

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING to Review FY11 Budget
Administration Building
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH
Monday June 7, 2010

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

EXCUSED: Representative Gionet

ABSENT: Representative Friedrich

Rep. Mulholland called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM saying that the Farm, UNH Extension, the Jail and Sheriff's Department and Dispatch would be covered today.

FARM Rep. Mulholland with Farm Manager Kimball attending
Revenue

The committee began by reviewing the Farm revenue and FM Kimball said that that this figure is always dictated by what the price of milk is. He passed out an informational sheet which came from AgriMark, which is who the County sells its milk to, the letter discussed the uncertainty of the price of milk. The letter stated that they believe that milk prices will rise to \$18. but that is just a predicted forecast.

FM Kimball said that he feels comfortable with what he has projected as his goal for fiscal year.

There was a discussion about cutting back on hogs because scrap food is less available. Piglets are being sold at \$75 each.

FM Kimball said that he has raised the projected revenue in produce in the hopes that he will have more crops to sell as more have been planted this spring.

Rep. Ward questioned what Misc. Revenue was from and FM Kimball said it mainly came from the sale of hay.

There was a discussion about the possibility of changing the type of cows bred in order get a higher fat content, thus making more money. Commissioner Richards discussed wanting to see other things done on the Farm.

Rep. Mulholland said that once the Jail comes online it will be using much more produce than is being used now.

Expenses:

Overall budget down about 3% and FM Kimball reviewed the items and the reasoning behind the decreases.

Capital Expenses:

FM Kimball would like to replace his manure spreader saying the one he has is quite old. Cost for new is estimated at \$30K
FM Kimball said he was able to purchase a used vehicle this year and save on money from the FY10 capital expense line.

UNH Cooperative Extension ~ Rep. Mulholland with UNH Educator Kathy Jablonski
Revenue:

\$8K is received from the State and UNH

Rep. Mulholland said that the largest increase was for Special Projects and that was because in previous years, money was encumbered and carried over for this line. This practice has discontinued and now figures shown are actual.

The ATM line was completely removed as an expense to try to comply with the Commissioners request to keep the budget flat. Extension felt that the services that are associated with the ATM line fees are under-utilized and therefore, they felt they could cut those fees.

Capital Expenses:

Mirror those of last year.

Sheriff's Dept./Dispatch: Rep. Aguiar with Sheriff Dutile and Director Andross

Sheriff's Dept.

Rep. Aguiar passed out a handout which outlined specific items that he wanted to address. The increase of the Elected Official's salary was not included.

There was a discussion about the bailiff's line and the Sheriff said that number comes from the State and is paid back 100% from them. Forest patrol is also a "wash" item.

There were some discussions about maintenance and repair of vehicles and the Sheriff said that in the past, three cruisers per year have been purchased but with the tightening of the budget, it was decided that only one would be purchased for the last two budget years. This means that some of the cruisers are seeing more age and mileage and maintenance is going up. Sheriff Dutile said he just had to replace three transmissions; fortunately one was covered under warranty. Gas and oil prices fluctuate.

Dispatch: increase of 3%

Rep. Aguiar asked about the current office supply line which appeared low for the 9 months into FY10. Dir. Andross said that they are trying to do as much electronic passing of information as possible. He noted that there may be an error in the current budget as it appears that something got posted to the wrong line and should be posted to the office supply line.

Rep. Williams asked about the future of County dispatch and Dir. Andross said that he sees that the future will be in regionalization and that the small communication centers will likely see the financial benefits of going in that direction. He said it is far more efficient and cost effective noting that Grafton County provides excellent service to its customers.

Rep. Mulholland asked who would be likely to sign up with Grafton County Dispatch and Dir. Andross said that perhaps Lincoln may and possibly some areas in Coos County. He said that Grafton County Dispatch would not be shrinking and could possibly grow.

