

**Carroll County Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**July 7, 2010**

**Commissioners Present:** David Sorensen, Chip Albee, Dorothy Solomon

**Public:** David Babson, Daymond Steer, Nate Giarnase, Tim Sullivan

Meeting called to order at 8:16 am by Commissioner Sorensen

**Public Input**

1. Babson: Last week I went by the cemetery, there was an inmate mowing and I wondered who was watching him. Standing under a tree, leaning up against the fence, was someone from the farm; Is the farm being reimbursed for his guarding the inmates while they are working? I think the guard should be working as well. Could the inmates have a bracelet on and not be guarded?
2. Com. Sorensen: If we did that, then we would have to pay the jail for the use of the inmates.
3. Com. Albee: There has to be a court order for an inmate to have a bracelet. We just can't do that. It would be a difficult policy. We will address the person guarding.
4. Babson: Regarding the last minutes, it is recorded that I asked a question about the transit and when that would be started and that the answer was never recorded. The answer is still not recorded that I can see. Have you found out what happened with the original minutes where the answer was recorded, but deleted?
5. Secretary: The answer was recorded on last week's minutes. Transit will hopefully be started in September.
6. Com. Albee: I made an attempt at that. Nobody knows what happened.
7. Sullivan: Mr. Babson had brought up earlier in a meeting that we had a petition to try and honor Peter Olkkola in some way, hopefully having a room named after him, preferably the employee's lounge. We have a memorial coming up for him shortly and was wondering where you were on that.
8. Com. Sorensen: We haven't fully discussed the naming of the rooms. It's probably still too early. The Delegation has requested that we come up with \$2 million to offset the tax rate and we were thinking that at some point and time, the 501C3 organization would set value for the rooms and when that comes about, the value would be for that room, if somebody wants to donate, their name would be on a plaque outside the door or within the room, then there would be a dollar figure attached to that. That's where we stand right now.
9. Sullivan: Who is in charge of the 501C3?
10. Com. Sorensen: Kathy Garry.

11. Sullivan: We were looking for something more to honor to Peter that would come from government. The petitions are still out. We can bring those in.

12. Babson: Would it help if we were able to convince the Delegation to vote in favor of naming a room without waiting for payment?

13. Com. Sorensen: I would say do anything you have to do.

### **Will Dewitt, Farm**

1. We have been haying and we have approximately 4500 bails done. Last year we did just over 9000 bails, so we are already halfway and this is just first cut. We have some more fertilizer coming on and hopefully we will get some decent second cuts of the fields this year.

2. We have 5 loads of wood from Taylor's, straight logs for the processor.

3. The rebar, there was talk about .20 a lb. I talked to BPS more about it and they did say that if there is surface rust, which this rebar does have, inspectors won't let you use it so it drops the value on it. After discussing with them, .20 is ok. I have the formulas written down for Baybutt. We have about 4500 lbs, so that comes out to about \$900. New rebar is going for .45 a lb right now.

4. We have been cleaning out the pig barn. We have cut up all the aluminum piping that you wanted cut up. We are going to take that down to the salvage yard and see what we can get for that. We are working on that in between haying times.

5. There is still campfire wood going out. We took a load out last week before the 4<sup>th</sup>.

6. We had an issue with the big tractor this weekend. I had almost 2000 bails sitting on the fields and luckily we were able to find the part that we needed. In the meantime, I put the little tractor on the bailer to see how it would go. I made about two passes around the field and it overheated and had antifreeze blowing out. We need to keep in mind that we are putting all our eggs in one basket with the big tractor. I know a third tractor has been talked about.

7. We had a sewer inspection done last week and the guy was very happy. Reports were given to Commissioners. There are 4 different issues that he had concern with. The biggest one is having mechanical assistance for removing some pumps. It is very dangerous. That is something I would like to look into. The 2<sup>nd</sup> issue is about the lowest point, we are working on putting drainage in there already, so that's already in the plans.

8. Com. Albee: We had a concern from the public about farmers standing around watching inmates work. The farmers have to work with the inmates.

