

Carroll County Commissioners Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2010

Commissioners Present: David Sorensen, Chip Albee, Dorothy Solomon

Public: David Babson, Daymond Steer, Maureen Spencer, Joe Kowalski, Asha Kenney, Nate Giarnase, Kathleen Maloney

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

Public Input

1. Maureen: Asks about the letters send to the Chiefs of Police. Asked if they got send to the selectmen as well. States their Police Chief never got a letter.
2. Com. Albee: Jason sent out the letters to the Police Chiefs only, not the selectmen.
3. Kathleen: Ossipee is having difficulty with Time Warner. One of the residents on 171 had stated that one of the Commissioners had said that with the addition of the new nursing home, there would probably be a way to get cable.
4. Com. Albee: I just said that if she wanted to use the information I gave her which was we are going to have 103 hookups and that's a significantly larger neighborhood. I was just giving her more ammunition.
5. Babson: Reports on Co-op Extension Monthly meeting held last night. Discussion was had about the job description for Tina Savage's job. Discussion about who would be on the selection committee, how they were going to do it. We discussed the description which was quite lengthy. General descriptions of other parts of the job. Discussion at the end about what the university plans to do if Strafford County doesn't support their own county extension. Anne Hamilton got a promotion to Full Extension Educator. The meeting was "very polite, but somewhat ugly compared to most meetings".
6. Com. Albee: I had a chance to talk to Andrews at the Tuesday's subcommittee meeting. Their schedule is to do the paving and curbing by middle to end of November and then come back in the spring and do the finish paving and striping just before we open. I asked him if we wouldn't mind giving us an addition to that quote for paving in between the old jail site and the new jail site on County Farm Road, so that we could bring that to the Delegation for next year's budget. It's a town road and I wanted to ask the Selectman if she wouldn't mind taking that back to her board to see if we can get permission to look at paving that section of the road.
7. Maureen: Where are we at as far as going out to bond?

8. Com. Albee: It's gone out. We should have the money by the end of the month. The original rate we had heard was 3.83%. We haven't heard if that has changed as of yet.

9. Maureen: Have you heard anything about the meeting in Concord.

10. Com. Sorensen: That has been changed. It will be held here sometime in September. The Chairman of the Delegation is going to appoint someone from the Delegation and someone from the United Way or a similar organization to add to the committee.

11. Babson: Did you ever find out if it is legal for the Delegation to bond 23.5 million and if we come in 1.8 million under, to take that money and use it on another project?

12. Com. Albee: They have two choices to make. One is to prepay the bond or to use it on another capital project in the County. It doesn't have to be in relation to the nursing home.

Minutes

Correction for Minutes for 7/14 - page 2, under Com. Sorensen, line 6, it should read - half day for the Counties to act, cross out "the" and "in". The name of the bond bureau person is Jeff Urquhart, not Buchard.

MOTION: Commissioner Solomon moves to accept the Minutes of 7/14/10 as corrected. Commissioner Albee seconds this motion. So voted.

Reports

1. Com. Solomon: Building Committee meeting was held yesterday. We looked at some furniture again, colors, flooring, bathrooms, etc. We came to some decisions. Prices need to be set.

2. Com. Sorensen: We have two bids that have come in. One is for the folding doors. We had two bidders. Space Design Systems out of Hooksett, NH for \$15,550.00. Second bidder was OH Door Company out of Portland, ME for \$18,118.00. BPS has recommended Space Design Systems.

MOTION: Commissioner Albee moves to award the bid to Space Design Systems for \$15,500.00 for the folding doors. Commissioner Sorensen seconds this motion. So voted.

3. Com. Sorensen: For the automatic entrances we have a bid from Besam US Inc. out of Worcester, MA for \$9,800.00. Second bid was from Door Control Inc out of Londonderry, NH for \$13,495.000 and a third bid from NE Door Corp for \$13,524.000. BPS recommended going with Besam US Inc.

MOTION: Commissioner Albee moves to award the bid to Besam US Inc. for \$9,800.00 for automatic entrances. Commissioner Sorensen seconds this motion. So voted.

Jim Kimball and Chris Cass, BPS

1. Jim: Things are going well. We are going lay down 15,000 sq. ft of floor tomorrow morning. Steel erection starts on Monday. This will be over a 10 week period. After that starts fireproofing, exterior curtain walls. The building is going to start to take shape over the next 3-4 weeks. This will start from County Farm Road and progress.
2. Com. Albee: We had an extensive conversation about the water line going to the old nursing home. There was questions about where it was under the building.
3. Jim: We had a locator out here. As near as we can tell, there is a hydrant to this side of the existing home. It's fed off of that line.
4. Chris: If you are looking at it from County Farm Road, it would be the back wing on the right side, coming in the corner, running under the slab and coming into the existing mechanical room.
5. Com. Albee: I came up with the idea to just abandon the whole line, tap off the main trunk that's running back here to the jail, go into the mechanical area and then go into the new line. We had to create some drainage for the water that was building up around some piping.
6. Chris: A third of the floor will be done tomorrow. In two weeks, another section of slab will be poured and the final third will be poured about 4 weeks from now.

Jason Johnson - House of Corrections

1. Current population is 56 in house, 0 weekenders, 4 transfers, 3 electronic monitor, and 16 on pre-trial release for a total in population of 79.
2. Total number of admitted inmates for the week was 30 (10 repeaters) and total number of released inmates for the week was 27. Repeater Charges: 2 in for forgery, 1 in for DWI 2nd, 1 in for burglary and violation of probation., 1 in for habitual offender, 1 in for violation of protective order and violation of probation, 1 in for criminal mischief and criminal threatening, 1 in for criminal mischief and criminal trespass, 1 in for habitual offender and simple assault, 1 in for warrants.
3. Farm has been taking out an average of 6 inmates per day. They have 13 available.
4. SMRT will be here tomorrow to assess what equipment is needed to access the roof to better understand what is happening.

5. NP - Surgery scheduled for last week was cancelled by the hospital.
6. Com. Albee: We had a conversation about lethality training. We, as a board, need to take a look at that. Superintendent Johnson needs to bring forth a proposal and the reason behind it. Currently, our correctional officers are not armed and won't be armed, but when they go out a transport for instance, when they take someone to the hospital or court appearance, they are currently not armed.
7. Jason: With the new Federal Contracts, and what other facilities are doing, is that the Federal Government requires officers to be armed.
8. Com. Albee: There is training involved, a clear cut policy and equipment involved. I would ask that Jason put together a training schedule, your reasoning behind this, some recommendations from other County facilities, and then some idea of the cost of equipment.
9. Com. Sorensen: I would like to know what the other Counties are doing and whether we really have to have firearms or not. Do the Sheriff's do all the transports?
10. Jason: They do transports to and from court. We do all the other transports. I approached Com. Albee yesterday about adopting a physical agility standard and have some benefits for meeting and exceeding the standards. If they pass the standards, they can earn paid days off. Strafford County is doing this.

Bernadine "Benie" Jesseman, Carroll County R.S.V.P.

1. Com. Sorensen: We asked you to come in and give is a briefing as to your agency and how things are going.
2. Benie: RSVP stands for Retired Senior Volunteer Program. I want to thank you for coming to the recognition ceremony. That meant a lot to the volunteers. I ran a statistics report for the first six months of this year. We have been in business for almost 40 years. We are mandated for 450 volunteers. In the last six months, we have a net gain of 28 volunteers. We have 375 active volunteers out of the 450. The average age of our volunteers is 73. Regarding the hours, we have a problem getting the volunteers to report their hours for recognition. I inform them that I need this to be done when I am applying for grants. Meals-On-Wheels are a big part of this program. We deliver meals 5 days a week. We transport people to doctors appointments. The people that transport are covered by their own insurance and then we have a blanket insurance policy on everybody. We do reimburse for mileage if they need it. We will be involved in the new bus transportation service. We are not transporting people for dialysis, though it is a great need in this area.

Our office is located in Intervale. Eventually, we hope to move in with the N. Conway Community Center as they are our sponsor and they are hoping to enlarge that building and then our offices would move in there.

3. Com. Sorensen: We are going to be renovating the rooms at the old nursing home. Would that be an option for you?
4. Benie: That would depend on the cost involved. I would like to have something in this area.
5. Com. Sorensen: The money that the County gives to RSVP, what is that generally used for.
6. Benie: Basically, it is used for our reimbursement, that's where the majority of it goes. We have two full-time people. One person does scheduling and another lady does just fundraising for us. Financially, we are hanging in there. I have written two grants this year that did not get funded. We spent \$28,000 last year on mileage. We pay .43 a mile and it's capped at 200 miles. We have one man in Tamworth that does over 1,000 a month, but we can't pay it.

Wendy Scribner, UNH Cooperative Extension

1. Wendy: Update on timber sale project. Wetlands permit given to Com. Sorensen to sign. We have gotten our driveway permit. He have filed the two intent to cut forms. We have an intent to cut for the County land and one for the property for where we have the timber rights. The certificates should have gone to Dennis. Timber sale agreement has been signed by the Commissioners and by Dennis Taylor. The driveway permit is a 2-part permit. We have both a temporary logging permit and we also have a permanent woodland access piece of the permit. The temporary logging permit is good for six months. It expires in November and if we have not completed the logging by that time, we can apply for an extension and get another six months on that. Will is getting some estimates for the trucking material. We are going to need about 65 cubic yards of sand and gravel. We will probably need to get one load of crushed gravel for the top wearing surface that goes underneath the asphalt. We will need a 15 inch culvert, 18-20 feet. I talked with Dennis about his time frame. He thinks that in the next week or two.
2. Will: We are going to put the culvert in and somebody is going to give me a price on moving material there, and then Dennis will be there with the dozer to construct the road. Later on, we will get the asphalt on there.
3. Wendy: We have specifications that we have to follow from the State. I checked with the Town of Ossipee, their rule says that we need to be 10 feet off the property line. I plan to go out there and put some stakes in showing where we want the road so that we set far enough back from the property line. We need to come down 10 inches off the highway to allow for drainage. I spoke with the Corner Stone Christian Academy and because they are doing more than just harvesting timber, they potentially fall under more permitting requirements; alteration of terrain and other wetland permits, so I suggested they talk with NH DES who suggested that they get an engineer and get their site plan together to figure out what sort of permits they need.

4. Fliers for Farm Day are given to Commissioners. Advertising discussed.

Carroll County Chiefs of Police Regarding Booking Procedures.

Those in attendance: Chief James Mullen from Madison, Chief Josh Shackford from Freedom, Supt Jason Johnson from CCDOC, Chief Donald Grow from Ossipee, Chief Andrew Shagoury from Tuftonboro, Lt. Mark O'Brien from Wakefield, Sgt. Timothy A Butts from Effingham, Chief Dan Poirier from Tamworth, Chief Stan Chase from Wolfeboro, Will Farnham.

1. Chief Fifield: Thanks for having us here. We appreciate the opportunity to talk the issue over. Last week, the chiefs got together at our regular Chiefs Assoc. meeting and we talked this over. We are all in consensus regarding the main issues that concern us. We do appreciate that you do all you can in a tough economy to keep costs down and to look at everything. We commend why and what you are doing. We also feel that when you limit the services that we have had for police work and the ability for a police officer to go to the jail, to place a prisoner in a repository and get back on the road, and you are adding about 2 ½ hours to every arrest we do. So 2 ½ hours added to 500 arrests is about 1,000 hours of overtime that I didn't budget. The effective thing is that if we can reduce the County tax burden by .05 and pass it onto the local towns and raise their taxes by .10, then net gain for the taxpayer is an expense, not a savings. I don't think that cost-wise that helps. If I have to pay overtime every time we have an arrest and not let the corrections people process my person, and we are held hostage at the jail, we can't go back on the road, somebody suffers and it's our respective towns. It means someone has to be called out to replace that person and somebody is left in a position where they have to respond to something alone or somebody has to be called from home. I think that it's more effective to have the staff in one location than every town around the central location. I think it makes more sense to pay for the staff here at the County Jail like we have always been doing and allow us to drop a prisoner off and come back to work. I think in a tough economy, you ask employees to do more, not to less. We are asking you to re-look at this policy proposed and consider the impact on the towns.

2. Chief Poirier: I agree that during the duty hours that the court is open, then we can take the arrestee right over to the court house and either arraign him or get him bailed right there from the courthouse. That's not an issue. The issue is after duty. In my police station, I don't have a holding facility to process a person and I hadn't budgeted. The only person I have on duty at nighttime is a female. There is a big safety issue.

3. Com. Albee: In response to the safety issue, we are not going to put an officer in jeopardy. If we need to continue the policy to a certain extent to accommodate for your needs, we are going to do that. We certainly aren't in the business of putting people at risk.

4. Chief Shagoury: I am glad to have this opportunity to communicate. I am also wondering what is driving the need to change. When I look back through the Minutes of

the Commissioners meeting, it doesn't seem that the population of the jail has increased. It seems to have gone down over the last year to some degree. I was hoping to find out what precipitated the change. The other concern that I had in the memo, it talks about when a person is released, my understanding by being bailed. There is some confusion on the policy where we have to wait not only until they are bailed, but also until their ride shows up. We are in an area with quite a bit of seasonal influx with people from other states and that could be a considerable amount of time beyond just the bail process. My understanding is that once someone is bailed and they have been determined to be fit to go back out on these terms and conditions, I don't know what rights we have to require somebody to remain with us until their ride shows up, to make them go someplace or to hang out with them. That is one of my concerns.

5. Chief Fifield: I think there may be a misnomer about some towns who only have one officer out, that's a definite safety risk for that town. If some other towns have more than one officer, then that's ok. We wouldn't have more than one officer if we didn't think it was a safety issue because if we have an officer out and one officer is at the jail for 3 hours, and the first officer that's out has to respond to a domestic, we have two officers out because we think that's safe, because we have budgeted for this. It's not just the towns that have one officer, it's also the towns that have two cut in half.

