

Carroll County Commissioners Meeting

Minutes

October 28, 2009

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Sorensen, Commissioner Solomon, Commissioner Albee

Public: Maureen Spencer, Henry Spencer, David Babson, Daymond Steer, Nate Giarnese, Steve Wilson, Pete Grady, Steve Heffernan (Hale's Location).

Meeting opened for Public Input at 8:15am

1. Steve Wilson: Questions about Hale's Location.
2. Commissioner Sorensen: Coos County is not interested in taking Hale's over.
3. Steve Wilson: Plan to leave office in Maintenance shed or work out of person's home, or have it down here? In my opinion we do not need an office. Would think someone would prefer to do it out of their home.
4. Commissioner Sorensen: Have Emergency contracts already signed. Paid for phone and internet and Conway taxes. Basically it is a 1 ½ hour position at the office per week and then at home. Need to look at contract agreement with Amy and see what it said.
5. Mr. Wilson: Need to be certified, class is held by the clerk association.
Discussion of position and training as well as questions about current secretary moving in to the position. Qualifications, onsite, off-site.
6. Commissioner Sorensen: May be others interested as well. Have her (secretary) apply if she is interested. Ad has been posted. You do not think it is necessary to have an office?
7. Mr. Wilson: Prior to Amy – Coos did it and we never saw the person.
8. Commissioner Sorensen: Would be better for Hale's to form village/town and not need County running things.
9. Commissioner Albee: Weigh cost – staff – town or village district. Independence /savings. Worth time to explore option.
10. Maureen Spencer: Advertise for bids on van? Has website training started?
11. Commissioner Sorensen: Have advertised for bids and website training is this week.

Regular session

Commissioner Albee made motion to accept minutes of October 21, 2009.

*Mr. Babson would like wording altered on page one, line 4 to read “Farm Bureau did not want you selling lower”.

*Commissioner Solomon seconded motion to accept minutes as amended.
Commissioner Sorensen, Albee, and Solomon in favor. So voted*

1. Commissioner Solomon: Would like to thank Conway Daily Sun on columns done on nursing home. Have been getting calls. Met with man (through Gibson Center) from New York who is constructing a nursing home as well. Exchanged ideas. In New York it is state funding instead of county – run by non-profit. They receive grant money to retrain staff.

Description of the NY home and components, usage. Also would like to talk with Sandi McKenzie about set times. They have no set breakfast time; residents get up when they want. They can also bring favorite personal belongings with them. (Eden Alternative by William Thomas)

2. Commissioner Albee: Went to convention of County Government on Monday and Tuesday.

Description of convention and events/meetings

Discussion of where Carroll County will hold meeting when it is their turn.

Meeting highlights: 0 Regional appropriations – County Board not agreeable. Board of Corrections had Power point on moving inmates out into the public.

3. Commissioner Sorensen: Three people received awards. Robin Reade, Admin., Paula Coates, MVNH, Sgt Batchelder, HOC.

Sgt. Batchelder was commended and recognized for saving an inmate’s life with mouth to mouth resuscitation. She thanked him after her sentence for saving her life and helping change her life.

Will get more info on cost, benefit and training needed for inmates to go out into public. House of Correction affiliates had most of program.

Disappointed that more was not represented

Jack Widmer, County Treasurer

1. Budget discussion: Cut from dental, office supplies. Concern with travel expense going over.

2. Commissioner Sorensen: Submit travel vouchers. 0 budget increase.

3. Mr. Widmer: I am impressed at how Admin office runs. Very organized.

4. Commissioner Albee: Financial sub-committee meeting on MVNH coming up.

5. Commissioner Sorensen: Deciding on Bond – Interest rate – etc.

6. Mr. Widmer: Will participate

Will Dewitte, Farm-Maintenance

Update on truck purchase details;

1. 1st payment due on delivery, then 1 payment per year for 2 more years. Money is in this year's budget for 1st payment. Then money is planned in next year's budget.
2. Would like to move on it as soon as possible for this season. V10 – gas engine. More power for plowing. Suggested by Dave Myers. Savings. Total cost \$34,900.

Commissioner Albee made motion to approve purchase of F350 by farm. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sorensen. Commissioners Sorensen, Albee, and Solomon in favor. So voted

3. Will: Put vaporizer in propane tank this week. Other vaporizer is also broken. Cost to replace 2nd vaporizer is \$6k. One vaporizer is not enough. Needs immediate attention.
4. Commissioner Sorensen: Where is money coming from? Split among building. have to do it.

Commissioner Albee made motion to replace second vaporizer. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sorensen. Commissioners Sorensen, Albee, and Solomon in favor. So voted.

Sandi McKenzie and Paula Coates, MVNH

Budget

1. Made assumption for proposed 2010 budget.
2. Payer source – increased skilled # from 5 to 6.8. Private 24.4%. Medicaid 65.8%. Empty 3%.
3. Would like private rate increase of 3.5% (\$245 → \$254). Announce 30 days in advance.

