

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, March 18, 2015 09:30AM
Commissioners Meeting Room
12 Court Street
Keene, NH 03431

PRESENT: Commissioners Stillman Rogers, Chuck Weed, and Peter Graves.

STAFF: Finance Director Trombly, HR Director Hurley, Maplewood Director of Nursing Woolbert, Sheriff Rivera, Superintendent VanWickler, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard

GUESTS: Westmoreland Selectman J. Hammond,

Chairman Rogers opened the meeting at 09:36AM and recognized Sheriff Rivera. Rivera spoke about applying for a final grant from Vermont Yankee as they prepare to close the plant. He said that last year the Sheriff's office received a grant for approximately \$85,000 for training and equipment and in 2015 they are seeking \$50,806.86. **Following discussion Commissioner Weed moved to authorize the submission of a grant request in the amount of \$50,806.86 from Vermont Yankee (Entergy Corporation) for the purpose of public safety training and equipment. Commissioner Graves seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Rivera then discussed upcoming personnel changes within the Sheriff's office and outlined a new supervision structure. He said that the changes are revenue neutral and will not have an impact on the budget.

The Sheriff then discussed the proposed State budget cutbacks for the Department of Safety and the possible impact that of losing more State Trooper positions in the County will have on all communities with a population under 3,500. He stated that the Sheriff's department does not have a statutory requirement to provide coverage for the towns if the State Police lose personnel and that if the Sheriff's department were approached to provide coverage the cost of providing services to the towns would need to be borne directly by the towns themselves. A discussion began about how towns are covered currently and the Commissioners asked the Sheriff to scope out a plan that could provide at least some coverage for any of the towns in the County if they requested it with the understanding that each town would need to pay for the services provided.

The Sheriff will report back to the Commissioners with an update in the next few weeks.

Superintendent Van Wickler was then recognized for the purpose of providing an update on Master Agenda Item #185 DOC HVAC Control System Upgrades - Granite State Automation - Quotes & Timeline. Van Wickler provided the Commissioners a printout of "tickets and work orders" that outlined some of the work that needs to be completed and discussed some of the progress made thus far. Commissioner Rogers asked if Granite State had provided a more detailed plan of work and estimates of costs and timelines. Van Wickler said that he had requested that information but thus far had not received it from the vendor. Commissioner Rogers asked the Superintendent to discuss the request with Granite State again and ask for at least a best estimate on scope, costs, and timelines. Van Wickler said that he discuss it again with the vendor and report back in a few weeks with an update.

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The Commissioners the took-up Master Agenda Item #197: Superintendent Affiliate Meeting - NHAC Academy Proposal by G. Maglaras (Interim Executive Director of the New Hampshire Association of Counties). Van Wickler said that he had met with Maglaras and discussed the possible move of the NHAC Corrections Academy from the State Police Standards and Training facility in Concord to the former Merrimack Nursing home building in Boscawen. Maglaras is studying the move of the Academy to enable the Academy to have a permanent home that is not dependent on using what has become very limited availability of shared space at the Police Standards and Training facility. A project cost of \$2,500 to \$3,000 per County plus utilities costs which are estimated at \$200 per year was discussed. A ten (10) year MOU with Merrimack County would be signed. If the project moves forward the relocation of the NHAC staff office to the facility would also be investigated. A visit to the facility for all County Superintendents and Commissioners is being planned in the near future.

Master Agenda Item #198: Department of Corrections Electronic Monitoring Stakeholder Meeting. Van Wickler discussed the meetings that were recently held with the courts, Drug Court, and other stakeholders to discuss the Electronic Monitoring (EM) program administered by DOC personnel. Van Wickler described the how the program is set-up and discussed some internal program changes that have been made to make the program more efficient and less costly. He discussed that the participants in Drug Court program (six currently) will be paying for any EM services going forward once a mechanism for payment is worked out. He went on to say that based on the conversations with the courts, the operational changes made for administrating the program, and the division of costs with the Drug Court program he now believes that the program will stay within the budget allocation.

Master Agenda Item #200: 2015 -2016 AmeriCorps Victim Assistance Program Host Site Contract - RAB on behalf of C. McLaughlin. ACA Bouchard presented the contract for signature for the AmeriCorps program that provides a FTE staff position for the County Attorney's Victim Witness program for 2015 that was approved at a previous meeting. **Following a short review of the program and its operation, Commissioner Weed moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract. Commissioner Graves seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously and Commissioner Rogers signed the agreement.**

Grants Manager Bansley was then recognized and presented for signature the previously approved NH DOT Region 5-6 5310 Purchase of Service grant contract. **A short review of the grant followed and Commissioner Graves moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the grant acceptance documentation and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon vote the motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Graves as Clerk then signed the authorization document and Commissioner Rogers as Chairman signed the contract documentation.**

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At 10:45AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Graves moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, without that person having requested an open meeting. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion to enter non-public session was approve unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session no decisions were made and no vote taken.

At 10:52AM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

At 11:02AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Graves moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, without that person having requested an open meeting. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion to enter non-public session was approve unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session a vote to hire R. B. as an RN for the Maplewood Nursing home at the rate of \$26.20 was approved unanimously by the Commissioners based on R. B.'s extensive professional background, training, and education.

At 11:12AM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

At 11:13AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Graves moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, without that person having requested an open meeting. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion to enter non-public session was approve unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session no decisions were made and no vote taken.

At 11:34AM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

Commissioner Weed then moved to authorize the Superintendent to notify the current dietary program provider at the Department of Corrections that upon consideration by the Commissioners that the contact for services will not be renewed and that as of May 31, 2015 the contact will be terminated. Commissioner Graves seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

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At 10:37AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Graves moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, without that person having requested an open meeting. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion to enter non-public session was approve unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session no decisions were made and no vote taken.

At 10:56AM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

At 10:57AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Graves moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, without that person having requested an open meeting. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion to enter non-public session was approve unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session no decisions were made and no vote taken.

At 12:01PM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

The Commissioners then read the letter pertaining to concerns surrounding the Keene Energy and Agricultural Project (KEAP) that was submitted to the Commissioners by a Keene resident. After reviewing the letter the Commissioners discussed that the City of Keene was actually the responsible authority for addressing many if not all of the concerns in the letter as the County was involved only to the extent of providing administrative grant services for the project. It was discussed that the same letter has been provided to City personnel and has appeared in the Keene Sentinel.

The Weekly census was then reviewed.

The minutes of March 11, 2015 were then reviewed and Commissioner Weed moved to accept the minutes as amended to correct the name of the bank that will administer the County Credit Card program. Commissioner Graves seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Weed then moved to accept the Weekly Manifest as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion unanimously.

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The Commissioners then reviewed the Commissioners Calendar. Commissioner Weed said that he will not be attending meetings from May 13th to May 31st as he will be out of town on other business.

At 12:15PM there being no further business to discuss, **Commissioner Weed moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion seconded by Commissioner Graves and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,
P. Graves, Clerk