

**County Commissioners Meeting
Minutes
June 8, 2011**

Commissioners Present: Dorothy Solomon and Asha Kenney. **Absent:** David Sorensen

Public: David Babson, Maureen Spencer, Harry Spencer, Maynard Thompson, Ed Comeau, Elinor Comeau, Daymond Steer, Bob Bird, Chip Albee, and Linda Dabica

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Solomon at 8:20 am.

Public Input

Representative Babson

Asked if it would be possible to have a policy that states, first time speakers must identify themselves?
Ed Comeau does a wonderful job, but sometimes all people don't get on the video.

Commissioner Solomon felt this was a very good idea.

A couple of weeks ago, the Commissioners voted to have some garden plowed in West Ossipee.
He asked why didn't anyone ask about how that piece of equipment was going to get there, as we don't have a trailer large enough and was there any liability? Where do you draw the line? Is there a policy on that?
Of note: Will volunteered his own truck for this project.

Commissioner Solomon responded that this was Commissioner Sorensen's problem with that. The garden to be plowed was for AGAPE; because this was something being done for a community garden, for the benefit of the community, who might be in need, she sought to let this happen. She will speak with Commissioner Sorensen about your questions.

Representative Babson found this to be hypercritical when you send someone up there against a private sector. There are people out there that could do this for money. Where do you see the difference?

Commissioner Solomon stated that she saw this as something for the community, not for profit, and therefore, any way you can help the community in that way seemed to be a reasonable proposal to go along with.

Commissioner Kenney stated that AGAPE donates food to the Food Bank and is a benefit to the Food Bank.

Maynard Thompson

Following up on what Commissioner Solomon said, on helping the community, are there any guidelines that you feel constrain or govern the exercise that the Commission, and its dispersal of tax payer resources will help the community; or do you just feel you have certain generalized mandate to help the community in any way the Commissioners feel like helping the community on any given moment.

Commissioner Solomon, stated that she thinks it's incumbent for a County to be there for community members who are tax payers when they are in need. If there are large costs or extenuating circumstances involved, we do consider that; but, she didn't hear at that time, that were in this case, any exorbitant costs in doing this project. As Commissioner Kenney pointed out, AGAPE donates food to the Food Bank.

Mr. Thompson stated that in helping the community or deciding on an initiative that would help, is one of the considerations, that's one way to help the taxpayers is not to spend their money. Commissioner Solomon stated that certainly was something to consider.

Maureen Spencer informed Commissioner Kenney that she has been unable to contact her via email. Commissioner Kenney gave Ms. Spencer her phone number for any urgent issues.

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Reports

Commissioner Kenney made a motion to approve the non-public minutes of 01/05/11, for personnel discipline and compensation, and non-public minutes of 3/23/11 for personnel discipline, and keep them sealed. Commissioner Solomon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Representative Babson stated that he could be wrong, but once cases are adjudicated, the minutes become public.

Commissioner Solomon will look into that issue.

Motion

Commissioner Kenney made a motion to accept the minutes of 6/1/11. Commissioner Solomon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Commissioner Solomon reported that on June 3, 2011, there was a NH Association of Counties meeting that both Commissioner Kenney and I attended. One of issues, explained at that time was that under a new state procedure, four members from the NH Association of Counties will be sitting on the Retirement Board representing the employers. An election will be held to seat these members; that will be through the NH Association of Counties.

On June 7, 2011, Commissioner Solomon attended two meetings regarding County Transit. Although the fixed route buses are available they are not online yet due to a problem with an independent bus service. Because they are trying to do two jobs, that is, the fixed route and their job, it has gotten very costly. They have reduced the number of buses, leaving two buses on the line; one bus for the North Conway area, which seems to have the most use, and the other bus for the Ossipee-Moultonborough area.

Commissioner Kenney wanted to make an amendment to the Building Committee Minutes 5/23/11 which state that in the minutes, that Representative McCarthy claims he told Commissioner Sorensen that a new roof would cost a minimum of \$600,000. Commissioner Sorensen did not agree. That was not a statement; She doesn't know who put that in the minutes.

Commissioner Kenney reported that last week the Chairman made a motion that there is a hostile situation going on, and she didn't receive any information from public or non-public meetings. She doesn't know what it is about. She can't support something that she has no information on. Commissioner Kenney wants to reconsider her vote, and wants to vote "No" to the labor attorney. When Commissioner Sorensen comes back from his two weeks vacation maybe he can explain to me what it's all about. Once again, she was left in the dark, and as a Commissioner doesn't know what is going on. Commissioner Solomon stated regarding this there are two votes in favor of hiring a labor attorney, and we are going to have to go ahead with our motion.

Departments

William DeWitte – County Farms Supervisor

Will reported on the ongoing process of planting a garden. The new lawn mower purchased has been working out well. With regard to waste water – as we speak, [he] is working on contacting someone from at the state, and try to get him here for the Delegation meeting. If not, will get a letter of recommendation from him, but will need actual specifics on these washing machines so that he can have something in writing to show him, so that he can make his recommendations. The salesman told Bob Murray it would be 500 gallons more a day.

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When we got the paper work, Bob looked at the numbers and actually it is going to be 900 gallons, calculations based on pounds of laundry. We did it on hours people would have work and had a calculation of 1200 gallons.

Will wanted the Commissioners to know that the numbers have changed. Hopefully [he] will come and speak or address this issue in writing. Commissioner Solomon asked Will about the question from Representative Babson regarding the plowing of the AGAPE garden. Will reported that due to a variety of miscommunications, this task never came to fruition.

Jason Johnson - County Jail Superintendent

Population in house, 52, 1 weekender, 8 transfers, 3 on electric monitoring, and 18 pretrial releases for a total population of 82.

Jason reported that the work detail been completed at the Ossipee Conservation Co-op, and that he had received a letter of appreciation from the Ossipee Conservation Commission. .

One inmate was brought to the hospital and remained there until yesterday. Jason believes it was about 28 hours of O/T to cover the shifts over there.

Jason ran some numbers in regard to the catastrophic cap; we moved it to \$37,000. He did an aggregate from 2007 to 2010. We have a yearly average cost of about \$55,000 which comes out of the jail expenses that includes ambulance transfers, dental care, hospital services, doctor's services, etc. In talking with Rockingham County, their catastrophic cap usually takes them about three-fourths of the way through the year, and they have it in their budget to pick up the costs for the last remaining quarter. The reason that they keep it at \$80,000 is because it keeps the contract price lower.

Commissioner Solomon asked Jason if he has gone over these figures with Prime Care. Jason will follow up today with Attorney Dewhurst. With regard to Standards, for dental care, our Inmates are entitled to reasonable dental care.

Sandi McKenzie Administrator Mt. View Nursing Home

This morning we have 102 residents at Mountain View; 6 Medicare residents, 25 private pay residents, 69 Medicaid residents, 2 pending Medicaid residents, and one recent death. We have a very healthy waiting list.

Follow-up on past meetings:

We've had active communication with Attorney Dewhurst having to do with our name change, and communication with the Corporate Division of the State Department. What it boils down to is that if you're a governmental entity you really do not have to go to the Department of State to change anything, but the concern is the issue of having someone else adopting our name. We do have to register our trade name for submittal with a filing fee of \$50.00. Moving back, a few weeks ago, we did apply, as directed, for revitalization of an association amendment or piece of paper work. In speaking with the state, once the name change goes through, they will be refunding us that money.

Sandi is asking for an approval this morning to submit documentation having to do with the application for registration of our trade name as, Mountain View Community.

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Motion

Commissioner Solomon made a motion to go ahead with the registration of the trade name, Mountain View Community. Commissioner Kenney seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Twice a year our Medicaid rate is assessed and changed. This year it's a positive change based upon an acuity system, the more services that our residents need, we hopefully will be compensated for those services. The current daily rate, per resident, per day is \$144.31. Effective July 1 through December 31, 2011 the rate will be \$149.54 which is an increase of \$5.23 per resident Medicaid days. That will certainly assist in our revenue stream come the end of the year.

Representative Babson stated that two weeks ago you voted to hire a labor attorney. Why is it the County's responsibility to hire that attorney if Primex is telling you to do it, and they are our carrier? Commissioner Solomon reported that they cannot conduct the investigation. They feel they have to step back and see whether the question merited going further. They said they need to hire an attorney for this investigation period.

Mr. Spencer referred to a motion made stating that the Director of Human Resources is the only person who can look at personnel records. He asked what precipitated this motion. Commissioner Solomon stated that she thinks it was a reiteration of something that happened. Commissioner Kenney stated that she has no idea, and has not received any information.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Solomon adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Twyon
Recording Secretary