Commissioner Sorensen made motion to approve increase in private rate. Commissioner Albee seconded the motion. Commissioners Albee, Sorensen, and Solomon in favor. So voted.

Line by line review and discussion. Not projecting Medicaid increase. Changes in Medicare rates – conservative. Private – increasing rate. 34-38% of money is from private pay.

4. Commissioner Albee: Assumptions of 100 beds full?
5. Sandi: Have 103 beds available. Basic occupancy is 100.
6. Paula: Medicaid income – personal portion of bill/increase.
7. Sandi: 144% rehab. \$125k - \$240k is conservative

Physical therapy benefits. Projected income. More OT than PT.

Revenue continuation of line by line projections, increases.

8. Commissioner Albee: May have hard time w/delegates. Basing assumption on June thru August.

9. Sandi: More residents receiving some type of therapy. Change modalities.

10. Commissioner Albee: Discussion of increase in modalities.

Expenses

Discussion and overview of line items relating to expenses. Review, explanations, questions, and suggestions.

11. Commissioner Albee: Look at metering – the difference between jail and admin. Usage is nursing home. Most likely to increase.

Need discussion with Rob about equipment exchange.

Nursing line items review and discussion

Laundry increase due to new contract and higher population

Housekeeping

Physician and pharmacy/ emp. Physicals

Physical therapy – restorative aids, increase.

Check on new equipment expense.

Recreation therapy/bus driver

12. Commissioner Albee: Need to talk to Kathy about salaries. Breakdown. Throws off insurance and retirement.

Social Services: Cost of criminal checks for new hires has increased

13. Commissioner Albee: Optimize billing procedures

14. Sandi: In 2011 need to consolidate info and communications. What are other homes doing?

15. Commissioner Albee: Federal money available for EMR's. Capital expense

16. Commissioner Sorensen: Identify places where grants are available.

Discussion on 501C3 and person to get that going.

17. Sandi: Equipment...Ice Pack machine – approved at \$700 goes over by \$45 for shipping.

Vital Signs monitor \$2836 includes stand. Have \$1300 left; may we use this for an additional mattress? (Commissioners said yes).

18. Commissioner Albee: Don't think revenue will be up \$350k but would be great.

Has a decision been made on flooring for new home?

19. Sandi: Asked for samples. Want one room in old home tiled in it so we can try it out. Carpet – want to know about maintenance and cleaning. Also asked for samples. \$10-15 per yard for carpet. Pros and Cons. Vinyl tile is realistic. Looking to see who has carpet and what is their experience with it.

Received call from Mr. Fleck – he wants to go over the budget. What should I do?

20. Commissioner Sorensen and Albee: Make changes and go over it with him.

Subcommittee meeting tomorrow at 1pm.

Commissioner Albee made motion to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA91A; 3 for Personnel with Sheriff Department.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Sorensen. Commissioner Sorensen, Albee, and Solomon in favor. In to non-public at 11:15am.

Out of non-public session at 11:50am

Missy Labbe – Eco Maine

Does not recommend going to single sort at this time. Not a lot of savings to be had. \$48 per ton currently is a good price. Hauling cost is high and should be renegotiated. Total disposal cost \$18,780. Negotiate your environmental fees, etc. Also, can paper go in with cardboard? Gave explanation of why it is not feasible at this time.

May be eventual potential for single sort.

1. Commissioner Albee: Will look at our contract with Waste Management
2. Missy: You should look at surrounding towns and see what they pay. Possibly go out with RFP and get better rates. Should not charge you to take the cardboard.
3. Babson: Questions for Missy on recycling and single sort.

Open for public input:

1. Henry Spencer: Credit card use at County. Is it under control? Has policy been reviewed?
2. Commissioner Sorensen: Has been no abuse of cards.
3. Babson: elected official, they get dental benefits?
4. Commissioner Sorensen: They get dental only as a shared expense.

5. Babson: Raise private rates again? \$245 - \$254. Did they call and get rates? Shouldn't you do spread sheet before raising prices again?

Jack Donovan, State Recovery Zone Info.

Stimulus bill passed to help economy.

Recovery zones

High poverty- unemployment-foreclosures

Allocation went to counties.

Bonds – ability to relieve debt at lower interest

\$135 million was split between counties in NH (and Manchester).

Carroll County would get \$374,000.

We would like this turned back over to State recovery dept to administer tax exempt help to eligible areas. Looking to find private business that would create employment for area.

Must have depreciable assets and have ability to create jobs.

Federal tax free but not state tax free.

It is available to agriculture and dairy industry.

1. Commissioner Sorensen: Will give it back, had already decided on this.
2. Jack: Smallest project will be \$3 to 4 million dollars. If anyone has any suggestions of businesses please let me know.

Commissioner Albee made motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Solomon seconded the motion. Commissioners Solomon, Albee, and Sorensen in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40pm