

Carroll County Delegation Meeting

Minutes

February 15, 2010

Delegation Members Present: Chair/Rep. Patten, Rep. Stevens, Rep. Umberger, Rep. Wiley, Rep. Butler, Rep. Ahlgren, Rep. Bucu, Rep. Knox, Rep. Bridgham, Rep. Fleck, Rep. Chandler, Rep. McConkey

Others Present: Commissioner Sorensen, Commissioner Solomon, Commissioner Albee, Sandi McKenzie, Robin Reade, Stephanie Milbury, Maureen Spencer, Henry Spencer, Nate Giarnese, Will Dewitte, Daymond Steer, David Babson.

Meeting called to order at 9:00am by Chairperson Patten. Pledge of Allegiance

Public Input

1. Henry Spencer: Asked about L-chip at last meeting. Senate finance took \$3 million. Portion comes back to County. State took money out for services (99 programs).
2. Rep. Bucu: How much came back to Carroll County is available on L-chip site.
3. Henry: Point is that Concord is not looking at tax base. Took money from programs that are needed. We need a new way to raise money. Old way does not work in today's society.
4. Rep. Bridgham: Not a question of source of revenue. Expectations of government increase. Revenue source and property tax takes a hit. Do not think different way of raising money would help.
5. Rep. Patten: HB 646 – not to downshift to County.

Close Public Input

Child Advocacy

Director: Scott Kinnon, Forensic Interviewer: Liz Kelly (also Executive Director)

1. Rep. Patten: Received letter requesting funds.
2. Scott: Maintained same level to County. State has drastically reduced funds. We have downsized facility and budget. Actively pursuing fundraising and donations. (See packet for statistics). Promote Center. \$40k requested from County (10k children = \$4 per child in the county). New faces on the board (Robin Reade is now on board). Looking to form partnership with Memorial Hospital. Conway has the

highest numbers and we are based in Wolfeboro. Looking for a satellite space.

3. Liz: Started adult education, no cost to public. Have had 135 adults so far.
4. Rep. Patten: People you are training, providers or family?
5. Liz: DCYF, summer camps, Daycare, Huggins, Everyone who is interested is welcome. Stewards of Children – statistics are in the folder. Nationally recognized training.
6. Rep. Wiley: Copy of budget?
7. Scott: I do have a copy of the budget with me. This year our budget is \$102k, reduction of approx. \$37k. Reduction of staff (cutting one full-time staff member). Explanation of some grants that help to fund program.
8. Rep. Knox: I fully support the child advocacy. I think the delegation as a whole should support this. This part of County government is important. There is no increase – hope we continue to do this.
9. Robin Gordon: How it works – DCYF or Sheriff gets a call; they call Liz to set up interview with victim- sets up meeting of team so witness of child is only interviewed once. Rep. from every department is present. Taped interview. All have some info. Trying to get to the truth of the matter. They are there to make sure justice is done.
10. Rep. Bridgham: WE are now furnishing larger part of budget. Where does this department see itself heading into the future? Do not want to see the County as the supporting agency.
11. Scott: Budget for 09 – donations were greater than county contribution. Board members do all the fundraising themselves. Victims of crime funding through the state, allocated to child advocacy centers. Will do National Child Alliance Accreditation this year. This helps structure of organization (\$10k). We are important to the County. Will get you the 2010 budget ASAP showing breakdown.
12. Rep. Patten: Include budget with your packet from now on.
13. Commissioner Sorensen: Should we be putting this organization in regional appropriation list. If so, we will ask secretary of that group to put together budget of what was spent last year. Much like our budget is now.
14. Rep. Patten: Looks like you have already included Child Advocacy center under Regional Appropriations in your budget. Will be voting on budget March 15th, 22nd, and 29th.

County Treasurer, Jack Widmer

1. Jack Widmer: Small budget - \$6,267, stayed within budget. Reduction on office supplies, dues, and subscriptions. Moved \$200 from those lines into travel line. Distance is 22 miles round trip. Makes travel expense around \$700.
2. Rep. Patten: Will follow Federal travel rate.
3. Jack: Will move \$100 from dues and subscriptions and put into

travel expense.

