

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Tuesday July 1, 2008

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael Cryans (late), Ray Burton and Martha Richards,
Executive Director Clough and Sec. Martino

Commissioner Richards called the meeting to order at 9:07.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the minutes from June 24, 2008, which was
seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

The Commissioners reviewed an inspection report from the AG's office that says that the
Commissioners have toured the jail.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that the federal mileage rate has increased
to .585 as of July 1st and asked the Commissioners if they wanted to adopt that rate as
they had in the past. Commissioner Richards asked if the County can afford to raise the
rate and Director Clough said that she doesn't use a rate when calculating mileage for
budget but she's not sure how others do it. She said that it is really done in fairness to
employees who have to travel.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the County mileage rate at 58.5, which was
seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

Director Clough asked the Commissioners if they wanted to pay mileage rate to the
delegation members who had to travel to Concord for a legal deposition for the County,
which she thought they should. The Commissioners agreed that he should be paid.

Director Clough said that an agreement was made with the bargaining unit to accept the
2.5% COLA and to leave their health insurance co-payments at the current 14% and 20%
and needed a motion of acceptance.

Commissioner Burton moved to accept the agreement with the bargaining unit in their
acceptance of a 2.5% COLA and health insurance co-payments for FY09, which was
seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that she had received the legal opinion
about her query as to whether or not RD Sharp had the right to request that a statute be
overturned and re-designed in his favor so that he could use money from the surcharge

account and that opinion was that the specific statute could not be overruled by the general statute.

Director Clough informed the Board that the decision by the court for the petitioner to extend the trial was denied. Knowledge of a trial date will be forthcoming. The court did allow amending the prior petition to include the gathering that was held prior to the delegation vote.

A request came from Rockingham County Superior Court asking that each County contribute \$1000 toward the cost of the conference they would like to hold addressing Mentally Ill incarcerated in our Jails. Commissioner Burton said that he would be in favor if he knew there would be a new law that came from it but not if the plan was for it to be a “gab fest”. Commissioner Cryans thought it might be worthy. Commissioner Richards moved to approve contributing \$1000 to Rockingham County Superior Court for their conference, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

Supt. Libby and FM Kimball arrived and wanted to let the Commissioners know that they felt “beat up” by yesterday’s delegation meeting and have very mixed feelings about the Commissioners’ feeling toward what happened. Commissioner Cryans said there are 26 Reps. and each will have a point of view and can express that but just because someone has a point of view doesn’t mean that will happen adding that there was no vote taken about doing anything.

Commissioner Burton said they were lucky to get what we got with the budget process and said Commissioner Richards defended the Board very well yesterday.

FM Kimball asked why there needs to be state Reps. on a committee and Commissioner Burton said that no decision has been made. Supt. Libby said that he didn’t think there was an understanding from the Commissioners that the Dept. heads work very hard as visionaries for the Farm and it goes unnoticed. Commissioner Cryans repeated that there are differences of opinion.

Supt. Libby said that they look to the Board of Commissioners for direction, not the state Reps. and Commissioner Cryans said again, there are different points of view even on the Board and that yesterday there was no action taken.

Supt. Libby said that he felt there were mixed signals and didn’t know who they should follow. Commissioner Burton said that yesterday he had nothing to say and sometimes that’s better.

Director Clough said that part of what is missing here is that there is no clear vision of what is going on with the Board and the Dept. heads are out in the field dealing with hearing from everyone around about what’s going on.

Commissioner Richards said that she felt responsible for some of what was going on and talked about how she wanted to take the Farm to another level and came up with more

ideas for promotion, including new signage, have your own plot, pick your own berries and Farm tours.

Commissioner Cryans said that it has never been his policy to micromanage any Dept and that he looks to the Dept. heads for that. He said that the Farm is primarily a milk revenue business and he also believes that the Farm is important for the inmates. He said he has always been a strong proponent of the Farm.

Commissioner Burton said that he has always supported the agricultural position of the Farm and believes in the FAC. He also said he agrees to set up of a new committee.

Supt. Libby said that individually each person supports the Farm but there's still no clear direction of where you would like the Farm to go and right now it's a bit scattered. Commissioner Burton said that we "got our marching orders" yesterday and now it's time to go do it.

Supt. Libby said that he has seen a tremendous amount of progress over the past five years and it has become a better facility and to see the visions that have been suggested will take both time and money.

