

## GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

3855 Dartmouth College Hwy

North Haverhill, NH 03774

October 14<sup>th</sup> 2014

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael Cryans, Linda Lauer and Martha Richard and Admin. Assistant S. Norcross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Falkenham

Commissioner Cryans called the meeting to order at 10:15AM after attending the annual Grafton County Pumpkin Day with children from Woodsville Elementary and Preschool. They also visited the pig barn, the cow barn and took a hayride to the Pumpkin Patch.

UNH Cooperative Extension COA Dave Falkenham arrived and gave the following report:

### **4-H / Healthy Living**

Kathy

- It is National 4-H Week and the office has been working on getting photos and an article to the Journal Opinion for National 4-H Week.
- National Youth Science Experiment – with Lafayette School and Bethlehem Afterschool - the one in Haverhill was rescheduled to November
- Donna and Kathy met with the Afterschool director in Newfound
- NH Afterschool Network meeting
- State 4-H Foundation Meeting (Donations from Open Barn day went here)
- Sugar Shockers kits will be going out

Donna

- Going to Cardigan Mountain 4-H's awards night tonight (if feeling well enough)
- Attending Teen Club meeting on Monday to recruit help for the Fall Festival
- Fall Master Gardener cleanup event on the 18<sup>th</sup>
- SPIN team meeting
- Minneapolis – Conference – gone until November 1<sup>st</sup>
- New club startup in Haverhill
- On the search committee for State 4-H Specialist –this specialist will be housed in the Department of Recreation – interviews should take place in November

Michal

- Michal worked on the Dairy Cattle Breed Shows some of which were held in conjunction with the NH 4-H Dairy Cattle Qualifying Show for Eastern States Exposition in August.

These events allow NH dairy farmers to showcase the best of their herd, as well as to interact with others in their industry.

Green Pastures committee will select this year's Green Pastures winner / NH Dairy Farm of the Year. One of the nominees was a Grafton County farm. Several of the committee members are former award winners from our county.

Working with colleagues from UNHCE and FSA to inform local dairy farmers about the Margin Protection Program – Dairy (a part of the Farm Bill). This tool is meant to help farmers manage their risk. A workshop will be held in our office on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

Heather

- Hosted two Twilight Meetings, 1. weed management and shitake mushroom cultivation, and 2. County Complex focusing on the tomato nutrient management study.

Teresa will be attending the North Country Fruit and Vegetable Seminar and Tradeshow in Whitefield at the Mountain View Grand.

The tomato trial is winding down; it will probably be finished around the end of the month. 885 lbs. of tomatoes have been donated so far.

Lisa (Nutrition Connections)

- Working with Warren Village School and Pemi Youth Center - Cooking with Kids program
- Grow and Glow
- Cooking with Parents and Kids program
- Home visits

Deb Maes continues to teach Serve Safe Classes.

CED – The application time was extended and we are hoping for interviews during the 1<sup>st</sup> two (2) weeks of December. The position may be housed at the Plymouth Center for Rural Development

Application time is open for the Food Safety and Agriculture position. The search committee will start interviews in November and the final interviews will be 1<sup>st</sup> two (2) weeks of December. This position will be housed in the Grafton Office (4 river county coverage).

### **Dean and Director Interviews**

- Thursday 1:00pm-2:30pm and 3:00pm-4:30pm  
Tuesday Oct 22, 9:00am-10:30am, 11:00am – 12:30am

## Forestry

- Working on organizing interviews for two new positions
- Layout of next two county farm timber sales
- Bill Leak on the county farm (are the cuts working)
- Site Visits (>1200 acres since July)

Commissioner Cryans asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from October 7<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Richards had several edits.

Commissioner Lauer moved to accept the minutes from October 7<sup>th</sup> as amended.

Commissioner Richards seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Commissioners signed check registers 1056-1058.

Administrative Asst. S. Norcross submitted Authorization to Submit Claims forms for both the AHEAD and Plymouth Senior Center CDBG projects for all three (3) Commissioners to sign.

Administrative Asst. S. Norcross read an email from Bob Gasser regarding a reimbursement request for Marcie Hornick. The Commissioners had originally approved the tuition cost of \$85.00 for M. Hornick to attend the NEADCP Conference but then received a reimbursement form in the amount of \$133.02. R. Gasser stated in the email that she found the programs valuable and decided to stay an additional day. S. Norcross stated that ED Libby needs the Commissioners to approve this request in order for the reimbursement to take place.

Commissioner Lauer moved to approve the request. Commissioner Richards seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Lauer stated that it sounds like R. Gasser told M. Hornick that it would be okay to stay the night and attend the conference the next day and she shouldn't be penalized for that.

The Commissioners voted on the motion and all were in favor.

Administrative Asst. S. Norcross stated that the New England Police Benevolent Association Election will be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> in the training room at the Department of Corrections from 8:30am – 9:30am and 3:30pm – 4:30pm.

Commissioner Lauer and Commissioner Cryans attended the Farm Bureau Dinner on Saturday.

Commissioner Lauer stated that she will be visiting the Lisbon Selectmen this afternoon and the Woodstock Selectmen this evening.

Commissioner Richards stated that she attended a select board meeting in Alexandria on the 7<sup>th</sup> and gave out information regarding Groton's large increase in taxes due to the wind farms.

Commissioner Cryans stated that he attended the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Mark Scarano from GCEDC was one of the speakers.

Commissioner Richards discussed her concerns about aging demographics in Grafton County.

11:05AM with no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

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Linda D. Lauer, Clerk