

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
North Haverhill, NH 03774
Tuesday June 12, 2012

PRESENT: Commissioners Cryans, Omer C. Ahern Jr. (late), Ray Burton, Director Clough and Secretary Martino.

8:35 AM Commissioner Cryans opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Farm Manager Don Kimball arrived with his report to the Commissioners. Commissioner Cryans presented FM Kimball with his service pin for 31 years at the County. The Farm is milking 67 cows, shipping 9100#'s of milk for an average of 68#'s price of milk is around \$17.10.

The garden has been planted. FM Kimball said that he will be having H. Hatch chop his grass for him.

FM Kimball stated that his assistant has verbally given a 30 day notice. There is currently no herdsman and with the assistant leaving this will leave the Farm with just FM Kimball.

FM Kimball stated that a recent incident between an inmate and another person took place in the barn during a UNHCE event and was reported to Supt. Libby. An investigation was done which resulted in a reduction in the amount of inmate help he is receiving. He said that even though he has complained about only having two inmates for help it doesn't seem to get him anywhere. He said it appears that Corrections wants to take inmates away from the Farm. He said there is an inmate problem now.

He said that there is now a test to see if inmates are using tobacco products and a number of them have tested positive. Once that happens they're removed from the workforce. There was further discussion about the loss of inmates and the affect that will have on the Farm.

Commissioner Burton said in his opinion the garden and the Farm run with the help of low risk inmate labor under supervision.

Commissioner Burton said that he felt that FM Kimball should continue to work to communicate with Supt. Libby in regard to inmate help.

8:50 AM Commissioner Ahern arrived.

Register of Deeds Kelley Monahan arrived with her report. She said that revenues seem to be picking up and foreclosures were leveling off.

There was a discussion about Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS) and where things are going from here.

Director Clough updated both the Commissioners and RD Monahan on the decision of the Executive Committee. She said that in regard to the request from the Register of Deeds for a fire suppression system, the committee said the following:

- They were concerned as to whether or not this was a lawful use of the surcharge account.
- All options of other areas on the complex have not been fully explored.
- A different type of enclosure might suffice

- The committee is not interested in pursuing this any further. (will not receive their approval)

Commissioner Cryans asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes and had any edits. None were noted.

Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the minutes from June 5, 2012 as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Commissioner Cryans signed the Drug Court Case Manager monthly report.

A letter was received from the Trinity Churchyard Cemetery thanking the Dept. of Corrections for sending inmates to help clean up the cemetery. They noted special thanks to Supt. Libby and to Sgt. Webster for his supervision.

Director Clough informed the Commissioners that a reporter from the Valley News wanted to spend some time at the Farm and do an article on it. There was a discussion about whether or not this would be the best time as they are down on their help and it is a very busy time of year. It was agreed that a reporter would be welcome but the time is not right and a later date would be better.

County Attorney Lara Saffo arrived with her report and reviewed it with the Commissioners. Discussions were had about referrals from the Attorney General's office, what constitutes a referral and how things were being handled at this point. There was a discussion about the interns the attorney's office and how most of them come from the VT School of Law.

Attorney Saffo wanted to address the IT issue which was that the IT Dept felt that a large amount of time was being spent at the attorney's office. She informed the Commissioners that her office is dependent upon so many different kinds of software which they have not been able to download and administer on their own, and seemed to have created this additional use of time. A request was made to allow the Office Manager some administrative privileges which will lessen the need for so much use of IT time. She noted that she was not aware there was an problem until she read the minutes, but that hopefully this has been rectified.

Commissioner Cryans noted that he and Commissioner Ahern attended the 12th Annual Regional Prevention Summit in Plymouth at which Attorney Saffo received the Carol J. Estes Community Leader Award. He said there were about 160 people who attended and that it was an interesting event.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Ahern said that he has a concern about the amount of bottled water that is purchased by the County when the residents of the Nursing Home drink from the municipal

source. He asked that the Board discontinue the purchasing of bottled water for the employees. Information about the resident of the Nursing Home was provided by NHA Labore and Commissioner Cryans said he would like a chance to read the email from him first. Commissioner Burton asked Director Clough if she could get a tally on how much is being spent on bottled water. She said it would be difficult to do because it's not broken out separately on invoices. Commissioner Ahern said he would be willing to go through all the invoices for six months if that would be helpful.

Commissioner Ahern said that he sees the new managed care system as an unfunded mandate because there is a chance that the County may have to hire people in order to operate within the system. He added however that he is not suggesting a lawsuit be filed.

