

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday February 22, 2017 09:30AM
Maplewood Nursing Home
201 River Road
Westmoreland, NH 03467

PRESENT: Commissioners Charles Weed, Peter Graves, and Joseph Cartwright

STAFF: County Administrator Coates and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard.

Guests:

At 9:31AM the meeting opened and Chairman Graves recognized Administrator Coates who discussed the *Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014* (Impact 2014) rules. He introduced Robin Nelson who is the staff member who is in charge of the program who discussed how MDS interacts with Impact 2014. *(The Minimum Data Set (MDS) is part of the U.S. federally mandated process for clinical assessment of all residents in Medicare or Medicaid certified nursing homes. This process provides a comprehensive assessment of each resident's functional capabilities and helps nursing home staff identify health problems).* MDS rules were discussed and a new category called "GG" was covered. The GG designation delineates the amount of direct services that are provided to Medicare residents. Nelson covered the new GG program rules and the potentially penalizing of payments that would be received if all goals are not reached during the look back period due to be reviewed in 2018.

A discussion of the amount of time spent with the residents vs. filling out forms for all of the new regulations was had, and it was reflected on that most of the nursing staff is now focused on simply trying to stay on-time providing core nursing needs and that they no longer have the ability to spend extra time with residents. A further discussion of the impact of the numerous forms that need to be completed and the data that is mandated to be collected was covered.

Administrator Coates then reported out the Weekly Operations update.

Coates discussed the economic development efforts in the County and reviewed the need described by at least four (4) of the towns to begin an economic development program(s). Also covered was the work being completed to fund these efforts and how the County might be able to assist.

Coates then said that Commissioner Jeff Rose from the State Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), will be in Keene on Friday to discuss these efforts and explore other development activities. He also reviewed the workforce development efforts underway that could train individuals in advanced manufacturing skills that are highly sought after in the local labor market.

Coates then said that the HR Director position is still open and a candidate has been identified to which an offer will be extended this week.

Coates asked Commissioner Weed to discuss the NHAC Commissioners meeting last week and Weed said that a frank discussion of the organizations administrative and executive needs and current shortfalls was discussed. He said that the hiring of an auditor to overview the organizations finances and operations was discussed. A vote was taken to hire an independent auditor and upon vote passed with a majority.

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday February 22, 2017 09:30AM
Maplewood Nursing Home
201 River Road
Westmoreland, NH 03467

Coates then stated that the Executive Director of Home Healthcare Hospice & Community Services (HCS) will provide a written response to the Commissioners inquiry concerning the amount of the existing reserve fund held by the organization and the potential impact on the funding request from the County.

Coates then discussed a meeting that was held with Bert Inman of ReMax Realtors in Keene who has the listing for the Blood Farm in Westmoreland that is currently on the market for \$199,500.00. A new marketing plan was discussed to meet the goal of selling the property this year.

Coates then said that the contract for Banwell Architects work on the reconstruction of the Maplewood Nursing home has been reviewed by Primex, the County's insurance company attorney's. The Primex staff has suggested a few changes that will be reviewed in a meeting with the County Project Owner Representative, Steve Horton.

Coates then reminded the Commissioners of the final upcoming Executive Committee meeting for the 2017 budget on Monday the 27th.

Commissioner Graves then discussed his recent meeting with the farm tenants and reviewed the possible disposition of the old generator. A value for the generator needs to be developed before a method of disposal is determined.

The Weekly Census report was reviewed and discussed at length.

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

The minutes of February 15, 2017 were then reviewed and Commissioner Weed moved to accept the minutes as amended and was seconded by Commissioner Cartwright. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners calendar was reviewed.

Commissioner Cartwright discussed the Silvio Conti Wildlife Refuge project that could seriously impact the County towns.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Weed Clerk