

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Administration Building
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH
Monday May 17 2010

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

EXCUSED: Representatives Williams and Friedrich

OTHERS: Register of Deeds Sharp, Harold Brown, John Gregg, Rachel Clough, Photographer from Valley News and Representatives Bulis and Ladd.

Rep. Mulholland called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM

Rep. Laliberte moved to approve the Executive Committee minutes from April 19, 2010, which was seconded by Rep. Preston. Rep. Gionet abstained, all others were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sievers presented a letter to the Executive Committee stating that she had declined to resign and that she planned to fulfill her duties as Treasurer until January of 2011, and that she had fulfilled her duties as Treasurer to the highest of standards. She said that the problem appeared to be that she and the County were on different schedules and she has arranged with her family to have them come to New Hampshire rather than her traveling to Montana all the time.

Treasurer Sievers went on to discuss the business beginning with the CD for the Dispatch Capital Reserve account which is about to mature this week. She said that she is also looking into areas to invest the money from the Jail bonds saying that she might have to invest in larger banks.

Treasurer Sievers expects that the County may be looking at Tax Anticipation Notes for the middle of July but will know more as the time grows closer.

Rep. Ward asked when the bonds would be sold and Director Clough replied May 25th.

Rep. Aguiar asked if Treasurer Sievers meant that going to larger banks meant going outside the County and she replied that she would like to be able to stay within the County but may not be able to depending on how much money banks will consider taking. Director Clough said many of the smaller banks can not handle or collateralize that much money.

Rep. Mulholland stated to Treasurer Sievers, that she had tried to get in touch with her several times and has not been able to reach her. She asked that Treasurer Sievers give her a call as she does not like to do business by email. Treasurer Sievers gave the committee her Montana cell phone number if they need to get in touch with her.

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

Treasurer Sievers excused herself from the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Commissioner Cryans began by saying that he would encourage everyone to take some time and take a look around the complex to see how nice everything looks this time of year.

- There is no update on the water tank issue with Woodsville Water & Light.
 - There has been no decision on the lawsuit re: the Elected Officials.
 - On April 28th the Supreme Court denied reconsideration on the Jail lawsuit.
 - On June 10th at 10:00 AM there will be a ground breaking for the new Jail.
 - Legal fees in the amount of \$23,649.73 were paid to the plaintiffs in the Jail lawsuit.
 - The Commissioners public hearing on the budget will be held on May 24th at 6:00 PM.
 - There will be a Drug Court graduation on May 19th and 6 members will graduate.
- Commissioners Cryans and Richards attended a group Drug Court meeting with Strafford and new member, Rockingham, at Webster Place in Franklin.

There will be an Open Dairy Barn Day on July 24th from 10:00 – 2:00 here at the County. A legislative breakfast is scheduled to be held by the Farm Bureau on that same morning from 8:30 – 10:00. Commissioner Richards said she hopes everyone could attend.

Commissioner Burton said that on April 23rd he asked the Grafton County Attorney for a legal opinion to see if the County could pay the Treasurer only for the time she has actually worked. The County Attorney said that was not a legal option and that once an Elected Official's salary is set, there is nothing that can be done.

Commissioner Burton informed the committee that he had received a letter from Ted Cooper of Riverglen House commending the Social Service Dept. at the Nursing Home for the exceptional work that T. Gahn had provided in helping someone find assisted living. He was very impressed with the overall culture of the Grafton County Nursing Home.

Rep. Laliberte moved to accept the Commissioners report which was seconded by Rep. Ford. All were in favor.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Director Clough said that census at the Nursing Home was 131 and the Jail was 88 with 9 out on electronic monitoring and 16 in Drug Court.

The monthly variance report was reviewed.

Revenue: the Farm and Interest will finish in the red. There was a bed tax payment received in April and a third quarter FMAP payment of \$390K is not reflected.

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Expense: the Nursing Home is a little over as there were three payrolls in April and Human Services will level out.

The prorated report was reviewed showing 10 months into the year. The undesignated fund balance is \$2.6M which is lower than anticipated but Director Clough thought that even with the amount to be used for taxes taken out things will still be fine.

Rep. Gionet asked how many female inmates were in the Jail from Coos County. Director Clough said that there are no females from Coos County. Commissioner Cryans said that Supt. Libby had said at an earlier meeting that females are now going to Carroll County because the daily rate is less.

Rep. Ward asked about Pro-share money and Director Clough said it goes into the Nursing Home. He asked how many more FMAP payments would be received and Director Clough said one. \$1.3M has been received in total. Bed tax revenue is almost \$500K more than expected. \$1.7M has been collected so far with one more quarter payment and then a supplemental payment, which have been running around \$100K.

Director Clough gave the committee an update on the Jail project saying that the site package was put out to bid on April 28th and bids are due back on the 20th. They go to the Commissioners for review on June 1st. The rest of the project bids will go out in early June.

Bonds have gone out to market in the amount of \$17.5M and bids will be opened on May 25th. The scheduled closing date will be June 10th and Director Clough will be working with the Treasurer to invest the funds.

Construction is scheduled to begin on June 7th and H.P. Cummings is on site already. The final legal invoice has been paid and to date it amounted to \$393,855.

Director Clough passed out analysis sheets on the tax impact to towns on the amount of \$35M, which included a operation/staffing ratio which the committee reviewed.

The Jail plans to hire 24 new staff personnel which would result in a staff of 60. There will be five new positions in the FY11 budget. Three are to begin in September and two are to begin the following March. These are transitional staff team members.

Rep. Preston said that he feels the need to be able to respond to people as to why there will be twenty-four more people needed to run the Jail. Director Clough said that Supt. Libby has a PowerPoint presentation which he has shown the Commissioners which outlines the need of staffing. She said it would be good if he could show it to the Executive committee and Delegation.

Commissioner Cryans wanted it noted that contrary to what was written in the Valley News, the Jail workforce will not be doubling. There will be a 66% increase, not 100%. He also pointed out that the money spent on legal fees was spread out of a three fiscal year period.

Rep. Ward asked how much has been spent on the Jail project in non bond funds and Director Clough said she didn't have that information here but would email it to him.

Rep. Ward said that he noticed there was no principal payment in the budget but there were two interest payments. He wanted clarification as to why that was. Director Clough said that they have 24 months to make the principal payment on the first one due. She had chosen to go 18 months as that seemed to work better and have less of an impact on the budget. The next bonds won't be needed for another year and then it will be spread out over four fiscal years.

Rep. Mulholland asked how many jobs will be created by the Jail project in terms of construction. Director Clough said she would have to find out from the Construction Manager.

Rep. Aguiar asked if the final total in legal fees paid to the plaintiffs included the money awarded them in the lawsuit and Director Clough said that it did.

Rep. Laliberte asked if any money can be found from the Federal Government to cover the cost of the geothermal at the Jail which there was not.

Commissioner Cryans said that all three Commissioners went to the Cheshire Jail opening and encouraged the committee to do the same saying that SMRT was the architects on that project and there were some similarities.

Rep. Ward asked if there was any money encumbered for the Jail project and Director Clough said that there was no money left over.

Commissioner Cryans said that the hope is to get some very competitive bids and to be able to see some savings there.

Rep. Ford moved to accept the Executive Director's report which was seconded by Rep. Laliberte. All were in favor.

Rep. Mulholland went over the upcoming meetings and which representatives would be giving their reports on those days.

<u>June 7th</u>	Rep. Ward ~ Jail and Rep. Aguiar ~ Sheriff's Dept. Rep. Mulholland ~ Farm and Extension
<u>June 14th</u>	Rep. Ford ~ Attorney, Drug Court and Human Services Rep. Preston ~ Nursing Home
<u>June 18th</u>	Rep. Gionet ~ Maintenance, Rep. Laliberte ~ Deeds, Rep. Williams ~ Social Services.

Rep. Mulholland needed to find out when Rep. Friedrich would be giving her report.

There would be no regular meeting in the month of June.
The full Delegation will meet on the 28th of June at 10:00 AM for the final budget vote.

There was a discussion about whether or not certain decisions made by the legislature, such as retirement, were reflected in the budget and Director Clough said no.

Rep. Preston asked the committee if they wanted to bring closure to the issue of the Treasurer by vacating the request. Rep. Ward said he thought that was premature given the fact that they have heard all the same information from her today as they had in the past, which had not been shown to be factual.

Rep. Ward moved to table the issue regarding the Treasurer, which was seconded by Rep. Laliberte. Rep. Preston was in opposed and all others present were in favor.

10:11 AM Rep. Ford moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Rep. Laliberte. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Preston, Clerk