9. Will: I will make sure that is well documented and this will be addressed. I have spoke to Jason over at the jail on this issue; coming from the State prison, our job was to supervise inmates and with talking to him, he felt the same way. If you feel different, I will follow your

policy. There is some concern if a supervisor is working and not paying attention to an inmate, there is a possibility of an inmate walking away.

10. Com. Albee: We are looking for a moderate middle ground.

11. Com. Sorensen: Are the blueberries coming along well?

12. Will: Yes, we have been switching the water on and off on the blueberries. One day we run the garden and one day we run the blueberries. Some of them are starting to plump up and are looking pretty good. Hay is starting to be delivered. Most customers don't expect hay until August, but I have been trying to push it earlier this year, so we may have to sit on some until the customers are ready.

13. Com. Sorensen: I would like to clear up something that was in the paper about it costing \$11,000 to move the blueberries. It cost \$1,100 total for 350 plants. The water main was going to be done anyway, it wasn't just for the blueberries. There was no extra cost involved for labor.

### **Minutes**

MOTION: Commissioner Solomon moves to accept the Minutes of 6/30/10 as submitted. Commissioner Albee seconds this motion. So voted.

MOTION: Commissioner Solomon moves to accept the non-public Minutes of 6/16/10. Commissioner Albee seconds this motion. So voted.

### **POINT OF ORDER**

1. Babson: I was incorrect on the name I gave you of the person supervising the inmate at the cemetery. I just told Will on his way out.

### **Ray Burton, Executive Council**

1. Burton: On a bi-annual basis, I make it a point to visit all of the 5 County Commissioners that I am honored to serve in Council District 1. (three handouts/brochures are handed to the Commissioners as well as explanation of what the Executive Council does). Website is discussed, minutes are able to be viewed on the website. Recordings of the Governor and Executive Council meetings are able to be listened to as well. Videos are recorded as well. The Executive Council meets at the call of the Governor. The next meeting is the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month in Goffstown. Meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> as well. I am hosting a meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> at the new US Forestry Headquarters in Campton, NH. Agenda is published on website. Our duties are related to county government throughout the state of NH. In the past year, we have had two different "listening sessions", all open to the public, to see how we could streamline our way of doing business. Duties are described regarding water, parks, highways, appointment of certain public officials, general supervision over State departments, health issues. Transportation plan underway regarding air, rail, highway and public transportation.

2. Com. Sorensen: As a Commissioner, can you tell us about the biomass that's going in in Grafton County Complex?

3. Burton: Overall, we have received final approval by the Supreme Court of the State of NH that we had the go ahead to start our new jail project, 150 beds. He hired the SMRT out of Maine to do that. We hired the HP Cummings Construction Company to start the ground preparation work and that went out to bid. We went into the bond market and our first bond was \$17 million and we got that at 3.7 rate of interest. Regarding the biomass, drilling starts today for the geothermal patterned mainly after the Merrimack County Nursing Home. I can get back to on the details in writing about the biomass.

4. Com. Sorensen: Regarding transfer of funds at the State level, where is the major transfer?

5. Burton: Whenever legislatures sit and look for money, they go to the largest department. The largest dept. is health and human services. On an overall look at the State budget, the one we are currently administering and the one previous to July 1<sup>st</sup>, was greatly over-estimated by the legislature, finance and appropriations committees on the revenue side and departments went ahead and spent thinking that the revenue would catch up on the expenditure side, which obviously it didn't. States across the country were very fortunate in having stimulus money. NH did very well in that area and state government received just about a half million dollars just for funding State positions. That money is for only one year.

6. Com. Solomon: Regarding the gambling, would the council be able to see that if we should get gambling, that the State Commissioners in NH would be the ones to run the gambling, rather than outside the State?

7. Burton: The bill that came out of the senate approved 14 to 10, put this whole expanded gaming within the lottery commission. All of the background checks would be paid out of the fees that would be paid by private enterprise to get a license to operate a gambling casino in NH and build one with private money. We have 3 people on the Lottery Commission and there is an opening if there is an interest. We are waiting to fill that vacancy.

