

Carroll County Commissioner's Meeting

Minutes

December 23, 2009

Commissioners: Commissioner Sorensen, Commissioner Albee, Commissioner Solomon

Public: Maureen Spencer, Henry Spencer, David Babson, Nate Giarnese, Susan Wiley

Open for Public Input at 8:15am

1. David Babson: Farm Budget Questions; Changed rates for maintenance, lost \$84k last year. Budgeted expenses \$190k for 2010. Details: difference of \$81k – thought change in rate was to cut deficit down.
2. Commissioner Sorensen: Made changes to reflect going rate. New plow truck raised expenses.
3. Babson: Still \$81k deficit, why? People will be saying to shut the farm down.
4. Commissioner Sorensen: We will continue to look at it.
5. Babson: Has it been determined when I can get on the agenda? (will discuss after any other comments from public, do not need to be on the agenda).
6. Maureen Spencer: Did anyone other than Donna Lane apply for CDBG administrator position?
7. Commissioner Sorensen: No, she is hired.

Questions from Mr. Babson

8. David Babson: What is the “not to be exceeded amount” stipulated in contract?
9. Commissioner Albee: \$23,500,000.
10. David Babson: What is the actual construction cost?
11. Commissioner Albee: \$18,744,000
12. Commissioner Sorensen: That figure could change a little as the bids come in.
13. Babson: Of the \$300k and \$200k already approved and used, are they included in the \$23.5?
14. Commissioner Albee: The \$300k, Yes, the \$200k, No.
15. Babson: BPS's commission, will that be paid on the construction cost alone or other areas?
16. Albee: Construction costs alone. Actual expenditures

17. Babson: Does the \$18 million cover all furniture and equipment with which to operate the facility?
18. Albee: No
19. Babson: How does the \$2 million to be raised by the non-profit fit in. Is it to be used to pay down the bond or added to the bond amount?
20. Albee: Used to pay down bond as set by delegation.
21. Babson: What will happen if BPS is not able to meet their commitment?
22. Albee: If they make a commitment to build all inclusive for \$18,744,000 nothing would be cut.
23. Babson: What if a contractor goes out of business in the middle of the project and another contractor cannot complete the work for that committed price?
24. Albee: If that company cannot do it, the bond that BPS has on that company will cover the project. Nothing will be cut.
25. Babson: Do we in fact not have two costs; one for new construction and equipment and one including both, plus equipment moved from the old home. For final cost should not the cost of the old equipment be included?
26. Albee: That depends on accounting. \$100k of that is for tearing down old home. Is it fair to charge new home for that? Are you looking for a final asset value?
27. Babson: I feel that when you say you are building a new nursing home for \$23.5 that you are actually building it for a little more. (when including old equipment, etc.)
28. Albee: If we decide we wanted old equipment we would just throw it away and then we would have an actual price. We are trying to reuse
29. Babson: What individual or corporation with extensive construction experience and no ties to the project will be watching out for the taxpayers?
30. Albee: The Commissioners
31. Babson: Who will do the purchasing for the new nursing home equipment and supplies? It should be done by a professional organization or individual, not a secretary at the nursing home. (beds, lights, furniture)
32. Albee: All that will be put out to bid by BPS and Commissioners will do approval.
33. Babson: Do the Commissioners or BPS anticipate a value engineering firm being hired when the drawings are completed. Huggins did this and saved thousands of dollars.
34. Albee: You asked what was cut to make this project work. That was one of the things that got cut. WE have limited ourselves so severely in this project. We have cut

\$5 million from this project. Value engineering will be handled by EGA's engineers and BPS.

Discussion on Bidding/bonding, etc.

35. Maureen: News on NHPR about new and old nursing home. Radio is following story.

36. Henry: Non-profit - \$2 million – pay down bond debt. Perhaps buying beds, etc? If buying inside is not in the bond then I think it needs to be explained to the public. 501C3 is only for building – to pay down bond.

37. Albee: Our delegation needs to revisit this if it is only going for debt reduction. Going to be hard to raise funds. Right now the delegation has stated that it is specifically to be used to reduce debt.

38. Susan Wiley: Farm Day?

39. Commissioner Sorensen: August 1, 2010.

40. Susan Wiley: Heard report on NHPR – concern – old home to be used for transition housing?

41. Albee: The County is not in the position of running a homeless center. Someone brought it up at last meeting.

42. Commissioner Sorensen: The home is not prepared for that type of use. We will listen to suggestion.

Regular meeting @ 8:40am

Kathy Garry, Administration Office

1. Last week you received Donna Lane's bid on CDBG administrator. Need to formally put it into minutes as accepted.

Commissioner Albee made motion to approve Donna Lane for CDBG grant Administrator. Motion seconded by Commissioner Solomon. Commissioners Solomon, Albee, and Sorensen in favor. So voted.