4. Rep. Wiley: Taking \$100 out of office supplies and \$100 out of dues and subs?
5. Jack: Yes, that will be sufficient to cover.

Carroll County Transit, Ted Laliberte

1. Rep. Patten: Have letter from Ted Laliberte, included in packet.
2. Ted: Public transportation is coming to Carroll County. Received funding for 8 buses, will be arriving in June. 3 Transit routes (Description of routes)
Demand/response/dial-a-ride. Zones – they will come and pick you up and take you anywhere within zone. Will also have trips for long-distance medical, Boston, etc. for medical care. Use RSVP etc, to get these people.
3. Rep. Patten: You are asking for \$3k
4. Rep. Chandler: Is each area of County covered?
5. Ted: all will be covered by long-distance medical but not the regular transit yet. We need to start with the zones.
6. Rep. Patten: Would like breakdown with map.
7. Rep. Umberger: What is the cost for users?
8. Ted: Public transit is \$2 round trip, \$3 for transferring buses. Long distance demand response/dial-a-ride can vary from \$2 to \$7 depending on location. Long distance medical, we ask for donation (suggested \$30 but is not mandatory).
9. Rep. Umberger: Conway budget committee – not supporting this request. Concern is abuse of dial-a-ride. What kind of guidelines will you use to prevent misuse?
10. Ted: We will track all usage – money provided by government to run rural transportation system. Do not see how you can stop people from using it. We are in the process of providing Travel Trainer. NCT has hired a travel trainer to be available to come out and talk about transit system and how to use it. Gearing toward mobility impaired.
11. Rep. Chandler: Map – include sources for funding and operating costs. Asking for support from County and towns.
12. Ted: Do not know how towns feel yet, some support and some do not.
13. Rep. Patten: We need to know where support is. Get info to Commissioners for March 15th meeting.

Sheriff/Dispatch

1. Rep. Ahlgren: (sub-committee) Met a few times. Couple of last minute changes due to accounting anomalies. Line 1 needs to be reduced to \$224,194. Line 10 – increased to \$20,747. Line 12 – Medical insurance increase to \$143,245. Increase was not in original budget. Increase in SS is computation error. (handed info from Sheriff).
2. Rep. Chandler: Would you care to share the info?

3. Sheriff: Changes – did not change line 1, stays at \$232,605.
4. Rep. Chandler: What is sub-committee recommendation?
5. Rep. Ahlgren: Came back with recommendation that they only needed \$224,194.
6. Rep. Chandler: Is the subcommittee recommending \$224,194 or \$232,605?
7. Rep. Ahlgren: Will have to discuss this with the Sheriff.
8. Sheriff: Original entry accurately reflects cost. Problem with formulary – Medicare/insurance, etc. It is the number that the business office gave us. Covers Capt., 2 Lts, and Secretary to Sheriff.
9. Rep. Patten: Get information
10. Rep. Stevens: Request to change overtime on new sheet, overtime raise to \$47,815.
11. Sheriff: Had not added in one deputy.
12. Rep. Patten: Bottom line will change. Sub-committee, have numbers when we come back and also corrected budget. No history on Administrative budget? Is this a new item?
13. Sheriff: All was under secretaries or deputies.
14. Rep. Ahlgren: Look at last years. Adapted budget. Separated out salaries.
15. Rep. Patten: Why change?
16. Sheriff: Primary reason is that administration is separate. Non-union and union.
17. Rep. Patten: Admin. – under your control?
18. Sheriff: Discriminator – union or non-union
19. Rep. Bridgham: line shifting. Special details are up but OT is down. Are they linked? (003, 006).
20. Sheriff: Special details accounts for four activities. Commercial, US Forest service, Highway. Attorney Generals' office (Anticipated grants).
21. Rep. Bridgham: Court Bailiff line did not exist. You have started to put expenses on it. Special Deputies line has dropped, are those linked?
22. Sheriff: Bailiff – through the courts. Special details includes part-time deputy.
23. Capt. Myers: Look at line 008. Separated out from 011.
24. Rep. Bridgham: Support of courts is all on 011 now, warrant, etc. on 008.
25. Rep. Chandler: Revenue – show nothing from US Forestry Service.
26. Rep. Ahlgren: Added to special detail line, 008.
27. Rep. Chandler: Would like to see Forestry line separated out. Lots of administrative charges. Want list.
28. Rep. Patten: Need to know how and why the shifts took place. Want list. What is the overall reason?
29. Rep. Ahlgren: Restructuring of Admin. Salaries. Trying to break down admin and boot on the ground (union, non-union)
30. Rep. Chandler: Want to know why. Also, line on “other income”.

