

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH 03774
April 10, 2018

PRESENT: Commissioners Lauer, Ahern and Piper, County Administrator Libby, Admin. Asst. Norcross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Supt. Oakes, HR Director Clough, Atty. Paul Fitzgerald, Farm Herdsman Ben White, RD Monahan, Littleton Chief of Police Paul Smith, Bill Gilding.

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

Supt. Oakes arrived and requested to go into nonpublic session to discuss a personnel issue.

MOTION: * 9:09 AM – Commissioner Piper moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Ahern “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 9:25 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 Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CA Libby requested to go into nonpublic session to discuss a personnel issue.

MOTION: * 9:27 AM – Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Ahern “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 9:41 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 Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor

Littleton Police Chief Paul Smith arrived and apologized for not having an appointment with the Commissioners but would like to speak with them. He stated that he has prepared some notes to go by. Chief Smith stated that he has been involved in Drug Court and Mental Health Court since 2008 therefore he feels that he plays a role in the game when it comes to the community perspective and knows how important Alternative Sentencing is, specifically Drug Court. He stated that when he heard of the Alternative Sentencing Director no longer being in charge of the programs, he spoke to all of the members of the Drug Court team except for the judge as well as some of the county employees. Some of them had trainings today and were unable to attend this meeting and some were apprehensive to attend as they were afraid that if they spoke their minds that there would be potential discipline. Chief Smith stated that when he first came onto the Drug Court team the program was in shambles. There was no emphasis on accountability, there were no policies being followed and they were not meeting the national best practices. He noted that Drug Court is a 24/7/365 operation and if the Commissioners support the program they need to remember that. Everyone was fighting when he first came into the program, there was no comradery. He stated that he spoke to Jamie Brooks from the Public Defender's Office and he stated that where the program was is not where it is now. One of the first things that was done when Bill Gilding came on as Director was taking Corrections out of Drug Court which he stated he felt was the right thing to do as they did not have statutory authority to go out into the field and bring people into jail. He stated that this would not have happened without B. Gilding's leadership. He went on to state that there were also no policies in place and the county was missing out on a lot of money in funding. B. Gilding was responsible for correcting many of those issues right from the beginning. He was very influential in making sure that the team got together, understood the goals to follow best practices and made it happen. He sent staff to the necessary training to adhere to the best practices and receive the state funding. Chief Smith noted that B. Gilding also made some key hires to help better the program. He stated the most important piece being that B. Gilding created leadership and a vision for the Grafton County Alternative Sentencing program that has put it in a great place. He stated that from a leadership standpoint someone is going to have big shoes to fill. The Commissioners thanked Chief Smith for coming in and expressing his concerns.

Atty. Paul Fitzgerald arrived and stated that Atty. Saffo was unable to attend as she had a meeting in Concord to attend. He had a few requests that Atty. Saffo wanted him to present to the Commissioners.

Atty. Fitzgerald stated that Atty. Saffo would like to attend the National Cybercrime Conference in Norwood, Massachusetts from April 23 – April 25th. She will be staying with her sister and taking the county car so there is no mileage. This training is 100% covered by the NH Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to approve the Out of State Travel Request as presented by Atty. Saffo. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Circuit Court V/W Position – Atty. Fitzgerald presented the Commissioners with a spreadsheet breaking down the costs associated with the Circuit Court Victim Witness position. He stated that originally the VOCA grant was \$50,000 and it was matched. Atty. Saffo was encouraged to

