent from the Town of Haverhill to the jail thanking them for sending inmates to paint the Morrill bldg. gymnasium.

The Commissioners signed the MS-5 report for the unincorporated town of Livermore.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that there was someone interested in buying the granite stone across the road and that she had his phone number, though the stones were not for sale.

Director Clough said that LGC had presented the County with an offer which asked if the County was interested in entering into a multi-year Property Liability Insurance contract from 2009 to 2011 which would carry a guaranty maximum rate increase of 9% for each of these years. Director Clough said that it could be greater if not entered into and said that she didn't see any problem having done it before and that they have been fantastic in the past with claims and suits etc.

After a brief discussion Commissioner Burton resolved to hereby accept the offer of the LGC Property-Liability Trust, to enter into its multi year rate guarantee program as of the date of the adoption of said resolution and to hereby enter and agree to maintain the membership and participation of the Grafton County in PLT through June 30, 2011 for property, crime (including statutory bonds),casualty, medical reimbursement and related

risk protection of PLT., which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor. Commissioner Cryans signed the resolution.

Commissioner Richards then moved to authorize Director Clough to sign all the future paperwork having to do with the agreement with LGC, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor. Commissioner Cryans then signed that authorization.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that a bill from SMRT in the amount of \$383K had arrived and will be coded to a line that is already over expended.

There was further discussion as regarding SMRT and HP Cummings and the possibility of the Delegation adding \$2M to the FY09 budget in anticipation of the cost of inflation.

Director Clough went over a reply letter to C. Barry which the Commissioner approved and okayed to send.

Commissioner Burton attended Lincoln Town Manager, Ted Sutton's retirement ceremony and presented him with a commendation. Mr. Sutton told Commissioner Burton that he commended the Commissioners for the job they did on the budget this year.

Commissioner Burton attended the "Top Dawg" contest at the jail and spoke with an officer from Belknap who he said they also tend a vegetable garden from their Farm.

There was some discussion about the Barbara B. Hill Fun(d) and its survival. Commissioner Richards was planning to solicit donations.

Commissioner Richards questioned the other Commissioners as to what they thought about making some moves towards figuring out what to do with the Farm in the way of adding educational features, new innovative crops and either ice cream or cheese making. She said that in order to contract with T. Gulbrandson as a consultant, it may cost the County about \$18K in fees, which may include some kind of survey.

Commissioner Cryans said that after seeing the variance report yesterday there's really only a \$21K difference in revenue and expenses which is just not that much. He said that he's not interested in having any kind of survey done at \$18K and that there is merit to having the inmates work on the Farm. He said that he wasn't interested or in favor of doing anything different with the Farm right now.

Commissioner Burton said that he hadn't heard any grumblings about the Farm and would agree to an assessment as long as it was free, though felt strong about keeping the Farm going and the vegetables growing.

Commissioner Richards said that she was frustrated and didn't want to give up on possibility of enhancements for the Farm.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM

---

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk