

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday September 7, 2016 09:30AM
Department of Corrections
825 Marlboro Road
Keene, NH

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

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

At 9:32AM Chair Rogers opened the meeting and recognized County Administrator Coates who provided the following Weekly Operations update:

Coates discussed a meeting that was held with NH Department of Health and Human Services Commissioner, Jeffrey Myers that Finance Director Trombly, Nursing Home Administrator Kindopp, and he attended on Managed Care. He said that the main take-away from the meeting is that the implementation of the Managed Care program is now on hold until at least July of 2018.

A discussion of how Managed Care will negatively impact County Nursing Homes and the fact that the nursing homes already provide “Managed Care” to their residents was covered. Also discussed was the possible move from a Fee-for-Service payment model to a Capitation model. *(Wikipedia - Capitation is a payment arrangement for health care service providers such as physicians or nurse practitioners. It pays a physician or group of physicians a set amount for each enrolled person assigned to them, per period of time, whether or not that person seeks care.)*

A concern that was addressed is that under the proposed Managed Care model the concentration of services for behaviorally challenged nursing home residents would occur at the three facilities in the state that have currently have behavioral facilities and the burden of added costs would be downshifted to these three (3) County nursing. Maplewood is one of those facilities.

Coates then discussed a conversation with the NH Preservation Alliance concerning the removal and cleaning of the old lead paint on front portico of the 1858 building. He reviewed the importance of getting the historically correct paint color re-established for entrance and ultimately for the rest of the building. A number of local community organizations will be asked for their input and a consensus will be developed for the correct color.

Director Trombly then said that she has sent an email to the NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) asking them to present a seminar on how the DRA determines and sets the County towns tax rates. This presentation was given approximately three (3) years ago but there are a number of new town Selectboard members who have not been briefed on how the process works. A tentative date for the training has been set for early October but will be dependent on the availability of DRA staff.

Coates then spoke to the regional Economic Development work that is being done by a small group of individuals who also recently participated in the development and submittal of the America’s Promise Job Driven Grant Program that was discussed at last week’s meeting. He

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said that there appears to be a number of funding sources including the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that could assist in developing and implementing a comprehensive regional plan that will help develop a healthy job market for the greater Monadnock catchment area. More information will be provided as the project moves forward.

Director Trombly then discussed the upcoming 2017 Commissioners Budget review process and reviewed a suggested meeting schedule. Following discussion, it was agreed that the suggested dates would work but the schedule of presentations by the departments would need to be re-arranged. Trombly will present an update schedule at next week's meeting.

Bouchard then discussed that in a conversation with the Superintendent earlier in the morning it was decided to move the upcoming Correctional Officer Graduation ceremony from the previous planned date of September 28th to October 19th to accommodate scheduling changes of some of the participants. Bouchard will post the new date on the County Commissions calendar on the website and reserve the main Delegation meeting room for the event.

At 10:38AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Weed moved to go into non-public session to discuss the hiring of any person as a public employee

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session a unanimous decision to hire S. L. for the Department of Corrections at \$21.47 per hour as a thirty-two (32) hour-per-week Master Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor (MLADAC) was made based on their experience, training, and education.

At 10:54AM The Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

The Commissioners asked Barnes Peterson and Superintendent Van Wickler to discuss the County Drug Court program and its relationship to inmates at the jail. The interaction between the jail and the Drug Court was reviewed and a discussion of the various services available to inmates including the assessment process was had. Peterson said that he estimates that about 90% of all inmates are incarcerated for some involvement with drugs and drugs related crimes.

Commissioner Rogers then spoke of Peterson's decision to leave his position as the DOC Mental Health Clinician to enter a contemplative monastery based on over twenty (20) years of interest and practice.

Rogers said that he spoke for all the Commissioners in declaring the following resolution; ***"The Commissioners strongly commend Barnes Peterson for his many years of work for Cheshire County and for his able assistance helping some of the County's most needy citizens and further recognize and commend his dedication to his duties and his devotion to his craft"***.

Upon vote the Commissioners unanimously approved the resolution.

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Rogers said that Peterson will be greatly missed and that the County will be poorer for his absence.

Commissioner Weed then discussed the upcoming meeting of the NH Association of Counties (NHAC) meeting where 1115 Wavier will be reviewed and discussed as well as the appointment of a NHAC representative a member to the New Hampshire Retirement System Board of Trustee's and the appointment of a NHAC representative to the New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool Advisory Committee.

A discussion of the upcoming Executive Committee meeting on Monday September 12th began and possible outcomes of the vote to recommend an option to the full Delegation by the Executive Committee was discussed.

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

Commissioner Weed moved to accept the Minutes as presented of August 24, 2016 as amended and was seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioner's Calendar and the Weekly census was then reviewed.

At 11:50AM 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 with unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
P. Graves, Clerk