

Carroll County Commissioner's Meeting

Minutes

January 13, 2010

Commissioners: David Sorensen, Dorothy Solomon, Chip Albee

Public: Maureen Spencer, David Babson, Daymond Steer, Nate Giarnese, Kathleen Maloney (Ossipee Board of Selectmen), Kevin Houle, Richard Stockbridge

Meeting called to order at 8:15am by Commissioner Sorensen

Public Input

1. David Babson: Would like it added to the minutes of last week that Commissioners agreed to keep tapes of building committee meetings.
2. Kathleen Maloney: From Board of Selectmen in Ossipee in reference to a patient who was not admitted to MVNH due to the need for dialysis.
3. Commissioner Sorensen: Explanation of why person could not be admitted to MVNH. Total liability of resident on admittance
4. Kathleen: Explanation of dialysis procedure and requests
5. Commissioner Albee: Constraints – Dr. Lewis is not qualified/economic study not feasible. Explanation of why MVNH cannot do it. Delegation holds financial reins. Commissioners only manage the budget, delegation sets the budget. Go forward and come to delegation, present need for this care to them. We do not have the projected liability of \$60k in the budget. Contacted 8 of 10 county homes. Only 2 provide the service and they are within 10 minutes of the facility.

Discussion of problems with dialysis. Number of people in County (30+) who need dialysis. A facility is needed in Carroll County. Lot of issues that must be looked at. Appreciate the concern of the selectmen.

6. Kevin Houle: What happens if a resident needs the service after they are here?
7. Commissioner Sorensen: When they go back to the hospital their bed is held for 10 days without charge. If they need dialysis they cannot come back to the home.
8. Commissioner Solomon: Liability issue is serious. Another nursing home had a resident with an issue – State came in and cancelled all Medicaid/Medicare for 6 months.
9. Babson: Why are we any more liable for residents than a private institute?
10. Sorensen: We are required by the state to have a qualified person with the resident at all times.
11. Sandi McKenzie: Liability – care giver of resident – distance to dialysis facility is a problem. Someone must stay with the resident.
12. Babson: Still, what is the difference?
13. Commissioner Albee: Private homes can make the decisions in isolation. They do not have to answer to anyone except themselves.
14. Kathleen: Standard of care must be equal.

Discussion of profit, finance, capital. New nursing home cuts – budget cuts on new home.

15. Commissioner Albee: Come to delegation meeting, point out that we need to expand our services to County residents.
16. Kathleen: Look seriously at putting dialysis unit in portion of old home.
17. Commissioner Solomon: Everyone wants numbers – getting them has been difficult, no-one will give them out due to HIPAA regulations.
18. Daymond: DaVita – dialysis provider may get in touch with you.
19. Commissioner Albee: Charitable donations could have gone for center. Delegation put stipulation that first \$2 million raised goes to reduce nursing home debt.
20. Maureen: “lot of political pressure” on this case. Why is this person so important to gain political support?
21. Commissioner Solomon: People have gone to politicians to elicit support.
22. Commissioner Albee: People in political office do not want to take the blame.
23. Kathleen: Need to take care of our residents.

Regular session 8:45am

Commissioner Albee made motion to approve minutes of January 6, 2010 with the addition that the commissioners agreed to archive recording of building committee meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Solomon. Commissioners Sorensen, Solomon, and Albee in favor. So voted.

1. Commissioner Albee: IT Committee meeting – Dave Myers, Robin Reade is the secretary. Standardize purchasing and equipment so we know what needs to be replaced. Reuse of retired computers. Meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Discussed grants, communication, medical records, any computer or software purchase must go through the Tech Committee first, then to the commissioners.

Explanation of budget/capital/equipment. Attorney’s computers are way out of date. Suggestion of moving IT to separate budget page. Phone system – central system will cut bill.

2. Commissioner Solomon: Nursing home subcommittee meeting last week on lighting. Today it is here. Meeting was well attended, lots of work got done.
3. Commissioner Albee: At some point we need reports from the sub-committees.

Jason Johnson, HOC

1. Current population is 58 in house, 0 weekenders, 7 transfers, 4 electronic monitor, and 19 on pre-trial release for a total population of 90. Total number admitted inmates for the week was 12 (5 repeaters). Total released for the week was 14. Repeater charges: 2 in for drug related charges, 1 in for burglary, 1 in for warrants, and 1 in for theft by unauthorized taking. Farm has been taking out an average of 3 inmates per day. 13 are available.

