

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Administration Building  
3855 Dartmouth College Highway  
North Haverhill, NH  
Monday November 15, 2010

PRESENT: Representatives Mulholland, Ford, Laliberte, Gionet, Preston, and Williams, Commissioners Cryans, and Richards, Executive Director Clough and Secretary Martino.

EXCUSED: Representatives Aguiar and Friedrich

OTHERS: Harold Brown, Omer Ahern and Carol Elliott.

Rep. Mulholland called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM

Rep. Preston moved to approve the minutes from the October 18th meeting which was seconded by Rep. Ford. Reps. Gionet and Williams abstained, all others were in favor.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sievers began by thanking the committee for their support over the last two years. She said that she will be working with incoming Treasurer Carol Elliott to invest the funds that will be coming in from the Towns for taxes and asked the committee if there was anything in particular that they thought should be looked at when the bid requests go out. No one had any special preferences above what it usually done.

Rep. Preston moved to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Rep. Williams. All were in favor.

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Commissioner Cryans began by thanking those on the committee who will be leaving office which included Commissioner Richards and Treasurer Sievers. He thanked those on the committee for serving and wished everyone well. Commissioner Richards echoed the sentiments of Commissioner Cryans.

Commissioner Cryans said that the Delegation will meet next week to vote on appropriating an additional \$200K to the Nursing Home from the surplus. The public hearing will begin at 10:00 AM with the Delegation meeting starting at 11:00.

There will be a Drug Court graduation on Wednesday with retired Chief John Broderick as guest speaker.

A geophysical test will be preformed and a test well drilled to see if there are proper water conditions to support the creation of a County water system. Supt. Oakes will be preparing an RFP for the project. This is being conducted as a result of the recent engineering study.

Rep. Gionet asked if the Nursing Home report is available to read and Director Clough said that NHA Bolander said it is a lengthy document which has not been put out yet, but that she would get a copy from NHA Bolander for the committee. Director Clough said that NHA Bolander is also supposed to be giving her a breakdown on exactly what the requested \$200K will be used for.

Rep. Williams said that what he got out of the letter that NHA Bolander sent out to the Delegation was that there was something else going on at the Nursing Home and that in his opinion, just throwing money at it doesn't solve the problem. Commissioner Cryans said that in fairness to NHA Bolander, the Dept. Heads have been asked to bring in a level funded budget and that RN's were used to do work that would normally be done by LNA's and because of that problems did occur.

Commissioner Richards spoke in support of the need for more money to be appropriated to the Nursing Home.

Commissioner Cryans discussed the request for money which he said began at \$150K. Commissioner Richards had asked NHA Bolander if that was enough money and she indicated that it would be a start. Commissioner Richards made a motion to appropriate \$200K because she felt that more money was need in order for the Nursing Home to achieve their goals.

Rep. Gionet suggested that if not for the survey, the problems at the Nursing Home would have been apt to continue, adding that they had to have been going on for a while now in order to be where they're at now. Commissioner Cryans said that the questions and concerns really need to be addressed to NHA Bolander. He said that these surveys can have dire consequences and reviewed what the penalties were and could have been. Commissioner Cryans said that he was actually stunned at the survey because it was his belief that the Nursing Home has always received high marks and praise. Rep. Williams said that it seemed to him that there is a lack of communication between the Nursing Home and the Commissioners.

Rep. Laliberte asked if there were any other Depts. that are going to have trouble because of having to hold a level budget.

Rep. Ford said the Courts are having serious troubles.

Commissioner Cryans said that when you take the two largest departments and compare them, the Nursing Home is highly regulated and the Jail, which is the second largest department, does not have the tight regulations. He said that he's sure there are pressures on all the departments and that tremendous efforts are being made by the staffs.

He wanted it noted that aside from all of this, the County still has a phenomenal Nursing Home.

Rep. Mulholland said that she had spoken to NHA Bolander and is in support of the additional money saying that she finds it extraordinary that the Nursing Home is not looked at as an investment in the future and that not looking at it that way will have dire consequences.

Rep. Gionet said that he doesn't think that there's no support for the Nursing Home, he just doesn't feel that it got that way overnight and would like to see the report.

Rep. Williams still had concerns about the water tank and said that it feels like unfinished business and he wanted to know what was going to happen.

Director Clough said they didn't know that yet. Commissioner Cryans said that they will be following the recommendation by the engineers regarding looking into having a County water system.

Rep. Williams said his preference would be to install the \$80K valve and then later on down the road take a look at possibly putting in a water system. He said that it was going to take a few years to get the wells drilled and for permitting anyway.

Director Clough said the tank is being drawn down manually right now and Rep. Williams said he thought that was fine in the interim, but he would like to see the valve put in.

There was further discussion about this. Rep. Preston thought that putting the valve in would be like "throwing money down a rat hole" and Rep. Gionet agreed with that and said that Lincoln managed to get a well drilled in a year.

Rep. Gionet said he would like to be able to get the newspaper articles on the other side of the mountain so he knows what's going on at the County and Director Clough said they could be forwarded on if we have them here.

Rep. Williams said that he will be becoming a Grafton County citizen soon and would offer his services to the County regarding the water tank if anyone was interested.

Rep. Williams moved to approve the Commissioners' Report which was seconded by Rep. Ford. All were in favor.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Director Clough began with the Nursing Home census which is 127 and holding due to the current issues. The census at the Jail is 85 in-house, 20 in Drug Court, and 4 inmates on electronic monitoring.

The monthly variance report was reviewed.

Revenue: Most Departments are under budget though the Farm and the Sheriff's Dept. are over. Milk prices are at \$19.20

Tax payments are due to the County on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December.

Expense: there were three payrolls in October which has thrown things off but will level out. Correction will be over expended due to a hospitalized inmate who has so far cost the County \$120K in medical expenses.

Director Clough reviewed the prorated report which is four months into the year. Right now it is under expended due to the HS budget but is expected to level out.

Rep. Williams asked if there was anything that could be done legislatively about the County having to pay medical costs of inmates and Director Clough said there isn't anything that can be done at this point and that the State goes through the same thing.

Director Clough presented the committee with information regarding Grafton County grants and RSA: 29:8-a, which pertains to those grants. She informed the committee that it was time to approve authorization for the next year so that the County could continue to apply for grants.

Rep. Preston moved to authorize the Grafton County Commissioners to apply for, accept and expend grants of federal and/or state aid as per RSA 29:8-a. on a yearly basis and for the full Delegation to be brought up to date on all grants at the yearly meeting, which was seconded by Rep. Ford. All were in favor.

There was a discussion about the County receiving private donations and Director Clough said that Drug Court and the Nursing Home, Home Association were set up as non-profits and which was the only way money could be received privately.

Director Clough gave the committee an update on the Jail project which she said was proceeding on time, on schedule and under budget. She said that within the next five weeks the steel portion of the building will be erected.

\$3M has been expended so far of the first \$17.5M so there is \$14.475M left in investments, though the interest on those funds is dismal.

\$2M has been drawn down from the TAN money and \$2.2M is still available.

Rep. Williams moved to accept the Report of the Executive Director which was seconded by Rep. Gionet. All were in favor.

H. Brown was recognized and said that the water tank is an issue and that he does not want one more cent spent on it. He said that the tank was not built right and that the expenses should be borne by those who designed and built the tank. He questioned its elevation and size of the piping. He said that the County was on the hook for \$1M and that \$853K was actually spent on it and the rest of the money was squandered. He

repeated that he didn't want any more tax payer money spent on that tank which included any cost to turn the valve.

10:10 AM Rep. Williams moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Rep. Ford.  
All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Phil Preston, Clerk