31. Rep. Ahlgren: Need line for grants, created line 096. Changes they made – 006 went down and went into line 1.
Explanation of line item shifts. Budget is \$15k more than it should be, need to investigate. Need explanation of budget line items. Cars, maintenance, etc. Eventual reduction.
32. Rep. Patten: Sub-committee and Sheriff – changing accounting aspects. Put that down, why the changes, etc. Why were these decisions made?
33. Rep. Chandler: (0037) \$4700 increase in dues and licenses/subscriptions?
34. Rep. Bridgham: If there is a grant, you have relied on, if new grant, new budget. Need grant line. Not showing expenses.
35. Commissioner Sorensen: Grant from Forestry line 019, should be on revenue line 019.
36. Rep. Chandler: Should show up in grant line.
37. Commissioner Sorensen: Special detail – difference between special detail expense and revenue – profit?
38. Rep. Umberger: Discussed at sub-committee that grants are not shown. Shown on expense side. Do not show revenue to offset expenses. Philosophy of Commissioner is not to put grants in until they are received. Made line item to input grants when they come in.
39. Commissioner Sorensen: New grant are represented by \$1.
40. Rep. Fleck: Confused on special detail accounting process.
41. Myers: US Forestry is not a grant, it is a contract. It will be under US Forestry.
42. Rep. Ahlgren: Clarification – special details – looks like it was combined with special detail – increase?
43. Myers: Reason for increase is that state stopped reimbursement for retirement. We have to pay the portion of retirement now.
44. Rep. Patten: \$20k will be in revenue/Forestry.
45. Rep. Fleck: Confused on special details. Should be gross revenue and expense showed elsewhere.
46. Commissioner Sorensen: Difference is profit.
47. Rep. Chandler: Do not want to double revenue – Perhaps Forestry income is included in that line.
48. Rep. Patten: Figure out revenue and bring it back to us.
49. Rep. Butler: Question on grants
50. Sheriff: Will be clear in 2010. Grant, new line item.
51. Rep. Butler: Understand why state is no longer paying retirement or cost on base salary because practice of using people near retirement age so they can retire at a higher rate. (People used for special detail).
52. Rep. Chandler: We should not pay retirement on special detail.
53. Commissioner Albee: I agree with Rep. Butler. We are restricted by union contract now, but will have negotiations this fall.
54. Rep. Chandler: Not in the last contract. Take it off the table.
55. Rep. Umberger: Look at contract for special detail and let us know

what it says.

56. Rep. Patten: Sheriff's budget needs to be worked on and updates done before March 15th. Email it to us before that.
57. Myers: Will email it to everyone.
58. Rep. Stevens: Have problems getting email.
59. Rep. Umberger: Point out à should be slight reduction in bailiff line. Expense and income.
60. Rep. Patten: Bailiff – reimbursement from Courts - \$10 per day from County.
61. Rep. Chandler: SS and Medical line - \$20,747, same as we spent last year. Medical is also less – needs to be looked at. Most likely increase.
62. Rep. Patten: Please have the info. to us a week ahead.

