

“DRAFT”

Carroll County Delegation Meeting

Minutes

February 14, 2011

Delegation Members Present: Betsey Patten, Chris Ahlgren, Laurie Pettengill, Frank McCarthy, Joseph Fleck, David Knox, Mark McConkey, David Babson, Dino Scala, Steve Schmidt, Harry Merrow.

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Sorensen, Commissioner Kenney, Commissioner Solomon.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Rep. Betsey Patten, Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

1. Henry Spencer: Asks if when they are going over the budgets, can the public ask questions as well?
2. Rep. Patten: If there is a portion of the budget that you would like to speak about, then you can speak about it or ask questions.
3. Chip Albee: Regarding the nursing home, I think it's important to remember the concept that we brought forward over a year ago which is that full beds make an enormous revenue difference. I hope that you appreciate that as you go through it.

Budget Presentations:

Farm: Rep. Babson asks that Will DeWitte talk about what he has done, how the revenue stream has turned around and his business plan on bringing in a small quantity of livestock to see if we can turn things around. We can make money on this project. Will passes around the farm plan. Will talks about the money that was put into the capital fund and the three different projects that were put into that. I attempted to make some revenue projections. We will need to have the livestock for a year before we can start making money on that. Pole barn, campfire wood and cord wood is discussed in the plan. Plans for the old barn is discussed. It is a safety hazard right now and we need to take that down. I have listed out all the expenses for the livestock plan. The total is \$66,703.00 under capital expenditures, page 20 of the budget. In order to get a return on investment, we need some start up cash. Rep. Fleck asks if he is planning to sell calves to other farmers to raise? Will explains that he would like to be able to

provide beef to the nursing home and jail and then eventually sell. Rep. Scala asks about the livestock income in 2012 being \$23,300.00. You had mentioned the piglets. Is that number about 200 piglets? Will responds that it's the piglets and the beef.

Snowplowing figures are broken down based on having two trucks with plows, a sander. Rotating basis of trading those out. It will cost \$40,000 a year for us to do our own plowing and sanding. This fall, the Commissioners had us put the plowing out to bid to see what the averages were. I heard from two people and took them around the facility and the numbers are in the handout provided. The bids came back with a \$50,000 savings to the County by doing our own plowing.

Water Works - Maintenance and repair have gone up. Homes and metered. Hydrants need to be flushed in both the village and the county complex. Piping is new.

Sewer - We have a sewer bond out that is being paid off. This looks to be down from 2010 budget.

County Attorney: Atty Dewhurst talks about the decrease in the insurance as he will not be taking part in the insurance, so that line item has decreased. The dental component is being reduced as well. We do have a significant increase which came after the committee submitted their budget and that is for a civil commitment. It is a line item that is usually put in at \$1.00. We never know if we are going to have one of these. This is under the statute for involuntary civil commitment of sexually violent predators. In November, we received some information and the County Attorney had filed for a review of the inmate that was at the NH State Prison who was due for release and his case was submitted to the multidisciplinary team for review. That team did review his case and his history and found him to be qualified under that statute for consideration. We had to make a decision which we brought to the commission and also to the subcommittee of whether or not to file a petition to have this go forward. The reason why we have chosen this amount (\$25,000), after doing research on how much these cases cost, and they are not a very popular situation, but most of the cost is for experts and for deposition and expenses in preparing for the court proceedings. We have 60 days to prepare for a trial. RSA-135C. Bottom line is \$459,777.00. IT - \$8,500.00 increase for Cybertron and \$5,000.00 for a State System.

Page 11 - Medical Referee. Currently at \$13,402.00. There have been a number of different budget items that come out of that. They are broken down by statute. Requesting \$16,500.00 based on last year's expenses.

Assistant attorney salaries are discussed.

Victim Witness: Rep. Ahlgren refers to page 6. There is a \$5,000.00 increase from the previous year's budget which is primarily due to the medical insurance and the additional salaries. Everything else is pretty consistent with the previous year. Melissa Smith speaks and states that the budget hasn't changed in the last five years. Every expenditure item that I have any control over is funded by a grant. I am asking for an increase in my salary this year, getting it at an acceptable level in line with the other counties. My job is to let people know victims of crime have rights and one of my jobs is to let them know what those rights are. None of the other line items have changed. Atty Dewhurst comments on how this position is important to the County Attorney's office and he would recommend the salary increase. The amount suggested to increase \$3,812.00. The sub-committee did vote this down, so this is not shown in the line item today. Budget is set at 2% increase.

Carroll County Conservation District: Rep. McConkey states the subcommittee met a couple of weeks ago. It is level funding and has been for a number of years. There is no issue with the amount brought forward. A packet is given to the representatives and they are asked to do a resource assessment which is included in the packet.

RSVP: Rep. McConkey states that the budget is level funding. They provide a tremendous service to the county. We are in support of the level funding that they have asked for.

Child Advocacy Center: Rep. Ahlgren reports that the subcommittee met with the CAC. They are asking for the same level funding of \$40,000. They provide support as well as a place for children to go to testify upon which whatever situation they may be in. They opened a satellite office in Conway in January.

Carroll County Health & Home: Rep. McConkey reports that they met a couple of weeks ago. Their funding is essentially the same, level funded. There seems to be nothing out of line. This group of people does a wonderful job for our population. Ann Getchel passes out some general information, statistics on hours and visits, expenses, etc. Last year, we did 21,190 home visits. We have been in business for 36 years. We have increasing number of adults needing our services as we are the largest aging population in the state with 45% of people over 65 years old in Carroll County.

UNH Cooperative Extension: Rep. McConkey reports that the extension is looking at essentially the same funding. We did not have many issues with that. Most of our conversation revolved around the future. Ann has been very good with providing information needed to consider them moving here to the campus. I am in full support of what this group does. Ann Hamilton passes out the budget breakdown for review. They are State, Federal and County funded. In 2010, we were under budget 1.4% which was returned to the county. Requested that the surplus go into capital reserve for our building fund. Com. Sorensen

reports that they will be putting together a committee to look at the old nursing home facility and coming up with a plan for housing UNH Coop Extension and will come up with a recommendation for the Delegation as far as funding.

Human Services: Com. Sorensen reports that the only item under Human Services is the DEAS that we send to the state. That was increased \$195,000.

Steph Milbury reports that they base the figures on the first six months because the state hasn't figured out what's going on for the last half of the year. There will be updated figures in March or April. The net obligation was \$3,886,720.00. The Delegation asks for a better explanation. Steph reports that the State tells us what we are going to pay. They tell us the net obligation and we get rebates for drug programs and things like that. We got two rebates at the end of last year that we didn't expect. We don't include them because we don't know if we are going to get them or not. We took the figures that we knew for the last half of the fiscal year and used those figures to estimate our total year figure.

Human Resources: Robin Reade reports that one thing they have done this year is a county wide employee recognition ceremony. Generally, the nursing home has had one every year. Besides doing all the resource work for the county, my department handles the county website which is heavily used now.

When we started two years ago, we developed the website and we didn't have a budget for it. We have outgrown what we have. We are looking to do some design work on our website this year. The other thing we are heavily involved with is the time and attendance system that we have put into place. I passed out information on that last week. Those are some of the areas above and beyond in our department that we are actively working on. Advertising line item has been reduced. A good portion of the IT line is for the hopes of redeveloping the website. The product we are looking at is called Virtual Town Hall. The Town of Wolfeboro and Moultonboro and Belknap County use this product. Cybertron maintenance is also included in that. Maintenance for Kronos is also included in that line item.

Commissioners: Com. Sorensen reports that the budget has increased 2% for salaries. We would like to increase the travel expense from \$5,000 to \$6,000.

New equipment line is \$1,500 which is to replace computers.

Administration Building: Com. Sorensen reports a 2% salary increase. The Commissioners reduced the new equipment line item down to \$300. I would like to encourage you to add \$1.00 to the impound area which is under capital improvements. We have done some design work on that area and we will need to stump it and bring in some fill. We will move all of the vehicles from the farm yard over here to where it's more secure. At some point, we will put fencing around it. We are moving it over here so that the Dispatch Center will have a key. If a vehicle comes in in the middle of the night, Dispatch will have a key and they can into the yard. Capital expenditures for the Administration Building is broken down in the following way: \$10,000 would go towards the impound yard,

\$65,000 would go towards rehabbing the lighting and the panels in this building (State energy audit recommendations), we could reduce that number by \$25,000. We are still waiting for other bids to come in.

Nursing Home: Rep. Fleck reports that he has met twice with Sandi and Paula and have had a full subcommittee meeting a couple of weeks ago and met briefly this morning. I am going to let Sandi McKenzie speak. Sandi reports that last year's census was at about 95. This year, our census has been at 103. Budget is based on 103. Private pay rate has increased from \$254 to \$262 per private pay resident per day. Medicaid reimbursement increased in January from \$140.67 to \$144.07. The stimulus monies for the first and second quarter of this year and they are going away. Stimulus money \$341,592.00 was received last year. We know that is going to be cut in half and we have been told that it's going to be cut more in half for the amount of money we are going to get this year. Resident breakdown for 2011 is 65.5% Medicaid, 28% private, 5.5% skilled and 1% empty. Paula Coates reports on some of the changes. Handouts are passed around. Adjustments have been made on salary line item for LNAs and line items associated with that. We did increase 2 line items in nursing for medical supplies and services. We still decreased our original budget by \$44,000. With all the expenses this year, it's a 4.75% increase which includes health and salaries. Without the health and salaries, the budget was increased by only 1.72%. Revenue increase is 6.3%. Com. Sorensen comments that the electrical estimate was from our design team, but it could be lower. Handouts were discussed. Nursing overtime discussed. Cooling and heating costs discussed. Maintenance and storage in the new building discussed.

Public Input

1. Henry Spencer: Questioned about Rep. McCarthy stated that the appropriation requested for this year's budget a \$66,000.00 over what he spent last year. I would like more clarification.
2. Rep. Fleck: I think what Atty Dewhurst was referring to the fact that he was not taking any of the medical or dental insurance.
3. Rep. McCarthy: Last year's budget usage was actually \$393,000 and he is asking for \$459,000 which is the \$66,000 difference.

MOTION: Rep. Knox moves to adjourn at 1:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Rep. McConkey. Motion carries.

April Carpenter
Recording Secretary