2. Kathy: Stimulus grant questions received. They want 1) Site map where pipes might be 2) Any solid waste disposal with heating? (No) 3) Copy of deed for property which I will get from Ann Aiton. Spoke with Katy in Washington this morning. It is moving along and they are trying to tie things up before the end of the year. As soon as they get these items it will go to approval group. Should be quick after they receive answers to these questions.

Will Dewitte, Farm

1. Eastern Propane called, you are setting up meeting in the future?

2. Commissioner Sorensen: Yes, Maria with EGA is supposed to be setting up with them. We are looking for alternative sites as well for smaller units.

3. Water issues – break @ state shed. Has been fixed. Took our time and equipment. Leak was inside building so we dug up shut off valve, they repaired leak, and we turned it back on.
4. There was some confusion when there was a fire last weekend. Confusion with dispatch. Adam Riley has it figured out now. I drained hydrant and put antifreeze in. Pond is now down over half.
5. Inspection of water department in December. Primary wells and dug wells. Dug wells have not been tested since 2004. We are not allowed to use them now until we are back on a schedule of testing in 2010. I am getting prices on testing.
6. Waste water inspection coming up – getting ready for that. 3rd is still off line. Hope for next week. Parts have not come yet. Tractor injector is in, will put it together next week. Have ideas for parking at new building. Easier for plowing and staff parking.
7. Albee: Meeting with Rhines and architect next week. Need to know any changes that need to be made ASAP.
8. Will: Future – look at updating equipment for maintenance.
9. Sorensen: Question – are we charging enough for our crew to do shoveling, snow plowing, etc? Are we charging the different buildings appropriately? We will also be charging Sheriff Department to plow road to rifle range. (Hourly and benefits).
10. Will: Still processing wood. Little behind schedule.

Commissioner Albee made motion to approve public minutes of December 16th, 2009. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sorensen. Commissioners Sorensen and Albee in favor. So voted.

Jason Johnson, HOC

1. In house population is 58, 0 weekenders, 6 transfers, 4 electronic monitor, 20 on pre-trial release. Total population of 88. Total number admitted for the week was 11 (8 repeaters) Total released for the week was 13. Repeater charges: 1 control drug act X3, 1 second degree assault X2, 3 in for warrants, 1 protective custody, 1 DWI, 1 Violation of Probation. Farm is taking out an average of 3 inmates per day, 12 available.
2. Need to address a structural issue in MSU. A portion of the half-wall has separated from the cubical dividers. No structural component linking the two walls together. Joe is working on getting angle iron to bolt the walls together. This issue was previously addressed by Granger as it pertained to the half walls separating from the outer wall; however, it was not addressed with the remainder of the walls. We will fix all remaining joints so this will not be an issue. Joe will get a price on all material needed.

3. Commissioner Albee: What is causing this to happen?
4. Jason: Not tied in to the main wall.
5. All snow has been removed from around the facility.
6. Department of Education came in on Monday; we are meeting all the standards and have only had three inmates that needed IEPs since we have been submitting the weekly list back in June.
7. The League of Women Voters was in this past Friday and was pleased to see how the facility operated. They were able to speak with myself, Capt. Fowler, medical and mental health staff, as well as some of the women inmates. They stated that they had received a lot of good information about the various Department of Corrections. (Submitted letter to Commissioners from Co-President).
8. Sent an inmate out to the hospital due to a medical condition early Monday morning. The inmate was treated and released.
9. Had sprinkler system inspection. Inspector noted that system is due for internal inspection due to being in operation for over five years. Will schedule that for the next inspection. Recommended every five years.
10. Had meeting with jail sub-committee yesterday. Will schedule another meeting after the holidays.
11. Admitted a state prison inmate on administrative transfer. He is a sentenced inmate, out in September.

Discussion of building committee meeting, architect meeting. Addressing Fire Department needs. Removed perimeter sidewalks. Rethink parking areas. Storm water run-off plans.

December 30th meeting with EGA, White Mountain Survey, PSNH, Eastern Propane.

January 6th meeting with Charlie Agnew from Maine (pellets). Lyman out of Maine and Drew Drummond also want to come in. Should have a better idea exactly what we are putting out to bid.

Final drawings will be done the end of January, out for bid in February.

Discussion of bid process and heat systems. If bids are low we can add back in things we took out to lower price. Building Committee in Feb. after bids come in. Get nature trail back on track.

1. Susan Wiley: When is next evening meeting?
2. Commissioner Sorensen: It will be the third Wednesday in January.
3. Susan Wiley: It would be nice to get on a schedule so the public knows when they are. Someone approached me to make sure we do not sell any topsoil from construction site.

Annual report – auditor and printer delay last year?

4. Commissioner Sorensen: Auditor was told we need it earlier. Will be going out for bid for printer. Will think about auditor as well.
5. Susan Wiley: Talked to Linda Fox-Phillips, she wanted to know if we had looked at grants for electronic monitoring. I was not sure, told her I would get back to her. Isn't there money available for these?
6. Commissioner Sorensen: Yes, stimulus grants for record keeping. We gave her some guidelines on where to look for money. Not the 501C3.

Sheriff Connelly

1. Did not get notice that I was on the agenda today.
2. Commissioner Sorensen: Will give more warning next time and make sure you get notified.
3. Commissioner Albee: Issues; plowing of shooting range. Commission decides policies and charges not farm and individuals on sheriff department.
4. Commissioner Sorensen: We need to charge for anything done off of the farm. It will not be a great deal. Issue with red pickup. Property of County, not farm or Sheriff, etc. All RSA's state that any property here belongs to the County, not a specific department.
5. Connelly: I have a complete, dollar for dollar inventory. My understanding is that drug seizure, etc. is handed over to law enforcement agencies.
6. Commissioner Albee: All assets held by any department are County property. We are in control, you use them for business. Every department is under government control – Commissioners. Shooting range – making problems of not being in the loop go away. Everything that happens, department changes, etc. There has to be communication on both sides on what is happening.
7. Connelly: Agree in principle. We are County government. At some point you want to become imbedded in Sheriff Department, you don't have the time or experience.
8. Commissioner Albee: You need to understand that anything done on County property needs to be brought to us. We never refuse if it is in the budget and makes sense. We get questions from public and need answers to them.
9. Connelly: Why when these positions are in our budget do we need to ask Commissioners approval? Commissioners need to write down what they expect.

Discussion of what information must be brought to Commissioners for knowledge purposes.

10. Connelly: HR is overwhelmed – will share anything that is proper and reasonable. Full inventory.

11. Commissioner Sorensen: We should have a copy of that inventory. We are responsible and accountable for everything.
12. Connelly: Specific issues – promotions. Had no idea of freeze?
13. Commissioner Albee: We want to know when promotions happen. Need to know. Communication
14. Commissioner Sorensen: Did not put a freeze, just 1% across board.
15. Commissioner Albee: If you are going to make a change in your office we would like to know.
16. Connelly: I want to be imbedded in the County. No intention of exceeding 1%. Positions were open and I filled them. Standard raise with rank. Hard to anticipate budget. Police operations are not benign decisions – well developed leaders. I am available 24/7
17. Commissioner Albee: We appreciate your candor and openness.
18. Commissioner Sorensen: Is dual wheel truck being traded?
19. Connelly: It is due to be traded in June.
20. Commissioner Albee: Are you still operating the trailer?
21. Connelly: For state-wide emergency operations. The SUV can pull it.

Sandi McKenzie, MVNH

1. Census is 99 residents: 10 Medicare, 19 Private, 70 Medicaid
2. Have had 58 admits in 2009 – set a record. Reflection of rehab department. Looking at units – what we are doing and what we have done. Not just census info.
3. Resident Holiday Party – 2pm today
4. Christmas buffet: Friday from 10:30am to 12:30pm
5. New Building: Kitchen equipment review – still have some questions submitted to Randy. Do not know financial impact yet. Furnishing review has been started. Doing conference calls, detailed. Working to iron out issues.
6. Follow-up: Air handlers looked at. A/B are fine, C needs motor replaced/D wing ok. Boilers are functioning without difficulty – small water leak, we are getting a handle on it. Heater – kitchen backdoor needs to be replaced. List price is \$859. Private heating and plumbing company quoted \$1600-\$1800. FW Webb: \$542.00. We will go with them and the money is in the budget.
7. Commissioner Sorensen: Short on LNA's for the holiday and weekend?
8. Sandi: Scheduler will be back on Monday.
9. Commissioner Sorensen: Do these agency aides get paid extra for holidays?

10. Sandi: Yes, they do. Holidays are family time and it is not always about the money. They know they get paid more but do not want to work for family reasons.

The Commissioners acknowledge the passing of former Commissioner Peter Olkolla. Services will be held today from 12 – 2pm and 4 – 6pm at Lord’s Funeral home in Wolfeboro. Our condolences go out to the family.

Public Input:

1. Maureen: Regarding nursing home – not just for elderly. They benefit from rehab so they can go home again. Major player is rehab. No longer is it “if you walk in you will never walk out.”
2. Commissioner Sorensen: Delegation does not want us to compete with other rehab facilities.
3. Maureen: We are not affecting other rehabs, but it is a money making process that the home needs. Not a competition.
4. Susan Wiley: We all talk about things we know nothing about occasionally.
5. Commissioner Albee: Private VS. Government does not exist.

Discussion of maple tree taps. Price set by Co-operative Extension. Number of taps needs to be verified. Timber stand improvement.

Commissioner Albee made motion to go into non-public pursuant to RSA91A; 3 for personnel. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sorensen. Commissioner Sorensen, Albee, and Solomon in favor. So voted.

Into non-public at 10:00am