



## COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

### 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, Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein, and CCEMS Chief Kreamer.

**Guests:** Malcolm Bliss (Kearsarge Energy)

### **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: CCEMS Chief Kreamer brought up the topic of a LUCAS machine which is used for portable compressions. The union has brought up that they believe it is unsafe that these devices are not securely held down within the ambulances.

The cost to mount these devices in each of the seven ambulances is \$27,073.31.

Kreamer said that the video laryngoscopes used by CCEMS are no longer serviceable. If these devices fail, they will not be repairable.

The cost to purchase new laryngoscopes is \$16,660.80.

**Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve both projects totaling 43,734.11 from the current Capital Improvement Line in the amount of \$26,500, as well as \$17,234.11 in supplemental funding. Commissioner Clark seconded. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.**

## **II. Scheduled Items**

Master Agenda Item #1271: Kearsarge Energy Presentation – M. Bliss

**Action Expected: To receive a presentation on solar energy and net metering from Malcom Bliss of Kearsarge Energy.**

1: Malcolm Bliss began by stating that NH group net metering is a state program for public entities to save money tied to energy use. This project does not require investment or outlay from the County, no use of County land, and no change to current electricity usage/supplier/community power participation.

Bliss said that credits would be assigned to County's utility accounts, up to the County's kWh usage, estimated to be 3,000,000. The County receives a payment from Kearsarge monthly tied to the solar project's generation; Kearsarge and the County commit to the program with savings guaranteed for 20 years.

Bliss said that state law requires them to share energy credits with public entities from the solar projects they are a part of.

Commissioner DiBernardo stated he had issues with where this money was coming from and on if it would have any impact on taxpayers.

**The Commissioners determined they would take this issue up in the future.**

### **County Administrator**

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

1: Coates said the Commissioners, Finance Director Trombly, CCEMS Chief Kreamer, and himself will be heading to Marlborough after the meeting to discuss CCEMS with the Select-board.

Coates said they will be meeting with additional towns in the coming weeks.

Coates said the County has developed a strong and reliable continuum of care with CCEMS serving as a central piece of this to keep the residents of Cheshire County safe and healthy.

## **III. Old Business**

## **IV. New Business**

1: County Administrator Coates presented a draft policy outlining remote participation for the County Commissioners.

**The Commissioners signed the policy outlined below:**

1. Attendance in person is not reasonably practical (out of state, prior obligations, etc.)
2. Commissioners present constitute a quorum of two out of three of the elected Commissioners of Cheshire County. Or less than a quorum is present because the Chair has determined this is an emergency: Immediate action is imperative and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the time requiring action. The reason for the emergency session will be stated in the minutes.
3. The public can hear the Commissioner(s) participating virtually via Zoom.
4. The Commissioners(s) physically present can hear the virtual attendees.
5. The Commissioner(s) attending virtually can hear all of those physically present.
6. The Commissioner(s) attending virtually identifies anyone present with them from wherever they are remotely attending from.
7. All votes are taken by roll call.
8. In the minutes, the reason why it was not reasonably practical for the virtual attendee to be in person is outlined.

**V. Consent Agenda Items:**

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests and Minutes of May 21, 2025

**1: Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the manifests and minutes of May 21, 2025. 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 9:38AM 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