

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Tuesday December 9, 2008

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael Cryans, Martha Richards, Executive Director Clough and Sec. Martino

EXCUSED: Commissioner Ray Burton

PUBLIC: Harold Brown

Farm Manager Kimball arrived with his report saying that he was milking 72 cows, shipping 9300#'s of milk for an average of 64# per cow. Milk prices right now are \$17.50 and expected to decrease in the winter months.

Firewood is being cut and FM Kimball said that he would like to get out of the firewood business as they don't really have the equipment to do the job.

There was a discussion about what crops to plant and Commissioner Richards suggested that FM Kimball get with NHA Bolander and Fitz Vogt about what crops could be used at the Nursing Home.

Commissioner Richards asked about cut flowers this year and FM Kimball said that they had been tried at D. Keith's farm stand and didn't do well.

Superintendent Libby arrived with his report *(see attached)

Commissioner Richards asked about winter clothing for the inmates and whether or not they were properly clothed when working outside. Supt. Libby said their clothing was adequate for the weather.

Commissioner Cryans suggested that Supt. Libby view a study released about women behind bars at www.nhwpi.org.

Supt. Libby heartily commended the job that the Nursing staff in the Jail is doing but added that he still has concerns about a communicable disease getting into the facility.

Commissioner Richards asked if Supt. Libby had considered looking into Craigslist for used sporting equipment for the Jail and he said that he had not and that it usually comes down to a matter of time when researching places to buy things. Commissioner Richards said that she would be willing to help.

Commissioner Richards asked if all the staff were up to date on their shots such as tetanus and Supt. Libby said that each staff member has to take care of that on their own with their primary care physician.

Director Clough said that she would like to have a discussion about getting parties back together about the Jail project and to figure out where they need to go from here.

Commissioner Richards moved to approve the minutes from December 2, 2008, which was seconded by Commissioner Cryans. An edit was made. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Director Clough presented an educational assistance application from an employee at the Jail for a class that would give her the completion of an RN degree.

Commissioner Richards moved to approve the educational assistance, which was seconded by Commissioner Cryans. All were in favor.

Director Clough said that she checked into the cost of the NACo Conference which would include conference registration, air fare, meals and hotel for around \$2000 per person and questioned if the Commissioners were planning on going. She added that there would probably not be enough money in the Commissioner's budget but that she could take some from the contingency line. Commissioner Cryans said that he would not be going and Commissioner Richards said that she would have to check and get back. Commissioner Burton will likely be attending.

The Commissioners reviewed the DoC Superior Court Report.

Director Clough presented a certificate of vote for the Governor's Commission Grant for the Commissioners to approve with the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That this County enters into a contract with the State of New Hampshire, acting through its Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Community Based Care Services.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Director is hereby authorized on behalf of this County to enter into said contract with the State and to execute any and all documents, agreements, and other instruments; and any amendments, revisions, or modifications thereto, as he/she may deem necessary, desirable, or appropriate. Julie L. Clough is the duly appointed Executive Director of the County.

Commissioner Richards moved to accept the Certificate of Vote, which was seconded by Commissioner Cryans. All were in favor.

Commissioner Richards operating as Clerk in Commissioner Burton's absence signed the Certificate of Vote.

Maintenance Superintendent Jim Oakes arrived with his report *(see attached)

Supt. Oakes discussed the possibility of repairing the bottom portion of the road to the water tower.

Director Clough said that there is a revised agreement that was sent to Woodsville Water & Light that she expects will be discussed at a meeting this evening. She said that there will probably need to be more discussion after that.

Commissioner Richards brought up the geothermal study for the Jail saying that she thought that it should be included in the presentation of the Alternative Energy and the proposed cost of the study would be \$3200. Director Clough questioned the reason behind doing a geothermal study for the Jail itself when the thought is to put in a facility, most likely biomass, which would encompass the whole complex. She said that she didn't understand the need for the extra cost of this when it wouldn't be a choice anyway. Supt. Oakes agreed saying that the most likely recommendation would be central heat and possibly cogeneration for the entire complex, therefore spending time and money on a geothermal study might be wasteful. There was some further discussion as to whether geothermal should be explored further for the entire complex. Commissioner Richards was going to discuss this further with her Alternative Energy Committee and report back to the Board after that.

H Brown asked if cold fusion, nuclear fusion or trash to energy had been considered and Commissioner Richards said that it had not. He said that a plant that would cover a larger area should be considered. Commissioner Cryans asked if he knew any other areas where the trash burning was being used and he replied that he did not, noting that there was some issue with disposal.

Commissioner Cryans asked Supt. Oakes about Christmas decorations and he replied that they were still putting them out.

Commissioner Cryans asked if the complex would be ready for when the bad weather comes and Supt. Oakes said that they would be using salt and that everything would be ready.

Director Clough presented a letter from the town of Rumney that was sent to the Sheriff's Dept. regarding excessive speed by a Sheriff's Deputy. Also included was a letter of response from the Sheriff.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that \$6.2M had been borrowed in anticipation of tax payments and she believed that no more borrowing would be needed. At present there has been \$3M collected in tax payments.