seek additional funding if a new project was put into place. The decision was to then put their part time file clerk/circuit court victim witness coordinator into full time Circuit Court Victim Witness Coordinator position. He stated that his understanding was that the Commissioners wanted to know what the bottom line cost to the county would be. He stated that the cost to the county would be \$1,000.12. They would be receiving \$58,855.00 worth of services through the grant. CA Libby stated that essentially the position is fully funded by the grant and Atty. Saffo needs the Commissioners approval to sign the grant paperwork for the supplemental VOCA grant. Commissioner Ahern asked with them adding half a position how is that going to sit with other departments when the Commissioners have agreed to no new positions this upcoming year. CA Libby stated that she feels this is different as any other position that has been requested didn't have grant money to support it. Commissioner Lauer stated that they are not funding this new position. Commissioner Piper supported Commissioner Lauer's statement.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to accept the funds and enter into a grant agreement and to authorize the County Attorney to execute any documents which may be deemed necessary for the contract. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Atty. Fitzgerald stated that Atty. Saffo is seeking approval for funding for the Bethlehem Prosecutors Program. Commissioner Ahern stated that he had questioned the statute that states this is a required position. Atty. Fitzgerald provided that statute to the Commissioners. Commissioner Ahern stated that this statute does not clearly state that providing a county attorney in the circuit courts for these towns is required. Atty. Fitzgerald stated that he will let Atty. Saffo know that Commissioner Ahern would like more information regarding that statute. Commissioner Ahern also stated that he is concerned about expanding the duties and creating more burdens on the taxpayers. If we are providing services for Rumney, Haverhill and Bethlehem, is this something that the taxpayers in that town should be paying for through their law enforcement agencies. He would like to know if these services are being fully funded by the communities that the county is contracting with. Atty. Fitzgerald stated that he will pass these questions along to Atty. Saffo.

Commissioner Lauer asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the March 29th budget meeting and the April 3rd meeting. Commissioner Piper had edits for both sets of minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the March 29th budget minutes as amended. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the April 3rd minutes as amended. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Commissioners signed check registers 57; 1159-1162; 1167.

Herdsmen Ben White arrived and gave the following farm report:

1. Currently milking 80 cows. We are shipping 6,500lbs. daily, averaging 81 lbs. per cow.
2. Price of milk went up some, now at \$16.13 per hundred weight.

3. Still working on the equipment for the spring.
4. Spreading manure on the corn fields
5. Sgt. Griffin and some of his crew finished up the new white wall around the inside of the barn.
6. Donnie is currently on a two week vacation. He is spending time with his first grandchild.
7. Grafton County Farm has been selected to receive the 2018 Herd of Excellence Award. This is an elite group of farms that have to meet specific criteria in production and the Holstein Associations annual meetings in Acme, Michigan.

RD Monahan arrived and gave the following report:

**Grafton County Registry of Deeds
Kelley J. Monahan Register
Report to Commissioners
April 10, 2018**

March Revenue

County Revenue 3/2009	\$ 79,919.92	State Revenue 2/2009	\$ 339,039.36
County Revenue 3/2010	\$ 69,702.17	State Revenue 2/2010	\$ 550,008.00
County Revenue 3/2011	\$ 64,590.75	State Revenue 2/2011	\$ 472,685.76
County Revenue 3/2012	\$ 77,217.55	State Revenue 2/2012	\$ 491,521.92
County Revenue 3/2013	\$ 64,184.64	State Revenue 2/2013	\$ 328,493.76
County Revenue 3/2014	\$ 55,794.91	State Revenue 2/2014	\$ 468,992.64
County Revenue 3/2015	\$ 63,276.39	State Revenue 2/2015	\$ 488,918.40
County Revenue 3/2016	\$ 59,655.76	State Revenue 2/2016	\$ 412,800.96
County Revenue 3/2017	\$ 64,669.62	State Revenue 2/2017	\$ 512,222.40
County Revenue 3/2018	\$ 68,290.59	State Revenue 2/2018	\$ 622,093.44

Foreclosures

2009 39 year to date
 2010 58 year to date
 2011 50 year to date
 2012 47 year to date
 2013 17 year to date
 2014 28 year to date
 2015 26 year to date
 2016 31 year to date
 2017 20 year to date
 2018 12 year to date

1. As I emailed you upon hearing the news, George Morris will be delaying retirement and staying on with the Grafton County Registry of Deeds for 2 years. This delays a new hire scheduled for July 1, 2018 and saves us approximately \$42,000 for FY19. We are delighted.
2. I have enclosed the home pages of two of the industry associations of which we are members and attend as many of the conference calls and webinar trainings as are applicable to our office. The associations are IGO, International Association of County Officials and PRIA, Property Records Industry Association.

