

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING

3855 Dartmouth College Highway

North Haverhill, NH 03774

October 13, 2020

PRESENT: Commissioners Lauer, Piper, Morris, County Administrator Libby and Administrative Assistant Norcross

OTHERS PRESENT: Maintenance Supt. Oakes, Interim Farm Manager Nelson, County Attorney Hornick, Sheriff Stiegler

Commissioner Lauer called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Lauer asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the October 6th meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to approve the minutes from the October 6th meeting. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Commissioners signed check register 1071.

Supt. Oakes arrived to discuss the fire panel in the Administration Building. He explained that this panel is manufactured by Notifier and they have many Notifier systems throughout the complex. The Courthouse and the DoC have Simplex systems. He has been dealing with a company out of Portland, Maine called Norris which is a company that covers this area and what he wasn't sure of is if they were the Northeast Regional company and there was no one else he could go too. He had reached out to them to get his initial quote of \$17,987.22. He has since been in touch with Simplex and asked them what it would cost to move to a Simplex system. They said they it will be expensive because they cannot just replace the panel, they would have to replace the entire system. Supt. Oakes stated that he was told that Simplex works with a company called ISD out of Massachusetts as a sub-contractor for certain jobs. He explained the way it would work was Johnson Controls would be the primary contractor. ISD would be a sub-contractor under them and together they would install a new panel for \$10,765.00. This is the same equipment that they received the \$17,987.22 quote on. He noted that they ran numbers on the Simplex system and it would be \$42,000. Supt. Oakes requested that the Commissioners accept Johnson Control's quote of \$10,765.00. He noted that that Alarmco will have to come in after the fact as a third party to do a test.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to accept Johnson Control's quote of \$10,765.00. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

IGT Discussion Update – CA Libby stated that she thinks they are getting closer to an agreement. CMS and NH DHHS were receptive to a lot of changes the counties requested. She noted that she thinks it is a bigger deal for the Proshare 1 counties versus the Proshare 2 counties.

Right now they left it with David Ross who is working on language for one part of the agreement. They will have another draft for review for their next call with Henry Lipman. She stated that it does seem to be progressing.

Interim Farm Manager Nelson arrived and gave the following report:

1. We are milking 74 cows, averaging 75 pounds per cow. We are shipping around 10,800 pounds of milk per pick up. The milk pay price was around \$19.08 for September.
2. Hatchland Farm chopped, truck and packed the corn silage. The early corn was chopped on September 15th. The rest of the corn cutting finished up on September 28th and the silos were covered the following day.
3. The new Farm Assistant, Joseph Supp, started working at Grafton County Farm on September 21st as planned. Superintendent Elliott has kept us supplied with one (1) inmate that farm staff can supervise for milking chores. I am very happy to be fully staffed.
4. Ben will be starting medical leave on October 19th. He will probably be out of work for six (6) weeks.
5. Ben and I will be meeting with Cara Cargill from the New Hampshire Agricultural Mediation Program on October 16th. During my initial conversation with Cara Cargill she suggested a five-year plan be created for the farm.
6. Ben is working diligently to reduce the heifer inventory. He has sold ten (10) heifer calves. He is working on a deal with John Lussier from Hardwick, VT, that would involve ten (10) short bred and bred heifers.
7. The potato harvester worked very well for us. A game changer. I hope there could be opportunity for growth in the farm operation for this enterprise.

Interim Manager Nelson noted that there have been many people who have stepped up and helped in the absence of Sgt. Griffin to help with the Farm Stand and barn chores.

County Attorney Hornick arrived to give the Commissioners an update on their office. She stated that they have ordered air purifiers for their office and most everyone is still working remotely. They have staggered schedules for being in the office. She noted that some of them still have health concerns with coming back to the office and the Maintenance Department is working on some other modifications to their work spaces before everyone comes back. She noted that they are working on cleaning out their office that they have in the Administration Building as it will be the new Finance Director's office.

Atty. Hornick requested a nonpublic session.

MOTION: * 9:37 AM Commissioner Piper moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (c). Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 9:40 AM Commissioner Lauer declared the meeting back in public session.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to permanently seal the minutes from the just completed non-public session because they could affect the reputation of someone other than those of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer “yes”. Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and the motion passes.

