



COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Minutes

This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom at
Department of Corrections
850 Marlboro Road
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, Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein, and Superintendent Iosue.

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 an extension of an FMLA leave for a Maplewood employee for four additional weeks.

Commissioner DiBernardo made a motion to approve the extension. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

2. Finance Director Trombly said the yearly County audit process is beginning on Monday February 24th, and will last two weeks.

II. Scheduled Items

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 there will be a meeting at 1:00PM today in conjunction with the County, Southwest Regional Planning Commission, and staff of the Federal Delegation to discuss the federal funding freeze.

2. The Commissioners discussed the budget process surrounding the utilization of the fund balance to reduce taxes to be raised.

Commissioners Stewart said using our fund balance pushes off any necessary raises in taxes to the following year, where that money will not be able to be used, and a larger tax increase will occur.

Finance Director Trombly said if a significant portion of the fund balance is used this year, the fund will be significantly depleted the following year, and will not be able to be used to reduce the percentage of taxes to be raised.

Commissioner Clark asked Trombly if there are any concerns about the County credit rating.

Trombly said not at this time, but they may note the use of fund balance dollars and raise concerns.

3. Coates asked the Commissioners if they had any thoughts on the meeting surrounding the River Road Bridge that occurred on February 18th.

Commissioner Clark said he did not, and said he supported the plan of supporting 10% of the total cost of the study to assess the cost to replace or fix the bridge.

Commissioner Stewart said she would like to see if the Partridge Bridge should be raised to prevent flooding regardless of how the River Road Bridge situation is handled.

4. Coates said we are cancelling the March 5th Commissioners meeting.
5. Coates said he is working with Attorney Adam Kossayda on examining a contract with Visa Solutions.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

V. Consent Agenda Items:

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests and Minutes of February 12, 2025

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the manifests and minutes of February 12. Commissioner DiBernardo 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 10:30AM Commissioner Clark made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Stewart 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