

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Administration Building
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH
Friday February 24, 2012

PRESENT: Representatives Bulis, Sova, Gionet, Ladd, Townsend, Aguiar, Almy and Brosseau, Commissioners Cryans, Ahern and Burton, Executive Director Clough, and Secretary Martino.

EXCUSED: Rep. White

OTHERS: H. Brown and later Rep. Suzanne Smith

Rep. Bulis called the meeting to order at 10: 04 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Harold Brown.

Rep. Bulis asked if anyone had any changes or edit for the minutes dated January 23rd. None were noted

Rep. Sova moved to approve the minutes from January 23, 2012 which was seconded by Rep. Gionet. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Elliott was not available for this meeting but sent a brief report that stated that there was a healthy balance in the account with funds coming in as expected.

Rep. Gionet moved to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Rep. Brosseau. All were in favor.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Commissioner Cryans gave the Commissioners report to the committee

- The new Correctional Facility is 95% complete and the ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on the 6th of May beginning at 1:00 PM.
- There was a review of the Correctional Facilities project budget and Commissioner Cryans said there was a good possibility of having a surplus of at least \$750K to \$1M. (Rep. Aguiar suggested that should be termed a balance and not a surplus.)
- An outline of the suggestions from the performance audit was handed out to the committee and Commissioner Cryans said that the items listed will be looked at as they go forth with the budget. Director Clough stated that the information listed was a compilation of items from the audit.

Rep. Almy said she would like to hear the responses from the Departments.

Some members of the committee thought they needed to look this list over before any discussion and Rep. Ladd said he thought the recommendation that the Executive Director should have more authority should be discussed further. Rep. Bulis said Director Clough reports to the Commissioners and this should be a decision for them to make.

Rep. Sova thought the outline could be discussed now by the Board of Commissioners without the committee having to read it over.

Rep. Ladd said he would rather see the Executive Director and the Board work together to bring forth information to the Executive Committee and noted that he's not in favor of having Department Heads pleading their cases to them directly.

Rep. Gionet said he would like to reserve the option of having a Dept. Head come in if required.

- Commissioner Burton will be having another meeting regarding what should be done with the old Jail, which will be held on April 10th at 2:00 in the UNH Extension Conference room. Commissioner Burton said that the Board had decided not to apply for a grant from the NH Preservation Alliance but that Director Clough will be researching a CDBG feasibility grant. He said that sooner or later the Board will have to come to some decision as to what should be done with that building.

Rep. Gionet asked Commissioner Burton what he would like to see done and he replied that he just wanted to be sure that there was public opinion as to what should be done.

Rep. Bulis said he attended the last meeting of the old Jail disposition and discussed other historical buildings in the area. He noted that there was a previous vote of the Board of Commissioners to tear down the old part of the Jail and asked Commissioner Cryans what became of that vote and did it just fade away. Commissioner Cryans replied that he didn't know about the vote but it has always been his opinion that the whole building should come down. He said there are numerous issues with that building which he believes could cost in the millions to update or repair.

Rep. Bulis asked if there was a target date for a decision and Commissioner Cryans said that he would like to see the excess money from the new Correctional Facility used to tear down the old one.

Director Clough said that Supt. Oakes is preparing his budget with the assumption of keeping the utilities in the old Jail operational; however, there is hope that the County can get a waiver from the Fire Marshall to take the fire systems off line.

Director Clough said there would have to be a vote of the full Delegation in order to appropriate excess funds from the new Correctional Facility if that was the decision that was made.

Commissioner Ahern said he didn't think they could really make an informed decision until the building was vacated and someone could go through it properly. He said he planned to see that due diligence was done in this matter.

Rep. Bulis said that he would like approval from the Committee for mileage to be paid to him for attending the old Jail committee meeting on the 24th of January.

Rep. Townsend moved to approve that mileage be paid which was seconded by Rep. Aguiar. All were in favor.

Commissioner Cryans continue on with the Commissioners Report saying that there should be a budget available to the Executive Committee by the first of May for review. Director Clough asked the committee what process they would like to follow in their review of the budget and said that in her opinion, she feels it works better when a member meets with the Dept. Head so that they have individual knowledge of that Department. Rep. Bulis said he really hadn't discussed it with everyone yet but he will and then get back to Director Clough.

Rep. Almy moved to accept the Commissioners Report which was seconded by Rep. Brosseau. All were in favor.

Commissioner Cryans was excused.

Rep. Bulis had two informational papers for the committee and passed them out. One was regarding an article in the Caledonian Record on the biomass project and the other was regarding a priority scale for projects.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Census in the Nursing Home is 132 and in the Jail the census is 90 with 21 being supervised in the Drug Court program. There are no inmates out on electronic monitoring.

Director Clough reviewed the Variance Report which she said was on target. She said the Registry of Deeds may come in under revenue and Interest would also be below expectation. She then passed out a new pro rated report (different from the one they received in the mail) and explained that there is a new accounting of the accrued payroll and explained how that was going to work. She said it will show as a credit but will not be there by the end of the year.

Director Clough passed out an under expenditure analysis and reviewed the reason for this in the Nursing Home, Jail, Human Services and Capital Departments. She said she will be monitoring this going forward. She also notified the committee that the County Attorney's office would likely be over expended at the end of the year.

Rep. Almy said she appreciated the thoroughness of the reports.

The committee said they would like to meet new Nursing Home Administrator at the next meeting.

Rep. Sova moved to accept the report of the Executive Director which was seconded by Rep. Brosseau. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Rep. Bulis said there was talk about reducing the cow herd, which was brought up by FM Kimball at the old Jail meeting and he asked if there was any more information about that. Commissioner Ahern said that it is being considered by FM Kimball in an effort to operate the Farm more efficiently and that the Board will have a better idea about that when FM Kimball brings forth his budget.

Rep. Bulis said that the Delegation will need to meet to set the salaries of the elected officials and hoped they could do that at the end of April.

NEW BUSINESS

Maintenance Superintendent Oakes was invited in to talk to the committee about the biomass project. An accompanying report was passed out to the members. *(see attached)

There was a question and answer period which included whether or not the County should consider an electrical option. Supt. Oakes said the plan was to send the bid out with an electrical option package and then see what kind of figures came before making any concrete decisions.

Rep. Aguiar was excused.

There was a discussion as to whether or not the Executive Committee should invite Woodsville Water & Light Commissioners to a meeting so connecting to their system could be discussed. Supt. Oakes said until the County has explored all the possible scenarios it probably didn't make sense to invite WW&L to the table.

Director Clough said that right now Banwell Engineers are designing a heat only plant with an electrical option because that is what the Board of Commissioners voted on. She said she would like to see this moving forward and ready to present at budget time.

Rep. Gionet asked Supt. Oakes about the water tank and the latest update. Supt. Oakes said that an engineering company is designing the valve and that should be ready for presentation to the Commissioners within the next couple of weeks.

Rep. Bulis asked Director Clough to defer the conversation about the Post Retiree Employee Benefits until the next meeting due to a lack of time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A copy of the Jail Staffing Sub-Committee meeting minutes were passed out and Rep. Almy went over them briefly. Another meeting will be held today once this meeting adjourns.

COMMENTS OF THE DELEGATES

None

The next meeting date will be March 19, 2012 and will begin at 9:00 AM

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Mr. Brown stated that he had two bills which Rep. Gionet filed for him which he hoped the Legislators would support. He said the first bill was no longer viable and he didn't know about the second, which had to do with search and seizure.

12:45 PM Rep. Brosseau moved to adjourn which was seconded by Rep. Townsend. With no further business and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Sova, Clerk