

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
North Haverhill, NH 03774  
Tuesday September 27, 2011

PRESENT: Commissioners Cryans, Omer C. Ahern Jr. and Raymond Burton, Director Clough and Secretary Martino.

9:11 AM Commissioner Cryans opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance led by County Attorney Lara Saffo.

Atty. Saffo arrived to discuss a personnel matter but Commissioner Cryans wanted to ask a couple of other questions first. He asked Atty. Saffo how her recent Drug Court conference in Connecticut had gone and she replied that she received a lot of information, particularly regarding treatment drugs and felt a lot better about certain ways to treat addicts.

Atty. Saffo said that she is looking into getting an intern for Drug Court. Commissioner Cryans asked how many interns have been at the Attorney's Office and she said there have been either six or seven and the experiences have been good.

\*9:24 AM - Commissioner Ahern then moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Commissioner Burton seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Cryans called the roll. Commissioner Ahern "yes"; Commissioner Burton "yes" Commissioner Cryans "yes"; Commissioner Cryans stated that a majority of the board voted yes and will now go into non-public session.

\*9:42 AM- Commissioner Cryans declared the meeting back in public session

Commissioner Ahern moved to permanently seal the minutes from the non-public session which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

Atty. Saffo presented the Commissioners with a chart stating salaries from various prosecutors in the area as well as salaries from other Counties.

Corrections Superintendent Glenn Libby arrived and brought a report with him to review with the Commissioners.\*(see attached). There are 101 inmates in-house, 21 in Drug Court and 8 out on electronic monitoring.

Commissioner Ahern asked if there were any out of County inmates and Supt. Libby replied there were three Coos County females and one inmate from Sullivan County.

Bids were opened for furniture, fixtures and equipment for the new Correctional Facility last week and Supt. Libby was ready to make a recommendation to the Board. He stated that only one bid was all inclusive and fit the requirements of the RFP. He recommended that the Commissioners accept the bid from WB Mason in the amount of \$280,168.30. He stated that all the products are manufactured in the USA.

Commissioner Burton moved to accept the bid from WB Mason for the furniture, fixtures and equipment for the new Correctional Facility in the amount of \$280,168.30, which was seconded by Commissioner Ahern. All were in favor.

It was noted that the County already has an established relationship with WB Mason which has proven positive.

Supt. Libby said that Grafton County is holding an inmate for Sullivan County who was unable to control this particular individual for what ever reason. Grafton County has not had any issues with the inmate. Supt. Libby requested the Commissioners approval for this transfer and said that the per diem rate is waived but Sullivan County picks up all the medical costs if any. He added that Sullivan County has a Grafton County inmate under the same conditions.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the transfer of the inmate from Sullivan County to Grafton County under the stipulations stated by Supt. Libby which was seconded by Commissioner Ahern. All were in favor.

Supt. Libby said that he received an email from Chief Justice Dalianis which talked about getting federal money for video arraignment setups around the State. Supt. Libby said that if he could secure money that way the County wouldn't be responsible for the cost as they planned to install it in the new facility. He said he would be working with the IT Manager to see if this would work.

Commissioner Ahern asked if the Chief Justice reviewed any of the issues that H. Brown brings up about it being unconstitutional and Supt. Libby said he didn't see that but hadn't had a chance to digest the whole email. Supt. Libby said he saw how the video arraignment works when he went to WI recently and it was quite amazing.

Commissioner Cryans said he questions the reality of the State actually putting money into this and Supt. Libby said it would create huge savings. Commissioner Cryans said he was still skeptical and said he could see it working on a County level but worried about how it would be on the other end. There was some further discussion including this becoming an unfunded mandate somehow.

H. Brown was recognized and said that those who took an oath ought to follow that and said that a defendant has the right to face his accuser and that's what the constitution says and that people have gone to war to preserve the constitution and those in office should respect it.

Commissioner Ahern said that he attended a meeting in Rumney to try to keep the rest

area open and a Selectboard member suggested that perhaps inmates could come and do some landscaping and maintenance to clean up a bit around there. He said that the DOT has to give permission for them to come since they are responsible for the area. He asked Supt. Libby if that was a possibility and Supt. Libby replied that the request should come from the town and that Cpl. Webster would assess the area to see if there is something that can be done.

Commissioner Cryans asked for clarification as to how that would help open the rest area and he said that the hope is for private funding and perhaps ATV and Snowmobile funds to come in to help but the general cleanup would be a start to getting it looking good.

Commissioner Burton said the closing of the rest areas has become pathetic and

Commissioner Cryans said that the budget that the State passed will create repercussions.

Commissioner Ahern moved that Executive Director Clough contact L. Knowlton at the DOT by email to ask that they allow Grafton County inmate labor to do some landscaping and maintenance work at the Rumney rest area in Rumney NH, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

Supt. Libby wanted to comment to Mr. Brown that there are a number of people at the County who have served their Country, (including himself) and have gone to Iraq and know full well what it means to defend the constitution.

