

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH 03774
December 8th 2020

PRESENT: Commissioners Lauer, Piper, Morris, County Administrator Libby and Administrative Assistant Norcross

OTHERS PRESENT: Farm Manager Nelson, County Attorney Hornick, HR Director Clough, Commissioner Elect Ahern

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

Farm Manager Nelson arrived and gave the following report:

1. We are milking 75 cows averaging 71 pounds per cow and shipping 10,600 pounds of milk every other day. The cows are settling into this year's feed and milk components look good. 4.3 butterfat and 3.2 protein. Our pay price for October was \$19.47 per hundredweight.
2. Joe Supp and I completed a repair on the vertical feed mixer wagon. The worn out auger was replaced with a new auger along with the hay processor knives. Joe changed spark plug and plug wires on the 2001 Chevy silage truck. The truck is running much better now.
3. Ben will have his knee medically re-evaluated on December 17th to determine when he can return to work.
4. The Agri-Mark cooperative is recommending members to sign up by December 11th for two programs offered by USDA. The Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) under Tier 1 allows a farm to enroll 95% of milk production under 5 million pounds per year at \$9.50/hundred weight. This program could return \$25,000 after premiums are paid based on 2 million pounds of annual production. The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 for dairy producers takes the producer's total production from April 1st 2020 to August 31st 2020 multiplied by \$1.20/cwt; and estimated production from September 1st through December 31st 2020 based on the actual April-August production, multiplied by 122, multiplied by a payment rate of \$1.20/cwt.
5. Superintendent Elliott continues to support the farm with inmate labor.
6. I returned a borrowed tire and rim to Sunday River Farm where the potato harvester was purchased. Jon McCrum has two (2) potato wagon bodies he is willing to sell for a reasonable amount.

Commissioner Lauer asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the December 1st meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to approve the minutes from the December 1st meeting. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Commissioners signed check registers 27; 1108; 1110-1114.

CA Libby stated they received a letter from North Country Council that stated they would be reducing the membership dues for 2021 by 5%. She stated that the 2021 dues would be \$541.00.

Resilience Planning Report Update – CA Libby stated that she received a draft report on Thursday. She will review it with Supt. Oakes and then give a copy to the Commissioners.

Broadband Committee Meeting – CA Libby stated that Nik Coates will be attending next week's meeting to discuss the legal services that the Broadband Committee has requested.

Register Monahan submitted the following Register of Deeds report from the month of November. CA Libby noted that all Deeds staff are all back to work and they are fortunate that no one else got sick.

**Grafton County Registry of Deeds
Kelley J. Monahan Register
Report to Commissioners
December 8, 2020**

November Revenue

County Revenue 11/2009	\$ 81,039.29	State Revenue 11/2009	\$ 506,117.76
County Revenue 11/2010	\$ 96,526.70	State Revenue 11/2010	\$ 692,679.64
County Revenue 11/2011	\$ 71,738.89	State Revenue 11/2011	\$ 392,029.44
County Revenue 11/2012	\$ 80,044.74	State Revenue 11/2012	\$ 523,386.24
County Revenue 11/2013	\$ 65,255.13	State Revenue 11/2013	\$ 475,505.28
County Revenue 11/2014	\$ 63,966.55	State Revenue 11/2014	\$ 546,435.84
County Revenue 11/2015	\$ 84,227.65	State Revenue 11/2015	\$ 861,408.00
County Revenue 11/2016	\$ 78,782.79	State Revenue 11/2016	\$ 673,077.12
County Revenue 11/2017	\$ 85,268.33	State Revenue 11/2017	\$ 765,138.24
County Revenue 11/2018	\$ 76,935.79	State Revenue 11/2018	\$ 735,456.00
County Revenue 11/2019	\$ 88,003.42	State Revenue 11/2019	\$ 988,613.28
County Revenue 11/2020	\$127,674.65	State Revenue 11/2020	\$1,350,619.20

Foreclosures

2009	160 year to date
2010	193 year to date
2011	190 year to date
2012	175 year to date
2013	101 year to date
2014	70 year to date
2015	67 year to date
2016	72 year to date
2017	61 year to date
2018	52 year to date

2019 61 + 280 (from one source) = 341 year to date
2020 16 year to date zero in May due to Governor's executive order
1 for June 2020
0 for July 2020
0 for August 2020
0 for September 2020
4 for October 2020
1 for November

1. At the November New Hampshire Register of Deeds meeting held via Zoom I was elected to serve as the President of the NH Register of Deeds Association for the biennium.

County Attorney Hornick arrived and gave the following report:

Atty. Hornick stated that the caseload that is coming in still has the general mix that she has been discussing. The number of cases is a little low from last December, which is directly related to COVID and police departments not being out on the streets as much. They are not getting as many drug cases as they typically were. She anticipates that as they get further into the new year their numbers will be much higher. The Domestic Violence cases are coming in more complicated as there is some hesitation for victims to be as upfront as they may normally would be. It is a very frightening time for victims. She stated that as far as trial updates and grand jury, they are moving ahead in grand jury and they are participating in the state-wide panel. The anticipation was a pilot jury trial in January but they are getting later into December and she has not heard from Dave Carlson so she does not feel that will happen in January. There is a tremendous backlog of cases. They are hoping for February, as they have a few serious cases that need to go sooner rather than later. She stated that they are seeing a few more employees coming into work; maintenance has installed barriers that were recommended by the state. They are able to get the job done working remotely so not everyone is back in the office as of yet.

Atty. Hornick requested a nonpublic session.

MOTION: * 9:46 AM Commissioner Piper moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote. Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer "yes"; Commissioner Piper "yes" Commissioner Morris "yes" Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

* 10:06 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 Morris seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer “yes”. Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and the motion passes.

MOTION: Commissioner Piper moved to approve the request of the County Attorney for an out-of-cycle step increase for a member of her staff to be effective 12/6/20. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

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

MOTION: * 10:10 AM Commissioner Piper moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of the hiring of any person as a public employee pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote. Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”; Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and would now go into non-public session.

* 10:15 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 Morris seconded the motion. Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Piper “yes” Commissioner Morris “yes” Commissioner Lauer “yes”. Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted “yes” and the motion passes.

CA Libby proposed to not have a Commissioner meeting on December 29th. She stated that it is a 5th Tuesday and they also do not typically meet the week in between Christmas and New Year’s. The Commissioners agreed to not have a meeting on December 29th.

Commissioner Issues:

Commissioner Piper attended the NHAC meeting and stated that the slate of new officers was approved. Jim Monahan updated them on the state budget saying once again that revenue has not fallen as much as they thought. It will probably fall more in the next biennium. Commissioner Piper also attended the NACO meeting. She noted that President Elect Biden and Vice President Elect Harris were on that call as well.

10:26 AM with no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Morris
Clerk