



COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Minutes

This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom at
County Hall
12 Court Street
Keene NH, 03431

Zoom Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 603123

Start Time 8:30 AM

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

Absent:

Staff: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, CCEMS Chief Kreamer, HR Director May, County Treasurer Wozmak, and Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein

Guests: Chief Coordinator Mike Winn (SWNHDFMA), Don Bliss (MRI), Chair Phil Tirrell (SWNHDFMA), Board Member Greg Seymour (SWNHDFMA).

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.

II. Scheduled Items

Master Agenda Item #1357: Commissioner's Signatures – S. Trombly

Action Expected: To have the Commissioners sign documents pertaining to updating the new Medical Director with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

The Commissioners signed the documents informing CMS of the new Medical Director that will now be covering Maplewood Nursing Home.

Master Agenda Item #1358: Report, Southwest NH District Fire Mutual Aid (SWNHDFMA) – M. Winn & D. Bliss

Action Expected: To receive an informational report on operations at SWNHDFMA.

1. Chair Tirrell said there are many changes completed or in progress at SWNHDFMA at the recommendation of Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI).

He said there was a clean audit completed for 2024, and 2025 is underway.

Chief Winn said there are 28 out of 30 recommendations completed or underway from the MRI report.

2. Don Bliss said SWNHDFMA covers 77 communities, making it the largest mutual aid in New England.

3. County Treasurer Wozmak said he is very happy with the progress SWNHDFMA has made. He suggested that Tirrell should retire from the board as he believes issues at Mutual Aid have been caused by him.

Tirrell said he wants to see the organization survive, and said he and Wozmak have never seen eye to eye.

4. County Commissioner DiBernardo asked what the two recommendations they have not address yet.

Winn said the two items are changing personnel policy and utilizing technology have not been fully addressed or enacted yet.

5. Commissioner Stewart asked how long Chair Tirrell has been associated with SWNHDFMA. He said he had worked with them for 32 years in the past through different positions including dispatcher and Chief.

He said he was Vice-Chair of the Board and took a five-year break. He returned to the Board about a year ago and was elected President of the Board.

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 he traveled to Winchester to meet with the Town Administrator to discuss EMS services as the County is still waiting for a response from Winchester on how they will be moving forward to meet their EMS needs.

Town Administrator Miner said the Selectboard is struggling to make a decision. Coates informed her he will be having CCEMS Chief Kreamer send the costs of multiple options to Winchester.

Coates said there are ways in which the County could ensure 24/7 coverage in Winchester.

2. Coates said pro-share funding numbers have come in. The County budgeted for \$4.05 million, and is receiving slightly under that figure at \$4.6 million. Last year \$5.0 million was received.

3. Coates said there is a ribbon cutting in Winchester on June 5 at Noon at Opportunity Drive business park.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

1. Finance Director Trombly asked the Commissioners about their schedule on Thursday, June 4th to hold a County Commissioner's meeting. The meeting on Wednesday, June 3 is cancelled due to the Primex conference. The meeting needs to happen on June 4 to award a time sensitive bid for the County Tax Anticipation Note (TAN).

2. Commissioner Clark said the town of Roxbury is considering dissolving and joining the town of Marlborough. They sent a letter to the Cheshire County Delegation outlining these reasons, and identifying struggles they are going through.

Roxbury suggested they are having issues with getting grants for road maintenance. Clark asked if the County could help.

Coates said the team would take a look.

V. Consent Agenda Items:

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests and Minutes of May 20, 2026

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to accept the manifest and minutes of May 20, 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.

1. The County Commissioner's meetings for Wednesday June 3, and Wednesday June 10 have been cancelled.

2. A Commissioner's meeting has been established for Thursday, June 4 at 3:30PM at County Hall, 12 Court Street, Keene NH, 03431.

VII. General Discussion for Commissioners

VIII. Nonpublic Sessions:

IX. Adjournment

At 10:22AM Commissioner Clark 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