After looking at the minutes from last week, Commissioner Ahern asked Supt. Libby if in fact public safety is being compromised because of the staff changes at the Jail and Supt. Libby replied that the current facility has always been understaffed and that changes to this budget have him concerned. Commissioner Ahern asked pointedly if public safety is being compromised and Supt. Libby again responded that he is concerned, but he and his staff will continue to do the best they can with the resources they have. He said there is always a worry and that there are some serious offenders in that building.

Mr. Brown asked Supt. Libby about contraband and said that in a past report of Supt. Oakes noted that contraband was found to have caused the fire alarm to not work and Mr. Brown wanted to know how it got there. Supt. Libby said he didn't know what Mr. Brown was talking about and had no response. Mr. Brown accused Supt. Libby of ducking the issue and Commissioner Burton said he took offense to that saying that if there was an issue he was sure that between Supt. Oakes and Supt. Libby there would have been proper notification.

Supt. Libby said contraband is found every day and it's a fight the staff has constantly. He said if security is an issue it would be dealt with.

Supt. Libby said due to unusual circumstance, the GED graduation set for tomorrow has been cancelled.

Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the minutes as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Director Clough presented an educational assistance application for an employee who was taking a course as it applies to her job.

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the educational assistance which was seconded by Commissioner Ahern. All were in favor.

Director Clough said that the Tax Apportionment information was received last week and she supplied a copy of that information to the Commissioners stating that tax bills will be sent out in October.

Two residents at the Nursing Home will be celebrating their 90th and 95<sup>th</sup> Birthdays. Celebrations will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October at 2:00 PM.

### **COMMISSIONER ISSUES:**

Commissioner Burton said that there is talk about a move to take Weights and Measures out of the Dept. of Agriculture and put it in the Dept. of Safety in the State. He said that he plans on having a discussion at the NHACo Conference that is coming up next month. Commissioner Burton attended the Eastern States Exposition this year, as did Commissioner Merrill and he discussed this issue with her.

Commissioner Ahern attended the Annual NH/VT Christmas Tree Farmers meeting and said it was well attended. He touted Christmas tree production as an integral part of agriculture in the State.

Commissioner Ahern will meet with the BOS of Orange this evening and will be in Ashland on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October.

Commissioner Cryans stated that he would like to have Cindy Swart come to the Executive Committee meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October saying he thinks she should be there to provide answers to the Committee and that it would be money well spent.

Commissioner Cryans moved that C. Swart be invited to the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee and that she be compensated for her time.

A discussion ensued and Commissioner Ahern said he thought that Ms. Swart was over expended in her budget last year. Director Clough said that she is paid what she bills which is her rate and mileage. Commissioner Ahern said it appeared that she went over budget last year by around \$600, and that he is concerned about the budget.

Commissioner Burton said he would like to set a limit of \$300. Commissioner Cryans said he would like to see at least \$500 but \$300 would be okay.

Commissioner Burton then seconded the motion, adding that there should be a limit of \$300 compensation.

Commissioner Ahern said he is still not comfortable with this and that the Executive Committee did not request having C. Swart there and he felt the tenor was that they wanted to look at other things. He said that he thought it was presumptuous of the Commissioners to impose their decision upon the meeting.

When the vote was taken, Commissioners Cryans and Burton were in favor and Commissioner Ahern was opposed.

Commissioner Cryans asked if anyone had contacted the County regarding the flood damage and Director Clough said that the County plays no role regarding the issue.

Commissioner Ahern said that Melanson & Heath had prepared the audit for Belknap County and have suggested that all the individual accounts in Deeds be turned over to accounting in the Commissioners Office. He said this has created some litigation there as Deeds does not wish to do this. He questioned whether or not that same suggestion may happen here. Director Clough said Melanson & Heath will likely be recommending the same for Grafton County.

Commissioner Burton said that he attended a meeting at the Littleton Learning Center where HHS Commissioner Toumpas conducted a video conference about Medicaid/Medicare but had to leave early and wondered how it turned out. He said NHA Bolander had attended also.

11:00 AM being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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Raymond S. Burton, Clerk

September 27, 2011

**Commissioners Report**

<b>1. Population:</b>	<b>In-house: 101</b>	<b>Maximum: 23</b>
		<b>Medium 24</b>
		<b>Minimum north: 12</b>
		<b>Minimum south: 09</b>
		<b>WHOC: 22</b>
		<b>Max/Handicap: 01</b>
		<b>Lockblock/Seg: 10</b>
<b>Weekenders: 7</b>	<b>Out of facility: 37</b>	

**2. Community Corrections Report**

- a) Drug Court – supervising (21) \*0 in custody
- b) Electronic Monitoring – supervising (8)
- c) Daily Work Release – supervising (0)
- d) Operation Impact – gearing up for October presentations
- e) Community Work Program – On the County Complex

**3. General**

- a) RFP-2011-FFE-001 – Request to award bid to WB Mason – approval required
- b) Sullivan County transfer – approval required
- c) State RFP for Video Conferencing - discussion

**4. Commissioner Items**

- a) Commissioner Ahern – none
- b) Commissioner Burton – none
- c) Commissioner Cryans – none
- d) Are there any Commissioner concerns? - input sought

**Upcoming events:**

**CANCELLED** - GED Graduation – Wednesday September 28, 2011 @ 10am