

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH 03774
April 17, 2018

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Supt. Oakes, Human Services Administrator Bishop, HR Director Clough.

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

Human Services Administrator Bishop arrived and gave the attached report.

Commissioner Lauer asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the April 5th, April 10th and April 11th minutes. The Commissioners all had edits on the three (3) sets.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the minutes from the April 5th Budget meeting as amended. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to approve the minutes from the April 10th meeting as amended. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the minutes from the April 11th Budget meeting as amended. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Commissioners signed check registers 58-59; 1163-1166; 1168.

Supt. Oakes arrived and gave the following report:

COMPLEX

Force Main Sewer Project

- April 30th start date

Sprinkler Inspections/Testing – Hampshire Fire Protection completed quarterly inspections and testing of all our sprinkler systems. *All passed. They also completed a 3-year trip test of the DOC's three dry sprinkler systems. All functioned properly*

Electrical – I reached out to Lee Carroll, an electrical engineer, to get a quote to perform a feasibility study to determine if it would be cost effective to add other county buildings to the DOC's generator system (see attached quote).

COURTHOUSE

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout.

Plumbing – Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) on domestic water supply at building entrance stopped working...pressures too high. *Installed 1 ½ “ meter and PRV, started having problems with incomplete flushes of toilets. Have to put back to 2” meter and PRV.*

NURSING HOME

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout

Windows – Replaced numerous fogged sashes throughout facility

Sprinkler

1. Dry system pipe (4”) is leaking where it passes through a 2-hour wall on the 2nd floor between the 03 and 69 buildings...*replaced bad section of pipe*
2. Dry system in 03 attic leaking at 1 ½” union...*Replaced bad section of pipe*

HVAC – Compressor failed in kitchen rear entrance AC system. System is too old to rebuild and R22 refrigerant is extremely expensive. *North Country Mechanical is procuring us a replacement system.*

HVAC – Heating pump 3 shaft seal leak...*installed shaft seal kit and volute gasket.*

Kitchen – Bottom steamer drain valve eroding...*replaced drain valve.*

Kitchen – Upper steamer working intermittently...*troubleshoot to bad temperature probe...part ordered*

Kitchen – Lower steamer not working...*troubleshoot to bad fan assembly...parts ordered*

Kitchen – Dishwasher exhaust fan motor bearings failed. *Replaced motor.*

Kitchen – Three food warmers have bad seals in lower doors...*ordered parts*

Kitchen – Refrigerator RH door has bad seal...*replaced seal*

Kitchen – Pot sink faucet falling apart...*replaced faucet*

Reception Area...Desk laminate chipped and lifting in several spots...*glued back down and covered chips with oak trim*

Electrical – Royal Electric installed a power analyzer on electrical panel MDP-EQ to determine its current electrical load. This panel is a generator supported panel, which we intend to transfer the 69 elevator and how water booster to if enough capacity exists.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout.

Windows – Replaced numerous fogged sashes throughout facility

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Dept. of Corrections

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout

Sprinkler Systems – Finished installing hour meters on the three dry systems at the DOC.

HVAC – Heat pump WHP-C1 stuck in cooling mode on circuit B when circuit A experienced a cracked fitting on the reversing valve causing it to lose all its oil in circuit A. NCM shot direct voltage to the reversing valve on Circuit B to get it to take over heating of Area C and then ordered reversing valve rebuild kits for both A & B circuits. *NCM and my staff brazed the cracked line and installed rebuild kits in reversing valves.*

Exit Lights

- One above door H110C north/south hall – *south end isn't working...replaced transformer.*
- Five in different locations batteries low and causing TROUBLE light...*replaced batteries*

Hood Fire Suppression System - Training officer and kitchen manager set off Ansul system by mistake while doing fire drill...complete system dump. *VT Fire Extinguisher serviced system and my staff cleaned the pilot and burner orifices on range.*

Emergency Lighting – *Installed emergency light ballast in several existing fixtures throughout to provide transitional lighting between power transfers from utility to generator and back.*

Security Lighting – Lost lighting in two cells in Area E...*replaced bad transformers and replaced melted wires.*

MAINT/FARM BUILDING

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout

FARM

Water Line – water leaks occurred in a few locations...*cut out old pipe and installed new.*

Domestic Hot Water – Rinnai on-demand hot water heaters not working right...*Replaced isolators on middle one. Also cleaned its heat exchanger and reinsulated all Rinnai heater pipes. Cleaned all three systems with vinegar. Checked and cleaned all valves in RH one. Blew out vent and fan motor and external fins on heat exchanger. Cleaned all burners and replaced outlet side temp sensor*

BIOMASS PLANT

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout.

Chip Delivery System – Found metering auger gearbox leaking at shaft seals...*secured seals and will change them at spring shutdown (current leak is minor)*

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING BUILDING

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks throughout

Conference Room – Installed chair-rail; patched and painted walls and trim. Installed lockset in closet door.

Doors – Installed door closers on two doors.

