

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 **Minutes**

This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom at
Cheshire County EMS
66 Lake Street
Swanzey NH, 03446

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, Superintendent Iosue, Grants Manager Bansley, Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein, HR Director May, CCEMS Deputy Chief Atkins, and CCEMS Chief Kreamer.

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: CCEMS Chief Kreamer informed the Commissioners that ambulance A-7 has severe damage to the rear end axel. They are currently looking at the extent of the extended warranties that the vehicle has and costs for repair.

Kreamer said they do not have a replacement for the ambulance at this time. Rental options are very expensive at \$250 a day, with a strict mileage cap.

He said that they have reached out to Great Brook and Stewarts Ambulance to see if they have any ambulances available for temporary useage.

Kreamer said he has spoken to Safety Director Perrin to discuss insurance options through Primex.

Kreamer said this has been a recent issue with no reason to believe anyone caused this, the warranty will hopefully cover it.

Kreamer said an authorized Ford dealer such as Monadnock Ford will need to look at the ambulance to diagnose the issue.

CCEMS Deputy Chief Atkins estimates the repairs to be near \$10,000.

Kreamer said Charlie Cummings is working on this.

Once more information is known the Chief will circle back to discuss options to move forward with the Commissioners.

2: Kreamer said the delivery date of the A-9 ambulance has been constantly pushed back for three years.

He said they have \$431,000 from the County.

County Administrator Coates said the money came from the American Rescue Plan and it needed to be obligated by the end of 2024.

3: Director of Executive Services/Communications Bernstein announced the upcoming Select-board meetings the Commissioners will attend.

Gilsum on Monday June 9 at 6:00PM Westmoreland on Tuesday June 17 at 1:00PM Harrisville on Friday June 27 at 9:00AM.

4: Finance Director Trombly said there are crucial repairs to the wastewater treatment facility which need to be done. They will cost around \$10,000. It is applicable for a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Half of the loan is forgivable.

II. Scheduled Items

Master Agenda Item #1272: DOT FTA Certifications and Assurances – S. Bansley Action Expected: Authorize the county administrator to sign the DOT FTA's Certifications and Assurances documents, agreeing to comply with applicable provisions related to various laws.

1: Grants Manager Bansley said the document in question ensures the County is in compliance with conditions required to receive funding from the DOT. These are additional terms added to a previously signed grant agreement from April 23, 2025

The FTA Master Agreement and the Category 1 Certifications and Assurances Required of Every Application document was shared in advance of the meeting with the Commissioners to review prior to discussion.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to accept and authorize the grant agreement beginning July 1, 2025 at the April 23, 2025 meeting. This grant for \$312,200 per year is

used to provide accessible transport, mobility management services for seniors & individuals w/disabilities. Notable FTA changes to the Certs/Assurance include "cooperating with and not impeding U.S. Immigration" and compliance with any amendments to U.S. DOT regulations, "Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation – Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964." Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

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 asked the Commissioners if they wanted to have the annual Commissioners report be dedicated to a person or group. The Commissioners suggested they would be interested in dedicating it to unsung heroes, employees that make the everyday actions of the County possible.
- 2: Coates said Finance Director Trombly and himself met with the Elijah Castro from the Keene Sentinel to discuss ramifications to the County through the federal Big Beautiful Bill which has passed the house. Coates said loss of Medicaid funding, community development block grants, and changes to FMAP were all major topics of discussion.
- 3: Coates discussed the recent meeting with the Marlborough Select-board to discuss CCEMS. The Commissioners said they believe the meeting went well, but were surprised by the town's surprise with the cost increase in July 2026 which was made clear when the original contract was signed.
- 4: Coates discussed a joint grant venture with the City of Keene to host concerts within Keene and throughout the County.
- 5: HR Director May said the Cheshire County Employees Association will be hosting a Summer BBQ event on June 21st from 11am-3pm at Monadnock Regional High School.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

V. <u>Consent Agenda Items:</u>

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests and Minutes of May 28, 2025

1: Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the manifests and minutes of May 28, 2025. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. 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 10:14AM 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