Director Clough updated the Commissioners on what happened at the Executive Committee meeting yesterday after they left. She said the republicans caucused for about an hour and the democrats twenty minutes. The meeting resumed about quarter past two and the first thing they talked about was the Deeds fire suppression system. The second issue was about the financial position.

Director Clough said she was personally insulted at the meetings and comments were made that were directed at her. She tried explaining to the committee that there was a plan in place for the financial position and County Administrator but it was clear that there were a number of members who were opposed to the position.

Commissioner Cryans said that he felt it was inappropriate to cross the line over to personal insults and is neither proper or productive. He said it's fine to disagree but it shouldn't have become personal.

All three Commissioners asked for an audio copy of the meeting so that they could hear for themselves what had taken place.

11:20 AM With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk

**Grafton County Registry of Deeds
Kelley J. Monahan Register
Report to Commissioners
June 12, 2012**

May Revenue

County Revenue 5/2009	\$81,485.33	State Revenue 5/2009	\$428,311.68
County Revenue 5/2010	\$73,723.38	State Revenue 5/2010	\$471,019.20
County Revenue 5/2011	\$67,760.52	State Revenue 5/2011	\$476,699.52
County Revenue 5/2012	\$86,262.78	State Revenue 5/2012	\$526,609.70

Foreclosures 2009	68 year to date	FY 11 revenue ytd	\$848,766.92	
	2010	100 year to date	FY 12 revenue ytd	\$831,585.38
	2011	93 year to date		
	2012	85 year to date		

1. I will be participating, along with others in a foreclosure education forum in Concord on Wednesday June 13, 2012. My topic of discussion is MERS/ Mortgage Electronic Registration System.
2. Fidlar Technologies will be at Grafton County June 19-21 for final details and training. The new software system will primarily affect our recording process and internal controls, and will have little to no effect on the public or professionals that use the Registry.
3. We have seen a very strong start to June revenue.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Kelley J. Monahan
June 12, 2012**

**Office of the Grafton County Attorney
Lara Saffo, County Attorney
June 12, 2012
Report to the Commissioners**

(1) Case management

As you note, we finalized our year end data and the Office of the Grafton County Attorney received 576 referrals in 2010. We received 795 referrals in calendar year 2011.

The trend has continued into calendar year 2012. Our office received 223 referrals from January 1, 2010 to June 10, 2010. It received 340 referrals in 2011 for the same time period. In 2012, we received 337 referrals.

(2) Space

I have continued to speak with the Grafton County Bar Association about improving the space in the Grafton County Law Library. Our interns are using the conference room space, as are our staff.

(3) Karpel/Software/computers for County

We continue to delay implementation to ensure the software accommodates our victim witness department's needs.

Our department has significant software needs, in contrast to other departments. Not only do we need traditional software, such as Microsoft powerpoint and Microsoft word, but we need to be able to edit videos for trial (thus need a video editor such as AVS or Movie Maker). We also need VLS Media Player, Audacity (the free download that enables us to redact House of Corrections tapes and other audio tapes), Quicktime (needed to view videos provided by police), Picasa (photo software), a PDF reader (such as Foxit or Adobe – programs needed to open documents sent from outside agencies), FTR Gold (the superior court program needed to open transcripts from the court), and software associated with opening evidence (i.e. any and all surveillance software used by a business in Grafton County that has evidentiary value). In addition, we need the software associated with opening files sent to us electronically or in CD format from law enforcement agencies, and the proper software needed to apply for grants (adobe etc). The sheer volume and diversity of the software is daunting. In the past, Alison Farina had administrative privileges, and thus could download and manage software. We have asked the IT department to again provide Alison Farina, our office manager, with administrative privileges so she can download, update, and manage this software. We believe this will lessen the need to contact IT every time we need to download software or problem-solve issues associated with software.

(4) Interns/Externs/Special Assistant County Attorneys

Our summer interns have arrived. We are fortunate to have a 3rd year law student for drug court from VLS, a 3rd year law student from VLS for our criminal division, and a 3rd year law student from Wake Forest. A fourth "1L" will be joining us in July.

(5) Public Safety Initiatives

a. **Mental Health Court (A.S.S.E.R.T. and Halls of Hope)**

I have attached a summary I prepared for a representative with questions about the program.

b. **Plymouth Area Sexual Assault Resource Team**

We continue to work on this initiative, focusing on evaluating our services.

c. **Grafton County Drug Court Sentencing Program**

The advisory team met yesterday to discuss a number of issues, including "tweaking" our incentives and sanctions. It is wonderful to see this team continue to try to fine tune and improve this excellent program.

d. **Protection of Older Adults.** Melissa Pierce conducted a training at the Attorney General's conference this past Thursday on investigating and prosecuting crimes against the elderly.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions.