

## **Carroll County Commissioners Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**January 26, 2011**

**Commissioners Present:** David Sorensen, Dorothy Solomon, Asha Kenney

**Public:** Daymond Steer, Maureen Spencer, Henry Spencer

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

#### **Public Input**

1. Maureen: Question was asked about what happened to Sheriff Conley and the situation regarding him hiring his own lawyer to represent his interest. Asks when the non-public minutes are going to be released and if anyone is keeping up with the timeline.

2. Com. Sorensen: We have not signed the check for that. The subcommittee has talked about it. Representatives Patten and McConkey have discussed it. The court case shows that the Commissioners are limited to what we can do with the law enforcement portion of his department, but otherwise, we control everything else. It is still being discussed. Regarding the minutes, we have sealed them. I believe Chip and Maureen were taking care of the timeline.

3. Henry: Regarding the minutes and them being retroactively sealed, proper keeping and recording of the minutes is the clerk's duty. I hope that Com. Kenney will keep on top of this.

#### **Minutes**

Corrections for Minutes of January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - Page 1, AS of June 2011, change to lower case, as. Under reports, #2, change Discussion was had about hiring another nurse to There was discussion of hiring of a nurse. Cross out at about.

Page 4, #7, add in That means the stewards....

Page 3, under Other, change Judge Horan to Judge Patten.

MOTION: Commissioner Solomon moves to approve the minutes of 1/05/11 as corrected. Commissioner Sorensen seconds this motion. So voted.

#### **Reports**

1. Com. Kenney: We had a building subcommittee meeting on Tuesday morning. We have hired a new person for the maintenance position. He is doing a very good job. He had a

tour of the new nursing home. He had some concern about some maintenance issues of the toilets with the plastic attachment of the toilet to the floor. He suggested using stainless. This cannot be changed at this point. I feel we need a Clerk of the Works to find these little problems. Everything is on schedule. Pressure test was done and that went well, no issues.

2. Com. Sorensen: Greater than 50% of the windows are in. They are going to start sheet rocking the second floor. Things are moving along well. The brick work has stopped for a week or two as they are caught up. The siding is starting to be put up. They are still shingling. They have 102 people that are working on the building. Four electronic doors will be put in that go to the gardens.

3. Sandi McKenzie: The gardens are still being discussed.

4. Com. Solomon: There was a letter to the editor in today's newspaper by Mr. Shakir on the nursing home. He is still unaware of certain facts. He states in his letter that despite their efficiency claims, we will require more staff workers. He says they will be State workers. Perhaps if Mr. Shakir knew a little bit about what was going on the County, he would know that these are not State workers. These are County workers and we do not expect to have to increase the number. He also says that most people are unaware of the per bed cost and that it's the highest in the nation. We are the lowest in the County, so we can't be the highest in the nation. He goes on to say that the new nursing home will attract more private payers. We have the most private pay in the State. I don't know where he gets his facts from. He then goes on to talk about the old building, the one that's beyond repair. It is beyond repair for a nursing home. It is not beyond repair for other uses.

5. Com. Sorensen: Another point that needs to be brought up is that when we went out to all the communities to talk about the need for a new nursing home, we were talking about a loan that was going to cost us 6-8% and we came in at 3.38% for a loan. This is now 4 cents per thousand on the tax rate. That's a tremendous savings no matter how you look at it. We are under budget and we will finish under budget.

### **Jason Johnson - HOC**

1. Current population is 56 in house, 1 weekenders, 10 transfers, 3 electronic monitor, and 14 on pre-trial release for a total in population of 84.

2. Total number of admitted inmates for the week was 17 (6 repeaters) and total number of released inmates for the week was 16. Repeater Charges: 1 in for Capias (booked 6 times in 5 years), 1 in for burglary (booked 2 times this year), 1 in for simple assault, resisting arrest and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree assault (booked 26 times in 13 years), 1 in for 72 hour detention hold (booked 7 times in 5 years), 1 in for burglary (booked 2 times this year), 1 in for violation of a protective order (booked 6 times in 6 years).

3. Farm has been taking out an average of 3 inmates pr day. They have 10 available.

4. Another subcommittee meeting is scheduled for this Friday at 9:30 a.m.

5. Contract for Law Library which provides access to online library service for the inmates which meets the constitutional standards is due. Suggest three year contract instead of yearly contract. This is a preventative measure. Last year, we looked into Lexus Nexus and West Law. Lexus Nexus was \$4,000 for a hard drive that would be updated every quarter. West Law online service saved us \$1500.

6. Com. Sorensen: Check with the attorney and see if we can get a reduced price by having more than one program. If not, I would be in support of the three year contract.

7. Had problem with sprinkler system last night. Backflow Preventer possibly froze causing a leak in the bypass valve. Ossipee Corner Fire Department was notified. Sprinkler System off line at the present time. Fire watches being conducted throughout the facility. Sprinkler Systems Inc was in this morning and will have a temporary fix until the new valve can be ordered and installed. Sprinkler system will be back on line later this morning.

#### **Sandi McKenzie - MVNH**

1. Census is 102 - 3 Medicare residents, 30 private pay residents, 69 Medicaid residents, 1 death, working on the next admission.

2. New Building - Chris Cass will be meeting with the residents and staff today regarding the project update. Mr. Donald Litchco met with Department heads, Commissioners Sorensen and Kenney on January 11, 2011 to develop a strategy for the move. Meetings will now continue in smaller groups to discuss specific departmental needs.

3. Pellet boiler installation - Maria Gonzalez will be speaking with the Fire Marshall's Office questioning the need of a third party review. This may be dependent on whether the pellet boiler is installed while we still occupy the current nursing home.

4. Plans for the relocation of the supplies and the Maintenance Department are currently being developed in the event work on the pellet boiler begins in the spring.

5. On February 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be having the master key meeting at 10:30 so that the key situation will be developed and ironed out. Bob Murray will be part of that meeting.

6. Nursing home subcommittee met on 1/11/11 and discussion was fruitful. Electricity usage came up for the budget. There were two thoughts. We look at the new building and square footage-wise, we see a great increase. Yet we look at the current nursing home and see the inefficiencies in the usage of our current system. We have given Maria the data in regard to our usage, our cost, what it has been for the last year to 15 months, and hopefully we will have data that is clear. We are projecting for 5-6 months for the budget.

#### **Kathy Garry - Business Office**

1. Kathy: Copy of agreement from Betsy Miller is given to the Commissioners.

2. Com. Sorensen: This agreement is between Usource, LLC and NH Association of Counties for electricity. What we are doing is all the counties are pooling their purchasing powers and putting it in with the NHAC. Strafford County did this back in January. This is for purchase of the energy.

3. Com. Solomon: As an aside, I was told that it's possible to capture energy from the pellet boiler system. We should look into that.

MOTION: Commissioner Sorensen moves to sign the agreement between Usource, LLC and NH Association of Counties. Commissioner Solomon seconds this motion. So voted.

4. Kathy: Contract for S.W. Cole and the Conservation Service Group, part of the S.W. Cole.

5. Com. Sorensen: This is for \$3,820 for vacuum testing of the new nursing home.

MOTION: Commissioner Solomon moves to sign the contract for \$3,820.00 for Conservation Services Group through S.W. Cole for vacuum testing of the new nursing home. Commissioner Sorensen seconds this motion. So voted.

6. Kathy: Bank signature cards are given to the Commissioners to sign for Laconia Savings Bank. These were all signed.

7. Documents were given to the Commissioners from BPS about the proposed renovations of the existing nursing home. Draft of the budget schedule was provided to commissioners as well.

### **Will Dewitte - Farm**

1. Will: We finished the little tractor. We have started on the big tractor, painting and doing some mechanical work on that between the storms. We have been shoveling off the roof of the nursing home and plowing has been done. A few minor things going on down at the waste water that has occupied some of our time, nothing major. Mr. Spencer had talked to Susan Brown who is from NH Independent Agriculture and Forestry in N. Conway. She would like to send a letter of intent that they would like to look at buying 50 cords of wood a year from us for their greenhouse. Regarding the landscaping, because of all the ditches, etc. the guy who is plowing is having a hard time pushing the snow and they are not doing the parking lots. More than likely, when we plow, we are going to have to haul snow out of here to other locations. I just want to make you aware of this when looking at landscaping. I got the bids back for the plowing. I calculated what I thought it would cost us to do it and compared to what they are charging, and I know it's not in the budget, but we would need a second plow truck. I think we should talk about this some more before we go in front of the Delegation. Paving for access on

Route 28 also needs to be discussed.

### **Other - Captain Meyers**

1. Meyers: Regarding the new PBX phone system, we contacted Fair Point to see what it would cost to bring in a new digital PRI line. They now have the contract for us to sign and that is why I am coming before the Commissioners at the Sheriff's suggestion. It is in the budget. Copies would given to the commissioners.

2. The Commissioners signed off on a service agreement with Fair Point for the Sheriff's Department.

### **Public Input**

1. Maureen: Asks about the non-public minutes and when they will be released.

2. Robin Reade: We are up to date, but I am still reviewing them. They should be available next week.

MOTION: Commissioner Sorensen makes a motion to go into non-public session for the purpose of legal matters regarding the jail. Commissioner Solomon seconds this motion. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

April Carpenter, Recording Secretary