Dispatch

1. Rep. Ahlgren: No significant increases except for medical, line 012. Overall increase of 3% attributed to medical insurance and salary. Kathy Garry is not here to answer line questions. Will be discussed further.
2. Rep. Butler: Health insurance cost. If increase to family plan, we pay 80%? Entire answer for health insurance increase?
3. Commissioner Sorensen: Yes, medical plan and insurance increase.
4. Rep. Patten: Correction on increase: \$66,164.
5. Rep. Bridgham: Telephone line bounce around. Radio communications, what is going on?
6. Myers: line 069 – Maintenance cost increase/contract and tower rentals. No connection between line 068 and 069. Running 18 lines in phone center.
7. Rep. Patten: Phone line has gone down.
8. Myers: That is the number that the program generated.
9. Rep. Patten: Need to know why last year was \$27,005.
10. Rep. McConkey: Question on health for individual and family plan.
11. Commissioner Sorensen: We are looking into difference programs but policy was not made for conversion policy.
12. Rep. McConkey: You will not discuss policy?
13. Commissioner Albee: Must look at non-union employees. Did negotiate benefit on union contract.
14. Rep. McConkey: Take non-union policy into consideration.
15. Commissioner Albee: Currently non-union at Registry of Deeds. If we push the issue we will end up with a unionized deeds.
16. Rep. Chandler: Sub-committee check on issues of Health insurance – deductible.
17. Commissioner Albee: Have looked into it, will look again. Union – reduction in benefits/higher co-pay. Savings of \$60k. 16% à 13%. Will look again at deductible and County.

18. Rep. Umberger: Conway School District has gone to \$500 deductible – saved \$200-\$300,000. Suggest you think about that.
19. Commissioner Albee: Our worker population is significantly higher than the school district.
20. Rep. Fleck: Question on personal days.
21. Rep. Ahlgren: personal days – union – can be cashed in for % of days not used. Actual is always less.
22. Rep. Fleck: Personal day issue, should be looked at in negotiations.
23. Commissioner Albee: Jail and Nursing home – movement toward earned-time as one lump. Will be less expensive and easier.
24. Rep. Butler: What is deductible on medical?
25. Commissioner Albee: There is no deductible, we have a co-pay.
26. Rep. Ahlgren: contract through Spring of 2011 with Sheriff and Dispatch.
Explanation of Dispatch and overtime as well as part-time.

Farm, Will Dewitte

1. Commissioner Sorensen: Based on 1st week of December to make it more accurate. Change in line items. 1% increase in wages. Will see reduction accounted for in Sewer and Water. Projected income for farm is \$135,000. Should show increase in wood this year.
2. Rep. Bridgham: Wood – show \$22,500.
3. Will: Takes into consideration wood. Explanation of traditional amount for wood.
4. Rep. McConkey: Purchase/resale. Is that for wood? (line 099).
5. Will: Yes
6. Rep. McConkey: Talked of uniforms – boots and raingear, line 052. Is there more to that?
7. Will: Water/sewer – damage to clothing. Must be replaced.
Discussion of wood purchase last year - \$15k. Why is it needed again this year? Farm is still setting up lumber cuts – not included yet so may need to purchase wood again this year.
8. Rep. Chandler: Purchasing for \$15k – selling for \$22.5k does not seem profitable to me.
9. Will: \$22,500 is net income. Actual, making about \$37,500 (gross estimated amount).
10. Rep Chandler: Use of equipment - \$45k this year. What is that projected on?
11. Commissioner Sorensen: Maintenance budget. Shifted to farm income.
Explanation of shifting line items between Farm/Sewer/Water
12. Rep. Umberger: Commissioners need to look into accounting of revenues. Affect taxes. Go back and check figures.
13. Commissioner Albee: No reduction of (wood). No increase or decrease in revenue.

Water

1. Rep. Patten: Salary – up about \$20,000.
2. Commissioner Sorensen: Chemicals purchased for 2 years – less this year- more next year.
3. Rep. Chandler: Revenue question – Budgeted \$67k – received \$57k.
4. Commissioner Sorensen: Base fee and water. Never make what we project.

Sewer

1. Rep. Patten: Up \$5k – water testing and vehicle lease.
2. Rep. Umberger: Why did water testing go up?
3. Will: DES tells us what we have to do, testing and lab fees.
4. Rep. McConkey: Might have storm water from this building. Costs are projected higher. Is storm water an increasing problem?
5. Will: Storm water was never brought up to me. I can find out from water operator.
6. Rep. McConkey: Was brought up to Commissioners.
7. Rep. Patten: Commissioners please look into this issue.
8. Rep. Bridgham: Labor cost drop.
9. Commissioner Sorensen: An adjustment with wages/time.