Commissioner Cryans said that one of the strongest signals is for a Dept. Head to provide a budget and then have it approved.

FM Kimball said that he hoped that the Commissioners didn't look to the Farm to make money.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that a letter from CDFA letter that the environmental conditions on the AHEAD grant is approved.

Director Clough said that she met with Kevin Clougherty from Primex and discussed Grafton County's good workman's comp record and possible training for the County. Rick Alpers is now the service rep and will be coordinating training.

Director Clough received a letter from Woodsville Light & Water regarding the water tank project which included a pipe fee of \$12K and required inspection fees after the tank has been put into service. Director Clough said there may be some adjustments to these request since the County will be providing this tank.

Director Clough said there was a fax from J. Young of Connor & Connor which had to do with the new module for the LCHP and the cost for the new module would be \$5000. RD Sharp has not signed that contract as of yet.

HSA Bishop arrived to say that she is in the process of transferring all the files and materials for the state. Next week D. White will move to the HR Dept. as will all her equipment. L. Broughan will be working with the IT Manager and with the Maint. Supt. with clerical work. Some remaining HS work will still need to be done.

Last Friday was the last meeting on HB2 under the current legislation and six Counties have signed the MOA.

Commissioner Burton asked how the confidential records would leave here and HSA Bishop said that each file in on a spreadsheet and a signature is required for pickup. All the information will go with the records and anything form there forward will go directly to the state.

Maint Supt. Oakes arrived as Commissioner Richards wanted to talk to him about the energy audit. Supt. Oakes said that he had some money he could encumber to pay for the audit which may run around \$10K. He also discussed why the energy audit is needed for the complex. Commissioner Cryans said that sometimes money can be saved in perpetuity.

Commissioner Burton asked if the audit would be put out to bid and Supt. Oakes said that there already have been companies solicited and he has gotten the most feedback and level of comfort from one in particular. Supt. Oakes will see if he has money he can encumber and then will bring information back to the Board for a decision.

NHA Bolander arrived with C. Labore. She said census at the end of the week will be 135.

There will be a 4th of July celebration for the residents.

There have been a lot of LNA's and RN applicants lately of high caliber which has been great.

The disaster drill was a great success and a lot of good came from it. NHA Bolander thanked J. Martino as doing a good job as PIO for the drill.

The communications went well and the biggest realization was that hospital patients and residents can not be mixed.

Right now they are in their survey window.

Commissioner Cryans said that retirement party for E. Chapin was very nice and that Dietary and Activities did a great job with their food and creative decorations. He said that it was reflective of the Nursing Home as a whole.

C. Labore will be leaving as of this Thursday though he said he may come in a couple of times. Commissioner Cryans said that if any of the Commissioners could be of help to him in any way that they would be glad to and wished him luck in his future.

Commissioner Cryans signed an MOA with the NC Health Consortium which the County maintains their account.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES

Commissioner Richards said that the feasibility assessor from BERC will be attending the Alternative Energy Committee as well as B. Labs on Tuesday, July 8th.

Commissioner Richards talked a little more in depth about what she would like to see for the Farm, including a nice sign like all the others. Director Clough informed her that the sign in front of the Admin building cost \$10,000

Commissioner Burton said that he would like to see some kind of committee set up to study the Farm, along with the FAC.

Commissioner Burton attended the retirement party for Norrine Williams. Commissioner Burton drafted a letter to the Wal-Mart store manager in Littleton requesting money for the BBH fund and would like to do the same at the Woodsville store.

Commissioner Burton said he will not be able to attend the next meeting.

Commissioner Cryans attended a retirement party for Rep. Solomon at the Canaan Meeting House that was well attended. He noted that there will be change in the overall makeup of the delegation next year.

Commissioner Cryans thanked Director Clough, Sec. Martino and Financial Coordinator Cunningham for their work on the budget and suggested they receive a \$100 gift certificate for their work.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the \$100 certificate, which was seconded by Commissioner Richards. All were in favor.

RD Sharp came in and said that he felt that the \$5000 charge from Connor & Connor was too much and unnecessary and that C & C is just trying to get the maximum amount allowed from the state. Commissioner Cryans asked how he knew it was too much for the software and that could not be answered. He said that he has not signed the contract yet as he has not seen it and Commissioner Cryans asked if he would call C & C to see where it is.

Commissioner Burton asked Director Clough to get with Supt. Libby to improve upon the signage for the Farm

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk