



COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Wednesday, February 25, 2026
Minutes

This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom at
Maplewood Nursing Home
201 River Road
Westmoreland NH, 03467

Zoom Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 603123

Start Time 9:00 AM

Start time adjusted for weather

Present: Commissioners Terry Clark, Claudia Stewart, and Skipper DiBernardo

Absent:

Staff: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, HR Director May, Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein, Maplewood Administrator Kindopp, Safety Coordinator Perrin, and Superintendent Phillips

Guests:

Public Comments

Upon recognition from the Chair, a Public Comment on topics of interest may be made.

I. Elected Officials & Department Head Updates

To receive, as informational, departmental updates requiring Commissioner review, participation, approval, and impactful departmental and operational issues.

1. HR Director May requested a non-FMLA leave of absence for an LNA at Maplewood. She is requesting a two week leave for the employee.

Commissioner Clark made the motion to approve the non-FMLA leave of absence, Commissioner DiBernardo seconded. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

2. May said two new nurses will be arriving at Maplewood by the end of March from Visa Solutions.

3. Finance Director Trombly said the auditors have expectedly arrived at the County. She said in addition to the prepared audit a random audit from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services is doing an audit of staffing levels in the County's healthcare facilities.

4. CCEMS Chief Kreamer said Golden Cross ambulance gave notice to Charlestown NH

that they will no longer provide service to their community.

Kreamer said if Walpole begins to cover Charlestown, there is a chance CCEMS will do more work to cover Walpole in that case.

II. Scheduled Items

Master Agenda Item #1330: Semi-Annual Report, Safety – S. Perrin

Action Expected: To receive an informational report on the last year of operations from the Safety Coordinator.

1. Safety Coordinator Perrin said we are in the state survey window for Assisted Living. Perrin said he has been inspecting apartments to make sure everything is safe and up to code.

Perrin said they did fire extinguisher training at Maplewood recently.

Perrin said the Safety Committee has been performing ongoing building audits.

He said they simulated a water contamination event where the team at Maplewood learned what to do in this unlikely event.

He said we are tracking a little higher for incidents this past year. Most common incidents are sprains, strains, and lacerations.

Perrin credited CCEMS Chief Kreamer for encouraging his team to report incidents when they occur.

He said fleet management will be initiated this year after the budget passes in March.

County Administrator

Weekly Operations Report - The County Administrator will update the Commissioners on activities that have taken place since the previous meeting.

1. County Administrator Coates said the NHAC Legislative Conference happened yesterday, February 24. He said it went well and 1/3 of the State Senate was in attendance as well as many other Representatives and County officials.

Coates said the Director of GO NORTH was in attendance and was aware of our initial submissions which will require follow up applications to the Rural Health Transformation Fund.

Coates said Representative Rhodes is planning on talking to the Governor about our submissions to the program.

2. Coates said he testified against House bill 1804 at the state complex yesterday. The bill would consolidate over 100 SAUs into 12 to be run by each County as well as

Manchester and Nashua. Coates said the bill is not workable, and would have Chief School Administrators (superintendents) be an elected County position, place burden on County resources such as HR, and blow up the County budget.

The group generally agreed that SAU consolidation could occur, but this bill does not seem like a prudent way of achieving that goal.

3. Coates said Maplewood is moving forward with establishing a new medical director under Vantage.

Contracts need to be signed by April or May. Vantage believes a doctor can be in place in 30 days from the signing.

4. Coates said the federal government requested more information from the County for the \$936,000 in CDS funding which he and Bernstein got to them this past Saturday as the deadline was a quick turnaround.

5. Finance Director Trombly said she has been working with E-Max to be eligible for the increased reimbursement rates for CCEMS from private insurance companies.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

V. Consent Agenda Items:

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests and Minutes of February 18, 2026

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to accept the manifest and minutes of February 18, Commissioner Clark seconded. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Calendar

Action Expected: To accept the calendar as informational and to make necessary changes/additions.

VII. General Discussion for Commissioners

VIII. Nonpublic Sessions:

IX. Adjournment

At 10:45 AM Commissioner Stewart made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner DiBernardo seconded. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Recorded by:
Davis Bernstein
Director of Executive Services & Communications

Minutes Reviewed by:
Commissioner DiBernardo
Clerk, Cheshire County Commissioners