

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday May 31, 2017 09:30AM
County Hall Building
Commissioners Conference Room
12 Court Street
Keene, NH 03431

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

STAFF: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, Maplewood Administrator Kindopp, HR Manager Jardine, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard.

GUESTS:

At 9:30AM the meeting opened and Chairman Graves recognized Administrator Coates who provided the following Weekly Operations report.

Coates reported that he met with the Arts Alive! group from Keene and they will be hosting their June meeting in the delegation meeting room. The group is asking to hold more events at 12 Court Street this year. He also said that the group is exploring using the facility as a possible art gallery.

Coates then said that the Horatio Colony Museum will be holding a seminar on June 15th in the delegation meeting room and will present a seminar on “A Short Course in Islam for Non-Muslims” from 7:00pm – 9:00pm.

Coates discussed a non-standard rule that has been used in the past to give terminated employees a two (2) week pay out when they leave the employment of the County. He discussed that this practice is inconsistent with County policy and needs to be addressed. A discussion of how employees are terminated and how termination notice time is counted and worked out was covered.

On Friday, the New Hampshire Association of Counties (NHAC) meeting will be held in Concord. Coates said that after the meeting he will be attend a second meeting later in the day concerning federal inmate holds.

The Maplewood reconstruction team will be meeting on Thursday to begin planning the beginning of the building process.

Coates and Bouchard spoke with Mark Houghton from Walpole who is the Assistant Fire Chief and involved with Walpole EMS. A meeting is being arranged with Dr. Suozzi to discuss how to address the growing shortage of fire and EMS personnel in the county.

Coates will be involved in a meeting with the State and South Western Regional Planning to discuss road work scheduled in the county.

Coates and Bouchard met with a private group to discuss fund raising to meet the goal of matching funds for the LCHIP grant received last year. A meeting with a professional fund raiser will take place today to explore how to raise the funds for both the windows and the cupola restoration.

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Coates met with a group concerning the 1115 waiver program who provide services to inmates through the Recovery Coach and Mentor program. The aim of the program is to provide support services to inmates who are released back into the community and need support to be successfully re-integrated into the community.

A discussion of the Handyman program that has been developed was covered. The program elements include services to keep people in their homes but will not cover major repairs such as roof replacement. Funding for the program is pending and services will begin once the funding has been received.

At 10:03am pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Cartwright moved to enter non-public session to discuss the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of deliberations in non-public session a decision was made and a unanimous vote was taken and to grant L. K. a two (2) week FMLA extension.

At 10:05am the Commissioners voted unanimously to returned to public session.

Administrator Kindopp was recognized to discuss Master Agenda Item #497: Request to change two (2) Nurse Administration positions from hourly to salary - K. Kindopp

At 10:06am pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Weed moved to enter non-public session to discuss the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Commissioner Cartwright seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of deliberations in non-public session a decision was made and a unanimous vote was taken to change two (2) Nursing Administration positions at Maplewood Nursing Home from hourly to salary FTE's. The change will be budget neutral.

At 10:25am the Commissioners voted unanimously to returned to public session.

Old Business: As a follow-on to a discussion that began last week, Commissioner Cartwright moves to appropriate the payment of a requested \$10K fee to the New Hampshire Association of Counties (NHAC) to be used to match state funds to create a study to assess alternatives within the state to Managed Care program for Nursing Homes

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in New Hampshire. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Weed will continue his role as the County Commissioner representative for the NHAC and the study as the project moves forward.

New Business: Commissioner Graves discusses his visit to the Walpole Selectboard to discuss the idea of twice yearly tax payments to the County. The Selectboard said that they could be interested with the payments being made in January and August if the idea moved forward.

A discussion of the transportation of juveniles to court in Concord was covered and a request has been made to explore having the Sheriff's department provide the transportation instead of the individual towns. Further investigation will be needed to determine responsibility for transportation costs.

The Commissioners calendar was then reviewed.

The Commissioners then reviewed the weekly Census.

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 May 24, 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.

At 11:13AM 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