Mountain View Nursing Home

Sandi McKenzie

1. Rep. Patten: Question under rate reduction. Carroll County got hit with smallest reduction in revenue based on budget neutrality. Have you accounted for that in budget?
2. Sandi: \$220,000 loss made up in contractual. (Pg. 10, Line 097) Amount came through after budget was finalized in Nov. and Dec. Budget neutrality \$5.08 per day, per resident. Jan-June. Took conservative look and annualized. Revenue increased. Cushion of \$350k. Not taking any other reduction in Medicaid number because we have not received notice yet.
3. Rep. Patten: Budgeted \$7,803,038 – brought in \$8,411,266 due to proper management and programs.
4. Rep. Bridgham: From July – Dec. 2010 we know how much has been budgeted from the state. Are you saying the first 6 months will be the same as the second 6 months?
5. Sandi: Watching it closely. Basis of budget on 100 beds – ability for 103. Too tight. Increased rate from \$245 à \$254 (3% increase) Payer mix changed slightly. 65.8 Medicare, 6.8 Skilled, 24.4 Private, 3 empty beds. Jan. 2010 – confident. 98.1 average. Assume predominantly Medicaid residents.
6. Rep. Fleck: handouts with updated info. Total expenses – 2.35% increase. Revenue 7.79% increase.
7. Sandi: As we increase revenue, yield increases in rehab

- experience. 1& salary increase. New equipment increase. Nursing – Bariatric bed and chair, mattress replacement.
8. Rep. McConkey: Floor scrubber – is machine adequate for new facility?
 9. Sandi: Doing trial on floor materials/maintenance.
 10. Rep. Patten: Thank you to building sub-committee.
 11. Rep. Butler: Agency staff line is amazing. Moral is much higher.
 12. Commissioner Albee: Struggle with scheduling and employee relations. Soon will have computerized time clock and computerized system. Has been hard to reduce that agency line.
 13. Rep. Fleck: Diligent – Have seen so much improvement in all areas. Competent and well run now. Also under her direction, is moving toward what we asked to see. Effectively run.
 14. Rep. Umberger: What is line 045?
 15. Sandi: Grants
 16. Commissioner Albee: Do not put revenue in until we have it in hand.
 17. Rep. Butler: MQUIP – doesn't it come to us and then back to the state, then back to us?
 18. Sandi: Yes
 19. Rep. Ahlgren: Reason for it is an accounting of what we charge. Way to get more Federal money that comes into the state.
 20. Sandi: Emails and phone calls about dialysis resident. Going over current issue:
Medicare guidelines – must have resources
Policies and Procedures – State Education
Some of our key staff will go to training
Medical Director
Hopefully target date of June 1st we will have resources in place.
 21. Rep. Patten: Does County need to invest in dialysis machine?
 22. Sandi: When you bring it into facility, held to specific guidelines. At home is much different. We will need to become able to address our residents that must have dialysis. Responsibility
 23. Rep. Butler: Safety. Financial impact. Does this budget take into consideration the cost of education and transportation?
 24. Sandi: Studying reimbursement rates. Issue – there is reality to this. Looking to family for support. Proximity – Rochester and Laconia – cost.
 25. Rep. McConkey: Sandi, Thank you for the June 1st date.
Understand and appreciate how we are going to address this. Issue: transport policy. Family member present. Could change policy for ambulance to transport. RSA's – Quality of care. Non-justification of admittance of dialysis patients. Staff is not qualified to have residents that need this service. Investigation showed that no other County in NH accepts residents who need this service.
 26. Sandi: Have to look at every aspect of care for this resident as soon as they enter the door. Transport by ambulance/transport may not

always be covered. We have to say “can we do it.” I would still have to say no, we can’t. We are building upon it. Liability, if we accept the resident and cannot meet their needs.