Revenue:

The decrease in revenue is primarily because of the loss of Alexandria from Dispatch services. Juvenile transports are also in decline. Sheriff Dutile said that there is a bill in the State to increase the Department fees which haven't been done in 12 years. If this should pass, proposed revenues could increase perhaps another \$85K. Rep. Ward asked if the Sheriff would please keep an eye on where that bill stands.

Commissioner Richards was excused.

Capital Expenses:

One cruiser will be purchased and the lease for the annual contract for the CodeRed system was discussed.

Dispatch Capital Reserve:

There is \$233K in the capital reserve account and there will be a request for \$71K for items noted. Dir. Andross said that the Dept. aggressively looks for grant money so the actual amount may be reduced. Dir. Andross went over the items.

Rep. Ward asked the Sheriff if there was any drug forfeiture money and he replied that there is no money now, and any potential money could take up to a year to receive.

Commissioner Cryans and Rep. Ford were excused.

Corrections: Rep. Ward with Superintendent Libby

Rep. Williams asked what the construction schedule was and Supt. Libby said that site work was starting this week and the tentative opening would be April of 2012, which will have a lot to do with how much of the concrete work can be done over the winter.

Supt. Libby passed out a printout of a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the staffing requests that he was presenting in his budget and explained the need for the transition team. *(see attached)

There were discussion about the staffing being difficult in the Jail because according to NIC, there will be existing staff who will end up leaving because of the huge change in the way the Jail is run. There will be some staff hired before completion and some hired upon completion.

There was a discussion about the reduction in population which Supt. Libby thought could be attributed to the way the new County Attorney is handling cases, coupled with the GED and Drug Court programs.

The question of Coos County females came up and Supt. Libby said that a member of the Executive Committee spoke with the Administrator of Coos and told her that sending females to Grafton County was a great deal and gave her the impression that was going to change. The decision was then made in Coos to send the females to Carroll County, who doesn't charge anything to house them. Supt. Libby said they weren't talking about a large number of losses, only two or less.

The Corrections budget is up 10% or \$327K which is primarily attributed to the new CO's and the expenses that go with them.

There was a discussion about GED qualifications and responsibilities of the Dept. of Education. Rep. Ward said that there is a new mandate that states there is to be an education coordinator from each County facility, which at present time is Supt. Libby.

Community Corrections:

There is a \$22K increase which is attributed to the increase in health insurance, retirement and insurance liability.

Revenue:

Governor's Commission Grant which comes from the State's sale of Alcohol and the RSAT (Residential Substance Abuse and Treatment) grant which come from the Attorney General's Office and is used for treatment for females, are two sources of revenue that offset the associated expenses

Capital Expenses:

A request for a four wheel drive vehicle for Community Corrections was requested. Supt. Libby said that there are some places that are difficult to get to in the winter when they do home checks.

The Community Work Program helps communities who would otherwise not be able to afford to have work done themselves. Rep. Williams said it was a great program. Rep. Ward said that all the Reps. should take that information back to their towns. Rep. Mulholland said that there are some towns that are unwilling to take advantage of the program.

Supt. Libby said there are new federal regulations that deal with lead paint which means there will be jobs that inmates will not be able to handle. He's looking into ways of getting training.

Supt. Libby added that Community Corrections also works to deliver produce to senior centers in the fall.

The next budget meeting will be held next Monday. Reps. Aguiar and Gionet will not be attending.

Rep. Aguiar wanted to discuss longevity and Director Clough said that it was decided by the Commissioners that anyone hired after July 1st, will no longer be eligible for longevity. This currently does not apply to Union members as negotiations have not been finalized. Rep. Aguiar asked what would happen if the delegation voted to remove longevity all together and Director Clough said the delegation does not have the authority to change policy.

Rep. Aguiar said he was nervous about getting into the chicken business and he's not sure the County should even be running a Farm, though he does support individual farmers. He said there is nothing to be made in the dairy business.

12:20 PM Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Preston, Clerk