6. Chief Grow: What is the savings to the County by implementing this program?

7. Lt. O'Brien: If we go with this policy that you have written and we bring a prisoner in and we sit there with them and process them and we are out of the town for 4 hours, is there a guard that is going to be sitting there with us the whole time?

8. Jason: The officer will be doing checks. They won't actually be with you during the entire process. It depends on what else is going on.

9. Com. Albee: The problem that we have here is that we need to look at our core mission as a jail. That is what drove this. If you have to wait 3 hours for a bail commissioner, then there needs to be more bail commissioners appointed. There is really no need for anybody to have to wait that long. The point about it being more economically feasible to have one location for processing is absolutely correct. That's a discussion that needs to happen at the Delegation level. Historically, what has happened here, is that we have not gotten funded at the jail. We are always under funded at the jail. So we needed to look at what our core function is. When you guys have someone ready to go into a cell, that's when we come on board. That's our job to take care of those people and keep them secure. All of the other business of PR bail and people that aren't going to serve in jail; we are starting to do police work at that point and time which is not part of our core mission. That's what drove this memo. The tax bills have gone down because we are looking at the core missions and trying to focus ourselves. I think we should have a discussion with all of you and Delegation members in the room and say this is the way that we would like to do business. We have to look at the situation we are in today and how can we address it.

10. Jason: You asked for a statistic on how much we would save. Based on last year, if we stopped to PR acceptance, that would reduce our intake by 50%. The cost associated with that in paperwork would have saved us \$35,000 to \$40,000.

11. Chief Mullen: I think all of us would come together and support your budget to be increased for that purpose. I think all of would be happy to come to a Delegation meeting in order to support your budget to grow. I think that team approach would be better than potentially jeopardy of the safety issues and overtime.

12. Com. Albee: This is going to be brought up with the Sheriffs as well. You need the Sheriff for off hours coverage.

13. Chief Chase: I think our purpose here was just to inform you of the issues that we face as a result of this and we would be remiss if we hadn't asked for this opportunity. There are liability issues and some of us have no holding facility. It's going to be difficult to deal with this.

14. Com. Albee: There are elements on our side of the table which you guys don't need to think about. What this memo was about partially, was to get you guys on board so that we can go to the Delegation, so that we can make this work. I would like to work on getting a better system going for next year.

15. Com. Sorensen: I don't think this policy needs to be implemented right now. The budgets are already done. We need to continue to work together. We are trying to make our County government more efficient as well as you trying to make your towns more efficient.

Will Dewitte - Farm

1. We are still haying. We have been cleaning up some scrap metal, taking it up to the scales. We have made over \$800 off of two loads that we have taken up. We are cleaning up the grounds for Farm Day. We have been harvesting from the garden now. We have gotten over 130 pints of blueberries already.

Public Input

1. Babson: Regarding the lady from RSVP; she stated that one person from Tamworth is driving over 1,000 miles in a month and paying for his own gas. That deserves some recognition. The towns that have holding cells should work with other towns.

2. Com. Albee: If you are looking at the way to solve this issue, the least likely successful method would be for one town to make an agreement with another town. That doesn't ever seem to get anywhere.

3. Daymond: Asks to see a copy of the memo sent to the Chiefs of Police.

4. Maureen: It sounds as though the policy has changed again. Could we have clarification? Our selectmen aren't aware of this policy.

5. Com. Sorensen: We are willing to compromise to help the towns.

6. Nate: How far under bid are you regarding the nursing home?

7. Com. Albee: We awarded two more bids today. I haven't had a chance to look at how we stand at this point. It changes constantly.

Joan Richardson, Bill Stockman - Carroll County Conservation District

1. Handouts were passed to the Commissioners. History was given. Our Conservation programs in Carroll County are carried out through public education and the implementation of best management practices. In 2009, NRCS approved \$1,806,869 to Carroll County landowners in federal program contracts. This money goes towards protecting our natural resources. For every dollar that the county gave us within the last 5 years, \$29.26 has gone back out into the county due to the funds obligated to the landowners and towns of Carroll County. Right now, we are looking to apply for a Moose Plate Grant for a particular landowner in Carroll County. He has 170 head of cattle and he needs a heavy use area. We are having a very busy year. We have got a diversion now of servicing the whole county. We had 73 contracts last year. We have a lot going on in Wolfeboro, Wakefield, Tamworth and Sandwich.

MOTION: Commissioner Albee moves to go into non-public session for the purpose of personnel issues. Seconded by Commissioner Solomon. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.