27. Rep. McConkey: Has Grafton accepted residents who need dialysis?

28. Commissioner Sorensen: Grafton – 3 to 5 years ago they did accept dialysis residents. Now they do not.

29. Sandi: Some Counties are in close proximity to dialysis centers. Staff can respond quickly. Or they are close to hospitals with Nephrologists. North Country is much more difficult. Presently 3 or 4 county homes that do not accept dialysis residents. Educating staff now and on a yearly basis. State will check for competency and education.

30. Commissioner Solomon: Because Carroll County does not have any access to dialysis patients are going elsewhere. Should someone come in who is going to Maine, do we transport them to Maine or ask them to change centers? Ambulance – Dr. must prescribe service.

31. Commissioner Albee: Only have report from 1 individual. We have asked for others to come forward. Adding to budget for only 1 individual – no cardiac in Carroll County either. HIB – Do we want to open door to training and education? Do all nursing homes have to supply all services if there is another close by that can do it? Until I see a need for MVNH to get into this business, I am not for it.

32. Rep. Umberger: Self-dialysis? Staff training for that?

33. Sandi: No – that is peritoneal dialysis. We do not have the room and need infection training.

34. Rep. Umberger: Understand that is a better method than going to a center. If we could accept a person who is doing this, it may be an option.

35. Sandi: Medical staff, attending physician must prescribe what type of dialysis is used.

36. Rep. Butler: Pleased to hear that you are working toward accepting dialysis patients. We are here to take care of County residents that need us. If it is possible and has no significant negative affect to Nursing home, we should take care of the people that live in our county. Need fiscal analysis.

37. Rep. Knox: Any that has in-home dialysis.

38. Rep. Umberger: Laundry – up \$20k

39. Sandi: Contract – General Linen took over from Lakes Region linen and we had a large rate increase. We do towels, face cloths. Contract is for bed linens. Contract was renegotiated so it can be terminated when we move into new home.

40. Rep. Bridgham: If we do it one by one we are going to run into a problem. Is there a possibility of regionalizing?

41. Commissioner Albee: Talk with Memorial Hospital/ info.

42. Rep. Bridgham: Not just County wide –
43. Rep. Patten: Need list of new equipment by department
44. Rep. Ahlgren: Raised rate to \$254 for private? (yes)
Requested breakdown of DEAS line. How much is home care and how much is nursing home care. This does not answer my question (given printout). I want to know how much of that money was for in-home care and how much was for nursing home care.
45. Commissioner Albee: DHHS – beyond our control for home-care. Giving you the figure that we spend in the County.
46. Rep. Ahlgren: What is the figure? How much of that \$3 million was for home-care and how much for nursing home care.
47. Commissioner Albee: DHHS sends u a bill, they break it down.
48. Rep. Ahlgren: \$236,000,000 – for whole state. Trying to get an idea.
49. Rep. Patten: Rep. Ahlgren, you need to go to DHHS and say you want a breakdown for DEAS. WE do not know.
50. Commissioner Albee: I tried to find where the \$3 million comes from with DHHS and got nowhere.
51. Rep. Patten: Must ask DHHS who will probably ask you to ask Rep. Bridgham.
52. Commissioner Albee: We have no idea how to prepare for the future because we don't know how many are HHC.
53. Rep. Ahlgren: Cost us \$296 per bed day – Private pay rate is \$254, so we are subsidizing Private as well.

Miscellaneous Discussion

1. Rep. McConkey: List of new equipment and assets (property, etc) that county owns.
2. Commissioner Albee: Tech committee – inventory of computers/recommend purchases, etc.
3. Commissioner Sorensen: Also hired grant writer. Put in for \$200, for heat system grant.
4. Rep. Patten: Keep us in the loop. Obligations to county.
5. Rep. Fleck: Question on grant writer.
6. Rep. Patten: Next meeting March 15th at 9am.
Carroll County Coalition for Public Health still to come.

Public Input

1. Maureen Spencer: Building committee, chief concern – would like to see increase services to go with the private rooms. We are looking into these things. You are going to get people who need more care, people who live longer. That brings more expense, need trained people.

Rep. Patten called for motion to adjourn. Motion by Rep. _____ to adjourn. Seconded by Rep. _____. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm