

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday June 29, 2016 10:30AM
County Hall Building
Commissioners Conference Room
12 Court Street,
Keene, NH 03431

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

STAFF: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, Human Resources Director Hurley, Grants Manager Bansley, Education Program Director S. Sutherland, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard

Guests: A. Tilton, Register of Deeds.

At 9:33AM Chair Rogers opened the meeting and recognized County Administrator Coates for the purpose of receiving the weekly operational report.

Coates provided the Commissioners the following information concerning activities over the last week:

Coates shared a letter from the Town of Westmoreland expressing their wish to have the nursing home remain in Westmoreland.

He reminded the Commissioners that a retirement reception would be held from 2:00 – 4:00 on Thursday at Maplewood.

On Friday at 10:00AM a tour of Maplewood is taking place with two (2) Delegation members to review the needed add-ons items if the building is rehabbed.

Coates spoke to a letter he had received from the Horatio Colony Museum thanking the County for the use of the County Hall meeting room and expressing their appreciation for the County opening up a public space for community use.

Coates then discussed a meeting that is being held between Second Chance Housing and the leadership of Keene Housing Authority to explore changing / expanding the use of the Second Chance facility to meet current community needs. Coates will keep the Commissioners abreast of progress as the discussions move forward.

Bouchard was asked to provide an update to the County Website RFP and said that the RFP has been issued and responses are due by the end of July with work hopefully to begin in August of this year.

A discussion of some sample Collective Bargaining Agreements was begun by Coates and Commissioner Weed said that he has reviewed some of the sample agreements for use at the upcoming discussions at the Department of Corrections.

Coates said that he will be attending an employee Auxiliary meeting and is waiting to hear from the State about the formation of a non-profit 501-c3 to be able to accept donations from the public for the benefit of residents at the nursing home.

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Coates then discussed a grant opportunity called the America's Promise Job Driven Grant Program that could help facilitate the training of local community members for specific job needs in the area. He said that the County Grants Manager is looking into the requirements and that a meeting will be held to explore the need and the potential participation of local groups that would be needed to launch a program. The program is aimed at training / retraining individuals in areas such as advanced manufacturing, information technology, and healthcare.

Coates then discussed the 1115 Wavier process that is underway and said that as a newly appointed member of the Governance board he would be attending a meeting in Newport on Thursday to begin to move the effort forward.

The purpose of the Wavier as detailed on the NH Department of Health and Human Resources website:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved New Hampshire's Section 1115 Research and Demonstration Transformation Waiver, #11-W-00301/1 to access new federal funding to help transform its behavioral health delivery system. The Transformation Waiver has four main targets:

- 1. Deliver integrated physical and behavioral health care that better addresses the full range of individuals' needs*
- 2. Expand capacity to address emerging and ongoing behavioral health needs in an appropriate setting*
- 3. Reduce gaps in care during transitions across care settings by improving coordination across providers and linking patients with community supports.*
- 4. Move fifty percent of Medicaid reimbursement to alternative payment models by the end of the demonstration period*

By providing funding to support delivery system transformation—rather than to cover the costs of specific services rendered by providers—the waiver will enable health care providers and community partners within a region to form relationships focused on transforming care. This funding will also provide prompt resources for combatting the opioid crisis and strengthening the state's strained mental health delivery system.

Coates then said that an article on the County Farm would be upcoming in the Keene Sentinel as well as a follow-up piece on the union negotiations at the Department of Corrections.

In response to a question from the Commissioners, Register Tilton said that overall revenues at the Registry are slowly improving but the growth is slow and that she does not expect a significant increase in fee income this year.

Master Agenda Item #393: JAG 2016 Grant Application for the Sheriff's department was taken-

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up for discussion. Following review of the yearly renewal of the grant proposal which is split with the City of Keene, **Commissioner Weed moved to accept the grant submission and was seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously. The grant proceeds will be used to partially fund the cost of the Mobile Data Terminal program for the Sheriff's department.**

Master Agenda Item #394: Partnership for Success "Higher Ed" Grant Wrap-up Update. Grants Manager Bansley and Program Manager Sutherland recapped the three (3) year grant program that has been run at Franklin Pierce University and Keene State College to help students become more aware of the dangers of drug and alcohol use on campus. Sutherland provided a detailed description of the outcomes of the project and said that Franklin Pierce will continue the program and is in the process of recruiting a program manager. The Commissioners asked a number of questions about the effectiveness of the program and expressed the hope that the programs will continue.

Sutherland provided written documentation of the results and said that the programs coupled with active student participation have had a decisively positive impact on student drug and alcohol use on both campuses. With the conclusion of the grant funding Sutherland will move on to other opportunities and the Commissioners wished her the best of luck and again expressed their gratitude for a job well done. The Commissioners were effusive in their praise of Sutherland's work and said that she had completed an extremely difficult task with very positive results. They very strongly commended her for the work that was completed and the overall results of the program.

Master Agenda Item #395: Review and Discuss Pro-Share Allocation Recommendations. Director Trombly was recognized to discuss the allocation of Pro-Share funds that have been received from the State as partial reimbursement for the operation of the nursing home. The 2016 allocation to the County is down \$137,959.50 which is a reflection on the decrease bed days of 38,439 for SFY 2015 vs. 35,686 for SFY 2016.

The total amount to the County is \$1,798,484.50 of which \$500,000 is previously budgeted. This will leave \$1,298,484.00 to make recommendations for a budget amendment in August. Trombly then discussed a suggested list of allocations for review and after numerous questions the Commissioners agreed to move forward with the suggestions as presented for the 2017 budget.

Trombly then discussed the implementation of the new Kronos time-keeping payroll software update that is being installed. She said that Kronos is experiencing program performance issues and that the cutover date has been pushed out for two (2) weeks in order to be able to fix the issues before being released for general use.

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At 11:29AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Weed moved to recess the public meeting to discuss a Collective Bargaining Agreement. Commissioner Graves seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 11:41AM the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to public session.

The Commissioners then reviewed the Census and Calendar making no changes. **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 Graves moved to accept the Minutes of June 22, 2016 and was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 11:47AM 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