

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday August 17, 2016 09:30AM
County Hall Building
Commissioners Conference Room
12 Court Street
Keene, NH 03431

PRESENT: Commissioners, Stillman Rogers, Charles Weed, and Peter Graves

STAFF: Finance Director Trombly, HR Director Hurley, Sheriff Rivera, Superintendent Van Wickler, Barnes Peterson, Mental Health Clinician, Grants Manager Bansley, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard.

At 9:30AM Chair Rogers opened the meeting and recognized Administrator Coates who opened the only RPF response bid for providing HVAC system balancing at the Department of Corrections. The bid is for \$42,000.00. Following discussion, **Commissioner Graves moved to temporarily suspend review of the RPF bid results until a full analysis of the bid has been made and to investigate the option of rebidding the work in order to obtain additional bids. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Master Agenda Item #407 – Indirect Cost Rate for Grants. Bansley presented the draft of a new cost rate policy for grants and discussed that the impact would be negligible to the administrative fee's being currently received by the County.

The major change is that the 10% grant administration fee would now be applied across all federal grants. **Motion by Commissioner Weed to adopt the grants de minimis rate to be effective August 17, 2016 seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Master Agenda Item #405: Grant from the Department of Safety for Opioid abuse re-education. Sheriff Rivera discussed a grant for \$30,000.00 for conducting patrols and assisting local police departments in gathering information and intelligence on drug trafficking in the area. The focus is to reduce the overall drug supply coming into the County. The grant will allow smaller towns to participate in the program and will be aimed especially at the towns along the Route 91 corridor. Rivera said that New Hampshire was recently rated third (3rd) in the nation for drug related deaths per capita. He said that the grant is to be used within the six (6) month period of November 2016 to May 2017 and that the project is known as "Granite Hammer".

Commissioner Weed asked about the elimination of drug traffickers and the fact that as soon as they are arrested they are being immediately replaced by others. Discussion ensued about how to react to the growing problem. The discussion continued on the topic of how law enforcement investigations work within the County, and the State preference for the regionalization of funding for grants for combating the drug epidemic. **Commissioner Graves moved to approve the grant for \$30,000.00 and was seconded by Commissioner Weed, upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

At 10:10AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Weed moved to enter a non-public session to discuss the hiring of any person as a public employee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Graves, and upon vote the motion passed

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unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session a decision was made and a vote was taken to offer D. E. the position of Mental Health Clinician at the Department of Corrections at the rate of \$68,764.00 per year based on extensive educational credentials, experience, and training. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 10:50AM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session

Barnes Peterson the current Mental Health Clinician, discussed his plans for the step in his life and said that he had thoroughly enjoyed his sixteen (16) years of service to the County and to the Department of Corrections.

Commissioner Rogers then said that he and the other Commissioners wished to highly commend Peterson for his many years of service to the community and especially to the County. They further recognize his outstanding contributions to developing and mentoring the regional mental health community, his work with the Antioch Graduate School, and for being an exemplar in his personal conduct and professional contributions. His work in reducing recidivism and guiding incarcerated individuals to new life paths has been outstanding. The Commissioners affirmed that Peterson's personal and work commitment, ethics, and professional accomplishments will long be remembered by the County.

A general discussion of topics to be covered for the remainder of the meeting and the upcoming employee event following the meeting were covered.

Chris Coates, County Administrator was then recognized and provided the following weekly update:

Coates said that the on-going Wage and Classification study was reviewed at a meeting with the vendor and a still significant amount of work remains to be accomplished. Coates said that he anticipates that the earliest date of delivery of the study is around the end of September.

Coates then said that the emergency generator at the nursing home has developed a controller problem and will not shut-off automatically. He said that the facilities staff will have to be on stand-by to shut down the generator manually until the problem can be identified.

Coates then asked ACA Bouchard to review the Capital Improvement Program and to speak to the WorxHub software implementation project. Bouchard recounted the history of the WorxHub project and said that the Department of Corrections, Keene Downtown campus, and the Maplewood campus have all be actively engaged in completing the initial implementation phase

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of the software that will provide a framework for Capital Maintenance planning, Work Order management, and utility tracking for the County. Bouchard said that the work in selecting the software and the added value that the program will bring has been communicated to the department heads by the facilities staff a number of times over the past few months and facilities staff at all three (3) campuses are anxious to get the systems up and running.

The Weekly Census the was then reviewed and a discussion of the cost to hold federal inmates was had as well as a discussion of the cost and possible expansion of the inmate transportation program. More work to detail the actual costs and to include the added financial implications of adding transportation vehicle(s) to the cost overhead need to be completed.

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

Commissioner Weed moved to accept the Minutes as presented of August 10, 2016 and was seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioner's Calendar was then reviewed.

Andru Volinsky, candidate for Executive Council was then invited to address the meeting and discussed his reasons for running for Executive Council. He spoke at some length concerning his personal vision and views for assisting the taxpayers of the District and solicited feedback from the Commissioners and staff on what they think the Executive Council should focus on in the future. An extended conversation developed and views and ideas were exchanged.

At 11:56AM there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Graves moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion seconded by Commissioner Weed and upon vote the motion passed with unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

P. Graves, Clerk