8. Com. Solomon: The license fees, I understand, would be considerable and they would be divided equally among the 10 counties, regardless of whether the county itself had gambling in it?

9. Burton: As I understood that Bill, the first \$50 million from any income from the fees would go right to plug the holes in Health and Human Services and that was the way it was voted for. There was a formula, something like 39% goes to the State, another 10% to the County in which the casino is located, the town or city was also getting a bite at the apple. I am not sure of the exact details.

10. Com. Sorensen: What real estate has the State sold to balance the budget? Or haven't they yet?

11. Burton: There has been none before the Governors Council. Under current law, as I understand it, if for instance if the Parks Dept. Director, Ted Austin, would like to sell White

Lake State Park, have a buyer for it for \$5 million. As I understand it, that has to go through two committees through the legislature to see if any other dept. wants that park. Unless State law has changed, that final say would have to be approved by the Governor with advise and consent from the council. At the moment, I don't even see half a vote among my associate councils for selling State owned properties. I don't see that as a quick source of revenue.

12. Com. Albee: With regard to the jail that you are building, we also hired SMRT and we have an issue with a wall that is falling off. I met with SMRT on Saturday, and they are going to take ownership of that problem. I have to commend them at this point and time, but there is a design flaw or perhaps a building flaw. The other issue that I need to have some answers on and alternative heating; Did you get any Reggie money for that project?

13. Burton: Applications were submitted and to my knowledge, we did not get any Reggie money.

14. Com. Albee: Is the council involved in the decision making?

15. Burton: Yes, it goes through the Governor with the advise and consent of the council. We assume that a proper application/evaluation has been done prior to it getting to our table.

16. Com. Albee: When you look at those, are you just voting on those based on recommendations from Reggie or are you actually getting into the project language at all?

17. Burton: The first thing I look for is where is District 1's share. If they meet the qualifications under NH law, which is a relatively new source of money, hopefully they did and obviously I can't wait to vote for those kind of things if they come to District 1 to help save energy.

18. Com. Solomon: During your description of what the council does, you said you had some jurisdiction over the dams?

19. Burton: The Dam Bureau does. Those don't come to executive council. The only jurisdiction I would have would be the nomination and confirmation of the commissioner of environmental services.

20. Com. Sorensen: There was an article in the Conway Daily Sun regarding the bypass by the town of Conway engineer, saying that with doing the one that is proposed, but not doing the northern route; the northern route should be done with the southern route. Where are we on the bypass.

21. Burton: This afternoon from 2:00 to 3:00, Don Lyford will be joining me at the Conway Town Offices. Whatever is in the 10 year transportation plan, I support. I know that we keep putting it off and there are others that are calling for a feasibility study and another count of the traffic and that somewhat hinges on the economy and it may well be time for us and the Dept of Transportation to ask a consulting engineering company to come and take another look at the entire project. The entire project is several years out.

22. Babson: When and how often do your Commissioners meet and how much of the public to you have.

23. Burton: We meet every Tuesday at 9:00. We have an agenda prepared. We frequently have a representative of our one union with us. We occasionally have a very interested citizen who comes. Once in a while we have someone from the media. Different departments come in to report.

### **Mike Fowler, HOC**

1. Current population is 51 in house, taking out an average of 4. 2 on work release, 4 on electronic monitor, 17 on pre-trial release program, 4 transfers. Total number of admitted inmates for the week was 26. Out of that 26, 5 were repeat offenders, 18 released for a total population of 77.

2. Repeat Charges: 2 for PC, 1 for disorderly conduct, 1 for controlled drug and open container and 1 for violation of personal restraining order and resisting arrest and cruelty to animals.

3. We are still waiting for the report from Landow from Saturday. I talked to the superintendent this morning and we haven't received any reports or any new information at this time.

4. We held 10 female inmates from Belknap County during bike week. We held them for five days.

5. Com. Albee: James Landow from SMRT, the principal structural engineer for the design team of the jail has told us that they are going to get fully involved in repair of the jail and that it is not the first time that it has happened.