Director Clough said that the bond sale is today and that the proceeds of that sale will be wired into the County's account next Thursday.

Director Clough said that a letter from North Country Council stated that there will be no increase in membership dues this coming year.

The Commissioners signed the bond paperwork.

Next week the Commissioners will meet on Wednesday at 11:00 AM prior to the holiday party.

Director Clough said that she would like to set up a meeting in January with SMRT and H.P. Cummings regarding the Jail project. Commissioner Cryans questioned whether the time and effort to do this was necessary given the fact that there is still an appeal period regarding the decision on the jail lawsuit. Commissioner Cryans said that he would rather get some time parameters of best case worse case scenario before making any decisions. Director Clough said that if the Supreme Court decision only takes until spring, then valuable time will have been lost.

Commissioner Richards said that she would also like to hear from D. Ranaghan to see how things are going in the bond market.

Register of Deeds Bill Sharp was invited to speak and he passed out a tally sheet of business for the month of November.

He indicated that he was bothered by the comments of Atty. Trunzo and his call for an audit. He has since spoken to Atty. Trunzo and believes that the matter is cleared. He said that he thought that if there were complaints regarding Deeds, they should go to the source first and was disappointed that no one ever called him.

Commissioner Cryans said that as elected officials, requests that come to them are stated, just as Commissioner Burton had done at the meeting.

RD Sharp said that he would like to see that information or requests are passed on to him.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Richards asked Director Clough if she thought that the legal fees from Sheehan Phinney Bass & Green were excessive and Director Clough said that she had not done any comparisons and that the Attorney fees are charged at \$290 an hour and there has been a huge amount of time involved.

Commissioner Cryans said that the NHAC has a newly proposed budget of \$324K which is less than the year before.

Commissioner Cryans said that Northern Forest Center has asked Grafton County if they would like to join at a support fee of \$75. This will be looked into further.

11:30 AM being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk

December 9, 2008

Commissioners Report

1. Population:	In-house:	102	Maximum:	28
			Minimum dorm:	32
			Minimum south:	11
			WHOC:	19
			Max/Handicap:	00
			Lockblock/Seg:	12
	Weekenders:	03	Out of facility:	33

2. Community Corrections Report

- a) **Drug Court – supervising (18) *2 in custody**
- b) **Electronic Monitoring – supervising (11)**
- c) **Daily Work Release – supervising (0)**
- d) **Community Work Program – On site**

3. General:

- a) **Inmate management system/telephone conversion – update**
- b) **Special Christmas visits - update**

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT TO GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 21 Nov 24, 2008

COMPLEX

New Maintenance Building – Construction of the new building is essentially complete other than a few minor details. My staff will install our air compressor from our main shop and plumb both levels for air in addition building racks and shelves to store materials and equipment

Water Storage Tank & Main Project – Natgun will have completed the water tank by the 1st week of Dec. to where it will hold water. Morrill Construction still needs to install the vault and Woodsville Water and Light needs to run power to the tank. Both should be done by the 2nd week of Dec.

Energy Audit – Next week, ERS will be back on site to complete the thermal scan of all our buildings and deploy additional loggers to collect more data so that they can finish their report.

Silage Bunker & Drainage – 100% complete.

Boilers...checked efficiency of all boilers throughout complex. Had to tune courthouse boilers to improve efficiency.

Elevators...Stanley Elevator completed quarterly inspections & tests of all elevators...all checked good.

COURTHOUSE

Hot Water Heater – tank servicing Dispatch ruptured and leaked...replaced hot water heater

NURSING HOME

HVAC Ductwork – AirCare Environmental Services (AES) is 100% complete cleaning all return ductwork in the nursing home.

HRU # 4 - Hot water control valve slowly dripping water onto ceiling tiles below on Profile. Replaced valve.

Laundry AC – Condensing unit fan cracked and came apart...replaced fan blade assembly

Domestic Hot Water – heat exchanger T&P valve failed causing water to flood 03 basement. Replaced T&P valve.

Electrical Beds – Repaired numerous electrical problems affecting operation of residents beds

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

Slate Roof – 800 Roof is approximately 75% complete...still have about 200 slate tiles to replace and install snow rail systems

Boilers – both boilers were running simultaneously and short cycling, thus burning much more fuel than was necessary. Trane Corp. technician had to reprogram environmental management system

DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS

Freezer – Repaired broken wire on compressor

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT TO GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FARM

Dairy Barn – Exterior work stopped for winter.

Gutter Cleaner – Rebuilt gears and sprockets that were worn

Grain silo – Rebuilt auger shaft that came apart

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BUILDING

Thermostats – Repaired and reprogrammed thermostat in front office area

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

¾ TON – scheduled to have new tires installed tomorrow

OTHER:

Johnna Blake, one my courthouse custodians, gave her notice and will be done work this week. I have hired a replacement that will take her place starting in a week after she leaves.

Fire Evacuation & Extinguisher Training – I held two classes for staff assigned to the courthouse and 1930 Building. Approximately 20 people attended. Still need to conduct fire drills in both buildings in the next few weeks.