2. Captain Fowler has been accepted to the third class of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy. His class will be the first week in March (1 week in Huntsville, TX).
3. Looking at training through the National Institute of Corrections for Small Jail Administrator. NCI pays for all training to include travel, meals, and lodging. They are a Department of Justice funded training facility. This training is at the end of April. I will be applying for the April class in Colorado.
Commissioner Sorensen made motion to allow Capt. Fowler and Director Jason Johnson to attend schooling. Motion seconded by Commissioner Albee. Commissioners Albee, Sorensen, and Solomon in favor. So voted
4. Jason: When would you like to take a trip to Cheshire County to view the heating system?
5. Commissioner Albee: Will get back to you on that.
6. Jason: At the Superintendent meeting last week, we discussed a proposed question about asking inmates during booking, if they have any unattended minor children at home and if so, then the department would notify the arresting agency so they could conduct a safety and welfare check at the home. All Superintendents present agreed that this would be a good idea for public safety. We implemented that yesterday. I will be sending out a letter to all the Chiefs explaining this.
7. Had an issue with the fire alarm panel this morning. Joe Boyd has called Norris to come in and look at the panel. Do not know why it happened – it is being checked now.
8. Commissioner Albee: Any other training?
9. Jason: American Jail Association – interpersonal communication. \$600. Would like to send someone to that class. It is 40 hours and they can then come back and teach others what they have learned.

Sandi McKenzie, MVNH

1. Census: 99 Residents, 6 Medicare, 25 Private, 68 Medicaid.
2. Social Service department: An intern from Lakes Region Community college will start in a few weeks. Majoring in Human services, will be doing 140 hours.
3. New Building: Sample flooring to be placed in one resident room and one day room (trial) Moving forward, floor company came to look at the floors in preparation for trial.
4. Active discussion surrounding technologies. Lighting was last week. Also talked in Tech committee meeting. Wiring: hardwire or wireless. Who are we serving: staff residents (different networks). Computers, phones, Emergency response systems, Cable T.V. etc. Look at utilities as a whole.
5. Going to Merrimac to look at their tubs.(some residents are going as well)
6. County Tech committee/sub-committee meeting at 1pm in Admin building.
7. Design Group from EGA will spend 2 days performing furniture inventory, room by room, to see what can be moved to new home.
8. Commissioner Albee: Have to look at coordination of move. Beds, etc.
9. Liquid Oxygen: Working on room prep. Fan, duct work, piping, and a light. Ossipee fire dept. is in the loop.

10. Laundry: Residents clothing – water is only 140 degrees – must be 160 degrees. Exploring means to increase the water temp – “booster”. Has nothing to do with the leaking tank being shut down.
 11. Commissioner Solomon: Mention of Ozone cleaning system?
 12. Sandi: Huge investment, do not want to get into that right now.
 13. Fundraising development: Thursday, January 21st at the Gibson Center in North Conway. Tuesday, January 26th at the Wolfeboro library. Both start at 7pm. 501C3. Writing up communication for public, need input.
 14. Boiler: Looking to replace holding tank \$5415 not including shipping or installation.
 15. Commissioner Albee: Over \$5000 must go out for bid. Need total price for shipping, install, and tank.
 16. Helping Hands Committee: Walkathon is scheduled for May 15th.
 17. Commissioner Solomon: Everything we move is in good shape? Refinish before moving?
 18. Sandi: We can refurbish as long as it is sturdy.
 19. Commissioner Sorensen: Have had calls about single parents with children – daycare issue.
 20. Sandi: Must make sure we have consistent staffing. Issues. Need to explore options.
 21. Robin: talked to daycare centers – some open at 6am and some are 6:30. Will work on this issue.
 22. Sandi: We want to accommodate.
- Discussion of shift schedules, options
23. Commissioner Albee: Do you have someone from your staff going to the farm festival meetings? Create a questionnaire and get feedback. Tub committee.