6. Com. Solomon: Regarding the inmate brought in for animal cruelty, there are many programs that we run to enable the inmates to get something to bring with them outside, have we ever discussed or done anything with regard to animal training.

7. Mike: We are actually working with the Humane Society in Ossipee, discussions with Clare Donahue and some of the other volunteers that work there. Right now, we are currently bringing inmates down for lawn services. The goal for that is to transition them to working in the shelter for walking dogs, etc. Service animal training involves a lot of time spent with the animal and at our facility, we don't have the room or space to be able to provide something like that. I will take any information that you have.

### **David Meyers, Report on the IT Committee.**

1. You asked me to come in today to follow up on the IT Committee. Cybertron came in and started their assessment. That should be finished in a couple of weeks. They have gone to all the different departments and we are waiting for their assessment for the county wide project, to give us cost analysis and quotes to come in and take care of all the maintenance for the IT for the whole campus. They met with me 3 times, so I am sure that they have been meeting with the other dept heads. It's quite a complex system that they have to come up with a cost analysis on.

Along with IT, I have been talking with Robin Reade and we are going to be putting together a cost analysis on a server that takes care of the time and attendance for the nursing home. She asked about the server that we run that has all the applications and the email. That is about 6 years old and could probably handle the programming for the time and attendance if that's all it had to do, so one of the IT Committee suggestions would probably be to get a new server to replace the aging server here and then use that server to take on just that one project.

2. The truck went back on the lease. We took the cap off and put it over by the barn. I talked to Will to see if he wanted to use it on the farm truck. He said that he didn't see a use for it. I would like to put that out to bid. The boat sold at Sheriff's auction.

## **Reports**

1. Com. Albee: I have not heard back from Landow, but it does appear that the design company, SMRT, is going to take ownership of the jail problem. In answer to David Babson's question on the cement from last week. It did go out into two bid forms; one for the labor to install and the other for the cement product. There was only one bidder to supply cement and that was Coleman at \$90 a yard.

I went to the subcontractor meeting on Monday and gave them our choice of the brick. There is an elevation drawing of the proposed exterior trim of the building. I think Chris has it out in the trailer. The question is how much PVC trim we are using because that is going to have to be painted every 10 years. We really don't have the option of using vinyl because of the size restrictions.

The lifts and tracks have been done. The biomass heating system RFP has gone out to the five different firms for proposals as well as going out into two different publications for requests for proposals. We are still struggling with the water lines at the old nursing home, but Wendell Brooks is coming in. At one point and time, there was going to be an attempt to put a new water line main into the old nursing home. An 8 foot stub with connectors was installed and then subsequent to that, a line was installed that appears to end outside an end wing at the old nursing home. We are working on trying to figure out where it went. The floors are starting to get poured. The steel is coming in on the week of the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. That will go up when it shows up. That is on schedule.

2. Com. Solomon: I did get in touch with the woman regarding a homeless shelter. We had a short conversation. She feels that shelter would work better if we had regular housing. I explained to her that we don't have that option. What we decided is to have Nancy Armstrong, the housing person here in Carroll County, come to our meeting. She will return from vacation next week. I will give her a call and get her on the agenda.

3. Com. Albee: Last week, we talked about the Avatar at Hales Location. I made a few phone calls and everyone is very happy with the system.

## **Public Input**

1. Daymond: I heard Will talking about lack of some sort of equipment and he has to do

something by hand and it's dangerous. What was that?

2. Com. Albee: Its lifting the pumps from the sewer system. It's a heavy unit.

3. Babson: You said there was only one bidder for the concrete and that was Coleman. Do you know why there was only one bidder?

4. Com. Albee: The bids were put out as usual; contractors and Dodge report. Coleman is local.

5. Babson: Have you thought about having a project tour so citizens in the County can come see what's going on?

6. Com. Albee: Maybe when the building is more structured we can look into that.

MOTION: Commissioner Albee moves to go into non-public session for the purpose of personnel decisions/hiring at the jail. Seconded by Commissioner Solomon. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 10:04