



COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Wednesday, June 24, 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, HR Director May, Treatment Court and Behavioral Health Court Coordinator/Project Director Welsh, Field Specialist Majewski, 4-H Program Manager Zuorski, Grants Manager Bansley, and Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein

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.

II. Scheduled Items

Master Agenda Item #1365: Treatment Court Subcontract for Prepayments – S. Bansley

Action Expected: Vote to authorize up to two subcontracts for prepaid provider services under the Treatment Court SFY26 grant for SFY27.

1. Finance Director Trombly stated the auditors do not see the plan of pre-payment will cause any issues.

Commissioner Clark made a motion to authorize up to two subcontracts for prepaid provider services under the Treatment Court SFY26 grant for SFY27. Commissioner Stewart seconded. Upon a role call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Master Agenda Item #1366: Semi-Annual Report, UNH Cooperative Extension – C. Majewski

Action Expected: To receive an informational report on the last six months of operations.

1. Field Specialist Majewski said they have a number of programs between forestry & food/agriculture. Some of it is collaboration with the Cheshire County Conservation District.

He said they have helped 40 citizens with walk ins, and performed dozens of soil tests as home gardeners are getting ready to plan.

He said Astara has offered many programs from studying vernal pools to sugaring.

He said 4-H discovery day was held in the County with statewide participants.

He stated they have begun searching for a County forester.

4-H Program Manager Zuorski introduced Savannah, an extremely active member of 4-H. She participates in several programs and holds many titles across various boards in and around the 4-H space.

Savannah shared her presentation on A.I (artificial insemination) in the dairy industry.

Master Agenda Item #1367: Semi-Annual Report, Behavioral Health – A. Welsh

Action Expected: To receive an informational report on the last six months of operations.

1. Treatment Court and Behavioral Health Court Coordinator/Project Director Welsh explained incentive-based programming. This works with positive reinforcement, and behavioral correction actions, including removal from the program.

She said that clients are primarily white, male, and middle-aged.

There is a wide variation of mental health diagnoses. PTSD, trauma, ADD/ADHD, anxiety, major depressive disorder, and bipolar disorder are very common.

She is seeing an uptick in crack/cocaine use.

The majority of clients live with family, which is very different from treatment court where that number is far lower.

After discharge the majority of folks are living in sober living and their own rented housing. The 4% that are incarcerated did not make it through the program.

Welsh said they have put their first participants in Pathway Home through Keene Housing.

Live Free, Antrim House, Anew, Avenues, Granite House, Capital Recovery, Process Recovery are just a few of the local agencies for residential treatment that BHC works with.

Keene Metro/New Season, The Doorway, Monadnock Family Services, ANEW, Community Improvement Associates, Cheshire Medical Center, and others are agency referrals for medication assisted treatment.

The majority of clients are utilizing Medicaid.

Welsh said she has concerns with work requirements for Medicaid and SNAP.

Most participants have at least a high school diploma. This is different from Treatment Court where lower level of education is seen.

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 County will be receiving opioid abatement checks in July.
2. Coates said the Partridge Brook Road has been reduced to one lane in Westmoreland for three weeks.
3. Coates said to ensure enough staffing for CCEMS, Finance Director Trombly and himself are suggesting that 13 becomes the minimum staffing number vs. the current 11.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

1. The Commissioners discussed turning the hill in front of Maplewood into a pollinator garden/area instead of a grassy area that had to be mowed due to the dangers that come with it.

V. Consent Agenda Items:

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests and Minutes of June 17, 2026

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to accept the manifest and minutes of June 17, 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:

At 9:40AM Commissioner Clark made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Commissioner Stewart seconded. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of the non-public the Commissioner's made a decision and the employee will be notified.

At 10:32AM the Commissioners unanimously voted to re-enter the public session.

IX. Adjournment

At 11:15AM 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