The current President of IGO, Larry Burtness, Register of Deeds Washoe County, Nevada, spoke to our NHRD Association 3 years ago at NHAC Annual Conference. January of 2017, Register Burtness contacted me with the hope that of any state in our union, New Hampshire would have a legal definition of the Official Public Record. We do not.

February of 2017 at the PRIA Winter Conference, at his request, I provided him with my testimony from the NH House County and Municipal Government Committee from January 2017 on the definition of the Official Public Record, and in the wrap up meetings I encouraged leadership to stay dedicated to seeking a formal definition.

I will be following up on that issue during the conference call on 4/11/2018. I testified on 3/20/18 in the House Judiciary Committee, thanking the committee for all of the time dedicated to understanding and acknowledging that the data base of the Registry of Deeds is exempt from SB 555, which deals with RSA 91A issues, and for acknowledging that the Registries have dedicated statues under RSA 78. This finding will be acknowledged in the Executive Summary at the close of session and concludes 4 years of effort on this issue.

3. I will be unable to attend the 5/21/18 Delegation meeting where the Grafton County Elected Officials' salaries will be discussed. I will be out of town attending my youngest son's college graduation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley J. Monahan

RD Monahan then requested to go into nonpublic session.

MOTION: * 10:58 AM – Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Ahern “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 11:41 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 Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor

CA Libby submitted the NACo Prescription Drug Report for the month of February. There was a price savings of \$1,626.62 or a 32.99% average savings with a total of 43 utilizers. The savings over the life of the program is \$807,302.22.

CA Libby submitted the following CDFA Drawdown Requests for Commissioner Lauer to sign:

- WREN 2017 - \$22,578

- NCIC 2017 - \$10,000
- GCRDC - \$45,000

CA Libby submitted the following DRA Documents for Livermore for all three (3) Commissioners to sign.

- MS 232
- MS 535
- MS 636

CA Libby submitted an Out-of-State Travel Request for Drug Court Team members to attend the NADCP Annual Training Conference featuring a Veteran's Track. The conference is May 31st through 2nd in Houston Texas. This request states that it is for three (3) Drug Court members but only two (2) will be attending. Jamie Brooks from the Public Defender's Office and Dave Belanger, Treatment Provider. It is 100% paid for by the state and is required for state funding that Grafton County receives. CA Libby stated that the county will pay for the conference up front and will be reimbursed by the state.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the out of state travel request. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CA Libby submitted the Forestry Service Agreement for the Sheriff's Department for Commissioner Lauer to sign.

Appropriation Transfers – CA Libby submitted a list of appropriation transfers in the amount of \$45,608.00 for the Commissioners' review and approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the appropriation transfers totaling \$45,608.00. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CA Libby requested to go into nonpublic session to discuss a personnel issue.

MOTION: * 11:52 AM – Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer "yes"; Commissioner Ahern "yes"; Commissioner Piper "yes" Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

* 11:58 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 Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor

HR Director Clough arrived and requested to go into nonpublic session.

MOTION: * 12:05 AM – Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Ahern “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 12:35 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 Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor

CA Libby stated that in regards to tomorrow’s budget meeting she is not sure there is much they can do at this point as they do not have final health insurance recommendations and they have not discussed the employee council requests. She recommended that they have the social services discussion, review the capital budget and discuss the department budgets that they did not go over last week.

Commissioner Issues:

Commissioner Piper stated that all three (3) Commissioners attended the NHAC Executive Committee Commissioner meeting. Jeffery Meyers made a presentation on Managed Care and was very informative. She noted that the presentation did not change the minds of the stakeholders; county representatives still have the same concerns.

Commissioner Lauer attended the Haverhill Area Substance Misuse Prevention Coalition. The speaker talked about the new drug treatment facility, operating 2 days a week out of the Grafton County Alternative Sentencing Department. They are giving 7 day prescription of suboxone but have been reassured there are no drugs on campus. She stated that she was very pleased at how much representation from Grafton County was at this meeting.

12:47 PM with no further business meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy A. Piper,
Clerk