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

Preventative Maintenance (PM) – Performed various PM tasks

Nursing Home Van – Patient lift won't drop...*repaired broken wire to micro switch*

Commissioner Ahern asked if Supt. Oakes had given anymore thought to the discussion they had at last week's meeting regarding paving the section of manure pit. Supt. Oakes stated that he has not looked into it. Commissioner Ahern stated that he looked at it and one of the realities of a farm is you have to work with mud. He cannot see spending \$10,000 to pave any of the manure pit.

Supt. Oakes stated that there is a unique set up with the farm and he wanted to express some concerns of his. He stated that the Farm are the only department in the complex that has their own Repair and Maintenance account but he does not know how much is in that line item. When it comes to any kind of work that is done to the farm it is usually done by maintenance staff and they are buying the parts as well. Supt. Oakes expressed some other concerns regarding farm operations noting that he doesn't agree with a lot of things that they do but does not have any say because they have their own repair and maintenance line. Supt. Oakes stated that he knows FM Kimball is leaving and he is not sure where things will go once that happens. He stated that he feels that may be a good time to sit down with the County Administrator and the farm to have a discussion. He stated that if maintenance is doing 90-95% of the work and the farm staff is doing things to the facility that the maintenance staff is supposed to know about beforehand it would make more sense that the budget reside with maintenance and if there is something they would like done they can sit down with maintenance and discuss it. Commissioner Lauer stated that this is a discussion that needs to be had between Supt. Oakes, County Administrator Libby and Farm Manager Kimball. Supt. Oakes stated that he is just expressing his concerns.

HR Director Clough arrived to discuss her recommendations for health insurance. She stated they were mainly focusing on Harvard Pilgrim as they were the only one to give them a positive rate but Health Trust came back with rate revisits that were much lower than expected due to errors in their original calculations among some other items. NH Interlocal Trust rate revisit did not change; it came in at the 41.69%. Health Trust came in with a 17.78% overall increase and these plans offer essentially the same coverage to the employees. She stated that Harvard Pilgrim

came in with some lower rates but that would mean less coverage for employees and large changes to the retiree coverage among other added costs to the county. Therefore she is recommending that the county switch to Health Trust which is Anthem health insurance.

HR Director Clough stated that she is also proposing to change the 14% contribution of grandfathered employees to 15% as the overall consensus of the employees is to close that gap between the 14% and 20%. She is also proposing to increase the 10% for the LP plan members to the 12%. The site of service plan with the \$1,000/\$3,000 plan will continue to have the deductible reimbursement but the HMO plan \$500/\$1,500 will no longer have the deductible reimbursement.

Commissioner Ahern stated that he is not sure in the outside world you are seeing \$500 deductibles. He feels they need to increase the deductible. He also stated that he feels the county should not be paying 50% of the deductible upfront. He stated he feels the county should pay 50% of each claim that goes towards the deductible. HR Director Clough stated that they could change it so that it is the last 50% of the deductible and the employee would pay the first 50% before getting a reimbursement. She noted that this would need to be negotiated with the Union Contract.

Commissioner Ahern asked what the increase in the Harvard Pilgrim Plan was. HR Director Clough stated that this would be a 9.49% increase. Commissioner Ahern stated that he needs to crunch numbers as a 7% difference in the two plans is huge. HR Director Clough stated that they need to remember these plans are not apples to apples.

Commissioner Piper asked if they should possibly look into the Harvard Pilgrim plan as it is a less expensive plan and giving the employees a larger COLA knowing that they will be having lesser insurance coverage. She stated that this is a difficult decision to make and is wondering how cost effective an option like this may be. HR Director Clough noted that they need to take into consideration that if they are looking into raising the wages they are doing so for all county employees and not just the benefited employees. They would be giving the larger COLA to all 500 employees and not just the 285 benefited employees. Commissioner Piper stated that she is looking at a higher COLA vs. the Health Trust rate and what the comparison in costs would be. HR Director Clough stated that would be something for CA Libby to calculate. Commissioner Ahern stated that he believes they owe it to the tax payers to crunch the numbers as the difference between the two plans is large. HR Director Clough stated that she agrees with that but the Commissioners need to remember that it's not a fair comparison and they would be giving up a lot of services to go with the 9% increase. She stated that she would not have brought this proposal to the Commissioners if they felt they hadn't done their job in looking at all the numbers and options. Commissioner Lauer and Commissioner Piper stated that they are struggling because they don't have the numbers this budget year. Commissioner Ahern stated that last year they were given a number of spreadsheets outlining all of the different plans and options. He stated that he needs to be able to tell his constituents that he has thoroughly looked through all of the options. HR Director Clough stated that they can be given those spreadsheets but it will not show the added expenses associated with the Harvard Pilgrim plan. The Commissioners stated that they want to know what those added expenses are. They also asked for the total cost of a 1%, 1.5%, 2%, 2.5% and 3% COLA. The Commissioners were all in

agreement that they would like to see the spreadsheets and the breakdowns of all their options before making a decision on the health insurance. HR Director Clough stated that she and County Administrator Libby have all of those spreadsheets and can provide those to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Issues:

All three (3) Commissioners attended the Grafton County Conservation District Annual Meeting in Campton.

10:59M with no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy A. Piper,
Clerk