Sheriff Stiegler arrived and to discuss a potential temporary ICAC position with the Commissioners. Sheriff Stiegler explained the New Hampshire Internet Crimes Against Children’s Task Force is the recipient of funding through the CARES Act. The funding is intended to be used to investigate the increased number of cases reported as a result of Covid-19. He stated that this is a very important service that is needed. The funding will cover the full salary, benefits and employer contributions for a ten (10) week period from October 15th through December 30th. The County will be billing ICAC \$4,136.01 every two (2) weeks. He has a couple of full time Deputies who he feels would be able to step up and fill this position and also has Special Deputies willing to step up and fill the Deputy’s position while they are filling this ICAC position. He stated that if this funding were to be extended they would need to have some serious discussions come budget season regarding it. If the funding is not extended it will end December 30th and the Deputy will go back to their regular position and the Special Deputies filling the Deputy position would go back to their Special Deputy position. The Commissioners discussed it and were all in support of this stating that this is also valuable training for the Deputy who will be filling this role.

CA Libby reminded the Commissioners of the Commissioners Council meeting at 1:00pm today.

CA Libby stated that next Monday the 19th they will be taking 200+ pumpkins to Woodsville Elementary School for the kids as they are not having Pumpkin Day this year.

The Commissioners discussed the email they received from Cindy Fagnant regarding their meeting last week. The Commissioners stated that they appreciate her coming forward to them to discuss her concerns and they would be happy try to help direct her in the right direction as the DoC is not the place to house these patients. They need to work with them to get them to the state level.

CA Libby requested to go into nonpublic session.

MOTION: * 10:02 AM Commissioner Piper moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 10:13 AM Commissioner Lauer declared the meeting back in public session.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to permanently seal the minutes from the just completed non-public session because they could affect the reputation of someone other than those of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer “yes”. Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and the motion passes.

Commissioner Issues:

Commissioner Piper stated that Chuck Weed and herself will meet virtually tomorrow with Ross Cunningham. C. Weed thinks the \$300 a month that the NHAC is spending for the space at Merrimack County is too much given that they are not using it. She stated that the reason that it is steep because it is a secured location for records but they are not using it. C. Weed’s idea is to see if they can negotiate and get that monthly cost down.

CA Libby stated that she received an email from the Register of Deeds that she was not able to attend the meeting. She sent the following report for the Commissioners to review.

**Grafton County Registry of Deeds
Kelley J. Monahan Register
Report to Commissioners
October 13, 2020**

September Revenue

County Revenue 9/2009	\$102,638.33	State Revenue 9/2009	\$ 718,311.36
County Revenue 9/2010	\$ 91,360.22	State Revenue 9/2010	\$ 509,792.64
County Revenue 9//2011	\$ 68,850.10	State Revenue 9/2011	\$ 566,395.12
County Revenue 9/2012	\$ 80,461.98	State Revenue 9/2012	\$ 530,544.96
County Revenue 9/2013	\$ 87,560.35	State Revenue 9/2013	\$ 719,801.28
County Revenue 9/2014	\$ 79,919.87	State Revenue 9/2014	\$ 696,111.36
County Revenue 9/2015	\$ 84,231.51	State Revenue 9/2015	\$ 671,610.24
County Revenue 9/2016	\$ 91,677.13	State Revenue 9/2016	\$ 743,402.28

Grafton County Commissioners’ Meeting

October 13, 2020

Page 4 of 5

County Revenue 9/2017 \$ 89,844.07
County Revenue 9/2018 \$ 87,259.79
County Revenue 9/2019 \$ 93,182.00
County Revenue 9/2020 \$128,178.53

State Revenue 9/2017 \$ 769,602.24
State Revenue 9/2018 \$ 929,124.48
State Revenue 9/2019 \$ 988,372.80
State Revenue 9/2020 \$1,654,360.32

Foreclosures

2009 133 year to date
2010 167 year to date
2011 170 year to date
2012 144 year to date
2013 76 year to date
2014 49 year to date
2015 46 year to date
2016 64 year to date
2017 51 year to date
2018 39 year to date
2019 53 + 280 (from one source) = 333 year to date
2020 11 year to date zero in May due to Governor's executive order
1 for June 2020
0 for July 2020
0 for August 2020
0 for September 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Kelley J. Monahan

10:17 AM with no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Morris
Clerk