Richard Stockbridge, Carroll County Resident

1. Need answers why my wife could not be admitted to County home. Policy is a joke – (has letter). Discrimination.
2. Commissioner Albee: Medical Director is not certified to care for someone on dialysis.
3. Commissioner Solomon: Different liability.
4. Mr. Stockbridge: Said I would sign waiver so that you would not be responsible.
5. Commissioner Albee: Government cannot contract with resident. Bigger picture – Estimates of cost - \$60k per year. Budget is regulated by delegation. Current budget does not support it.
6. Mr. Stockbridge: What is going to cost you \$60k? No law that you have to have an LPN go with resident to every appointment.
7. Commissioner Albee: Need to approach delegation.
8. Mr. Stockbridge: Don’t need to talk to tell delegation, I am going to advise my lawyer. It is not going to cost \$60k.
9. Commissioner Albee: We have professionals that advice us. We can’t do it alone. We need to present delegation with a solution.
10. Commissioner Solomon: Looking at trying to find out how many people in Carroll County are on dialysis. They will not tell us.
11. Commissioner Albee: We would like to find a provider and space for residents.

12. Mr. Stockbridge: Medicaid is paying for transportation. Just need letter from Doctor.
13. Commissioner Albee: We were told differently.
14. Commissioner Sorensen: Understand cost. Called home health care. Said “great to have dialysis center in Carroll County” she has approx. 30 herself. We would support a clinic coming in.
15. Mr. Stockbridge: Place in Nashua that will teach free and give you the equipment. It is an 8 week course. You need to provide the place to stay.
16. Commissioner Albee: Told Selectman who was here earlier (Kathleen Maloney) We will have a figure for the delegation.
17. Mr. Stockbridge: They do not need any special care except keeping PIC line dry.
18. Commissioner Albee: Our nursing home Administrator has said that we cannot provide this care. How do we get to the point where we can take people on dialysis? We need to figure this out.
19. Mr. Stockbridge: I am mad. Not taking County Residents. If RN is not qualified should not be there. RN’s should be able to take care of them. Bleeding from PIC line if pulled out is only problem.
20. Commissioner Sorensen: We are a government entity and have to follow those regulations. We are liable if you cannot have someone there.
21. Mr. Stockbridge: I will always have someone there.
22. Commissioner Albee: Like to move this through soon. Would you be able to give us info on that Nashua company?
23. Commissioner Sorensen: The delegation meeting is February 8th at 9am.
24. Babson: Suggestion – Board needs better, stronger answers.

Discussion of nursing homes: County VS. Private

Kathy Garry, Business Office

1. Received email from Betsey Miller – sub-grant available for energy. Need 501C3 to get funds from private sector.
Discussion of energy grants, etc.
2. Commissioner Albee: 501C3 – can it exist to reduce government debt? Has anyone seen the application? Need to find out regulations.
3. Commissioner Sorensen: Find out who is the entity.
4. Kathy: Susan Wiley – Bud Martin; will get in touch.
5. Commissioner Albee: (in reference to grant writing and funding) Can create grant proposal for grants to be available to groups.
6. Commissioner Sorensen: Need to get info to agency on how project manager selection process went. Regional person who handles grants/loans.
7. Kathy: They do have money available for loans. Funds from Hales’s and Hart’s Location: \$3400. Have sent it to Conway school department in the past.
8. Commissioner Sorensen: Could send it but send letter asking to offset tuition for Hale’s students.
9. Kathy: Have letter from Mark Lucy, WMS
10. Commissioner Sorensen: Called – regarding additional fees for re-working plans. Discuss with him at 12:30.

Charlie Agnew, Biomass Commodities

1. Sell 3 types of wood fire combustion systems. Depending on size of project. Fuel source (pellet or chip) County should be pellet, spurs local development.
2. Commissioner Albee: Settled on pellets. Heat loads and location have been decided. Now looking for proposals. Have had different proposals.

Discussion of plants, piping to campus, separate units, etc.

3. Commissioner Albee: Looking to you for pricing, length of contract. Must be economical and efficient setup.
4. Commissioner Sorensen: Not part of initial proposal but do need something in writing by fall.
5. Commissioner Albee: Gas backup – potential solar for core of old nursing home. Who gets carbon credits? What grants can you help secure? REGI grants.
6. Commissioner Sorensen: What is it going to cost to have this function?
7. Commissioner Albee: Training/costs, etc
8. Charlie: Will get in touch with McGill for proposals detail. Traditional system maintenance is 1 hour per week per system. You will have to deal with ash. We offer wood pellet fired suspension burners. Processing on site. Propane and wood burn at the same time.
9. Commissioner Albee: Can you give estimated cost for both?
10. Charlie: Yes, you are getting an excellent propane cost right now.

Discussion of tank (Large tank moved or small tanks at each location). Comparison will be done by Biomass Commodities. Deal directly from manufacturer for pellets. BMC is strictly equipment.

11. Commissioner Albee: We need preliminary in 30-45 days. Send info to Commissioner's office.

Peter Donahue, Lyman Oil (Lyman Energy)

(accompanied by Dutch Dresser from energy provider company)

1. Peter: Diversified into pellets – look at the future. Have Dutch give presentation on auto-pellet boiler.
2. Dutch: Auto-pellet boiler – Austrian. Now building in PA. Assembled in Bethel, Maine.

Presentation: way of thinking.

Discussion of boilers and loads

Proposed staged boiler system (gave printouts)

Explanation of what it is and how it operates, particulate emissions.

3. Commissioner Albee: Whatever is done in Carroll County is going to validate biomass as a fuel.
4. Peter: Supply and install equipment/considered for supply as well. Type of pellets/quality. Maintenance proposals.
5. Commissioner Albee: Must be included in proposal.
6. Dutch: Chemical composition of pellet is important. Source pellets carefully – know composition and location. Replacement parts for boiler in Bethel, Maine.
7. Commissioner Sorensen: Estimated cost pt and ft?
No additional, except emptying ash.
30 year design life

Bad batch of pellets would cause issues

Regional pellets are tested monthly

8. Commissioner Albee: Need solid info to present to delegation. Get in touch with engineers. We will meet again in a few weeks.
9. Peter: Rubric for proposals – grant money? How much weight on selection of suppliers will that place?
10. Commissioner Albee: Equipment, fuel, maintenance are principle considerations. Want as much grant money as possible.
11. Babson: Les Orton – how much does he have to do with it?
12. Peter: He is a Principal of the company.
13. Maureen: Local as possible. Runs of electric?
14. Peter: Will stay on with generator.
15. Steve Eldridge: Ash – uses
16. Albee: Air testing?
17. Dutch: None yet – air quality standards are always changing.
18. Babson: Doesn't DES require testing of ash after a certain amount?
19. Albee: Will have to check.
20. Maureen: Smell? Smoke?
21. Dutch: No visible smoke, not much smell.
22. Albee: Any in the US operating such a large system? (wonder about smell/ smoke).
23. Dutch: Can gain efficiency by running multiple smaller systems instead of the huge system. Districts.
24. Albee: Recommend your solution to us.
25. Charlie: We also do just pellet fired systems.
26. Albee: Have written proposal win the next 4 – 6 weeks.
27. Babson: Charlie – public proposal? Decision is Commissioners.

Public Input, 11am

1. Babson: 1) Experience with 501C3 – hard time to get grants if money is going to pay down bond. 2) Rural development is counterproductive. 3) What do you have that would force Conway to apply that money to Hale's tuition?
2. Commissioner Sorensen: 1) Concerned that 501C3 application is still in committee. 3) Negotiation
3. Babson: Piping – utilities committee. Thought decision was 1 or 2 small tanks and not to run piping.
4. Commissioner Albee: Engineers need to give cost on both propositions.
5. Babson: Co-op extension?
6. Commissioner Sorensen: One secretary has resigned. Question is, should this person be a County employee. Need to look and make decision.
7. Babson: What is the problem with Mr. Lucy and extra charges? Thought WMS was working for EGA. Why is it our concern?
8. Commissioner Albee: Negotiated original due to wetland changes. Initial estimate was \$89k, negotiated to \$50k. This is the first time we have seen his new cost proposal.
9. Babson: Who is paying EGA? (County) GMP and BPS has to hold. How does this get mitigated?

10. Commissioner Albee: \$800k contingency. Cannot absorb extra cost. Will have discussion with Lucy. 12:30 meeting will be public.
11. Babson: List of contingency fees? Detail?
12. Commissioner Albee: Yes – every line item will be put out for bid. Budget will then be re-done. That will then be for public info.
13. Nate: What was wetlands issue?
14. Albee: Impact on wetlands square footage, have to file new application with excessive engineering. Did not consider it wetlands until soil was tested.
15. Maureen: How close to releasing closed minutes?
16. Robin: Within the next few months.

Public meeting adjourned.

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

Into non-public at 11:20 am