

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 Administration Building
 UNH Coop Extension Conference Room
 3855 Dartmouth College Highway
 North Haverhill, NH
 January 24th 2022

PRESENT: Representatives Sykes, Gordon, Abel, Greeson, Weston, Egan – via Zoom, Murphy – via Zoom. Commissioners Piper, Lauer and Ahern – via Zoom, County Administrator Libby, Treasurer Hill, Admin. Assistant Norcross, Director Andross, Superintendent Oakes, HR Director Clough, Farm Manager Nelson, County Attorney Hornick, Sheriff Stiegler, Register Monahan – via Zoom, Alternative Sentencing Director DePalo – via Zoom, Alex Nuti-de Biasi – Journal Opinion – via Zoom.

Rep. Gordon called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Rep. Greeson.

A quorum was not physically present to start the meeting. The Committee reviewed reports from the Treasurer, County Administrator and Commissioners.

Treasurer Hill gave the following Treasurer’s Report:

TO: GRAFTON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 FROM: KAREN LIOT HILL, TREASURER
 SUBJECT: TREASURER’S REPORT
 DATE: JANUARY 24, 2022



CURRENT CASH POSITION (as of 12/31/21)

Grafton County General Fund

Checking Account (ICS @ .35%)	\$22,642,238.50 (Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank)
Investment Account (ICS @ .35%)	\$ 1,010,899.35 (Mascoma Savings Bank)
Investment Account Money Market (.02%)	\$ 1,137.85 (NH Public Deposit Investment Pool)
Investment Account – ICS (.25%)	\$ 1,000,024.41 (Claremont Savings Bank)
Investment Account – Re-Purchase (.20%)	\$ 1,001,253.88 (Bank of NH)

Grafton County Committed Accounts

Deeds Surcharge ICS (1.00%)	\$196,697.85 (Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank)
Deeds Surcharge Money Market (.05%)	\$ 21,648.67 (Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank)
Dispatch Capital Reserve (.75%)	\$ 63,962.58 (Service Credit Union)
Nursing Home Capital Reserve (1.00%)	\$163,044.46 (Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank)

RECENT TRANSACTIONS of NOTE

- The Combined Accumulated interested in the current fiscal year (7/1/20-12/31/21) is \$14,671.01.

- FY 2022 Tax Anticipation Notes: We did not need to borrow any money.
- Tax bills – Taxes have all been paid, we did have one town who was late. We have received that payment and interest that was accrued. We collected a total of \$26,972,066 in tax revenue for FY 2022.
- The following Investment Plan was approved by the Commissioners on December 21, 2021:
 - Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank – Insured Cash Sweep – .65% - All funds remaining in the County’s possession after the investments below are made. This would be approximately \$20,000,000
 - Mascoma Savings Bank – Insured Cash Sweep – .20% - \$1,000,000
 - Bank of NH – Repurchase Agreement - .20% - \$1,000,000
 - Claremont Savings Bank – Insured Cash Sweep - .25% - \$1,000,000
- Investment letters were sent to all banks that have a branch located within Grafton County. These letters were sent out on December 13th with bids due back by the close of business on Friday, December 17, 2021. We received proposals from five (5) banks.

Commissioner Piper gave the following Commissioners’ Report:

Commissioners’ Report
January 24, 2022

The Commissioners are pleased to present this report to the Executive Committee.

County Administrator Dorsett ended his employment with Grafton County on December 10, 2021. The Commissioners have appointed former County Administrator Julie Libby as the Interim County Administrator. We are currently evaluating specific needs and will be making decisions on how to move forward in the coming months.

Nursing Home:

- Admissions have resumed; however due to Nursing Home Covid safety protocols, and staffing shortages admissions have been slow. The current census is: 100. The federal vaccine mandate has been upheld by the Supreme Court and the deadline for the nursing home employees to be vaccinated is February 28th. The Commissioners have reinstated their vaccine mandate policy to comply with this. Staffing shortages continue to be a significant issue, we currently have the following vacant positions: 17.15 LNA’s, 14.95 RN/LPN’s, 4 Dietary Aids, 1 FT Housekeeper and 3 PT Housekeepers. The stipend program continues to be a critical tool to stabilize current staffing levels and attract new candidates.
- COVID Testing Update. Since the last report, we have had four (4) residents test positive. They have all recovered. We have also had a number of staff test positive. We continue to do required weekly testing. The nursing home and the Department

of Corrections employees are not included in the new guidelines for Isolation and Quarantine and thus continue to have to be out of work for 10 days if testing positive. This continues to create staffing issues.

- GCNH Vaccination Update: We are currently at 95% of all residents who are fully vaccinated and 87% of staff.

Department of Corrections:

- The current in-house census is 43 with another 18 on pretrial services and 7 being monitored electronically. We continue to face significant staffing shortages with 9 vacant full-time positions out of 43. There are also 2 vacant full-time positions in Community Corrections. The impact of COVID has also been difficult on staffing, as there have been a number of correctional staff out with COVID. We have also had a couple of COVID outbreaks among inmates. Both outbreaks have been resolved.

County Courthouse:

- CA Libby talked with the Bureau of Courts last week and it appears through those discussions that the Grafton County Courthouse is not a priority for the state, and they will not be seeking any capital requests to help with costs for a new building. We are currently working with them to inquire about long term leasing to ensure that if the county constructs a new building that incorporates their needs, they will be staying on as a tenant long into the future. The county will be looking at next steps in the process to address the building deficiencies addressed in the study that was conducted last year.

IT:

- SNS is in the process of implementing the Cyber-security updates that were approved with ARPA funding. Most of the new equipment has been ordered. Some equipment is delayed due to supply chain issues, but the project is moving forward.

Broadband Committee Update:

- The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) grant application is still pending; a decision is expected in February. The Broadband Committee continues to meet and move forward with plans.

Human Resources:

- Paypoint HR continues to work on the Wage and Classification study and plans to have a final report ready prior to budget finalization.

Farm DoC:

- Research is currently being done on a number of items for Farm DoC. More detailed information will be given to the Commissioners in the coming weeks so that they can begin to make decisions regarding implementation. The first component of the

plan to be implemented is supplying beef from the farm into the Department of Corrections. Last week the first two (2) cull cows were sent for processing and will be incorporated into the menu at the DoC for the inmates.

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021:

- The Final Rule on ARPA has been issued. This allows for greater flexibility and “simplicity” in the spending of ARPA money. The projects that were approved in the first round are in different phases and all being worked on. The Commissioners have presented you with the Second Round of ARPA requests for your consideration today.

Rep. Murphy – nursing home, this Wednesday they will be outing in a bill to establish a capital reserve account for nursing home.

Rep. Egan – regarding the broadband committee -

CA Libby gave the following report:

Finance Director’s Report
January 24, 2022

Financial Reports

- ❖ Monthly Variance Report compares the budget on an equal monthly basis to actuals and looks at the positive (black) or negative (red) variances. These reports represent six (6) months complete.

Nursing Home Revenue:

Payer Source	FY 2022 Budget	FY 2022 YTD Actuals
Medicaid	88	81
Medicare	3	1.5
Private Pay	22	20.5
Veterans	1	2
Total	114	105

- COVID and staffing levels continue to have an impact on the revenue at the nursing home. The chart above is as of December 31, 2021. We are below our budgeted census in three (3) of our (4) payer sources. Veteran’s is up slightly.

Our Medicaid reimbursement rate is higher than was estimated at the time of the budget which is helping to offset a lower census. Our current census is 100. YTD revenue for the nursing home is currently showing a positive variance due a final Nursing Facility Account (504) payment for FY '21 from the State of NH that was received after the close of the fiscal year so the revenue is booked in FY '22 and because of the higher reimbursement rate. We have also received \$711,140.80 in federal HHS payments for COVID.

- Proshare/Bed Tax – ProShare is a lump sum payment received all at once in June. Bed Tax is paid quarterly – Only reflects 1st quarter payment.
- The Department of Corrections is showing a negative variance currently. Primarily due to lower census and no federal inmates.
- The farm is showing a positive variance all revenues projected from the farm stand have been met and all other sources are on-target other than a planned timber cut that will not take place until the winter months.
- County Attorney/Victim Witness/Roving Advocate. These grants are direct reimbursement for expenditures. Reimbursements are requested quarterly. The Roving Advocate grant ended on 9/30/21. The County had applied for a new grant however, that grant was not award therefore, the monies budgeted in that category for revenue and expense will stop as of the October financials.
- The Register of Deeds revenue continues to be up in FY '22. Revenue continues to be above monthly projections. Revenue is already at over 60% collected.
- Miscellaneous Revenues include an unanticipated Return of Surplus from HealthTrust in the amount of \$351,688.49.

Expenses

- Through six (6) months we have a few departments that are showing negative variances.
- ❖ Pro-rated Report: This report looks at the % of the year complete and then pro-rates revenues and expense based on known variates on revenues and expenses.
- 50% of the fiscal year completed. On the pro-rated report I factor in the revenue and expenses that are either over or under at this point in the fiscal year. Based on the December report we are at 50.09% which is slightly ahead

for revenue and at 46.24% or under expended by \$1.8M. This all factors into the unassigned fund balance which at this point \$8,573,083.

- ❖ Over Expenditure Report – This report shows any line item that is over-expended at month-end.

We only have a few over-expended line items at this point. They are very minor and nothing out of the ordinary.

Old Business: Rep. Gordon stated that concerning broadband, they have had up until this point, an active discussion on the County supporting the broadband project and the backbone. He asked what the County's role is now in the project. Commissioner Piper explained that her understanding is that if there is an oversight rule, it was a loose one. CA Libby stated that the intent at the end of the day is for the County to find funding for the middle mile construction of the project. If the NTIA grant that the Broadband Committee applied for is awarded, that grant will cover the project. She noted that she is meeting with Katelyn Robinson from NCIC and Nik Coates on Thursday to talk about a USDA grant application that they can apply for if they do not get the NTIA grant. The Broadband Committee continues to look for avenues to fund the project without being direct impacts to the county taxpayers. The Broadband Committee is using the \$250,000 in ARPA funds to help the communities design the last mile.

8:46 AM Rep. Sykes arrived and a quorum was declared.

MOTION: Rep. Weston moved to approve the minutes from the November 22nd meeting. Rep. Abel seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

MOTION: Rep. Egan moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor, and none in opposition the motion passes.

MOTION: Rep. Egan moved to approve the Commissioners' Report. Rep. Murphy seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “abstained”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being six (6) in favor, one (1) abstention and none in opposition the motion passes.

MOTION: Rep. Abel moved to approve the Finance Director's Report. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “abstained”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being six (6) in favor, one (1) abstention and none in opposition the motion passes.

ARPA Requests

Attorney's Office

1. New Attorney - Atty. Hornick stated that she is requesting a new prosecutor to help with the backload of cases because of COVID. She noted that other County Attorney's Offices across the state are requesting this with ARPA funds as well. She stated that this is for a three (3) year period and the position would be offered as a three (3) year commitment.
2. New Investigator - Atty. Hornick stated that they were unable to fill the position after Detective Fortier retired and the Commissioners asked her not to fill it the following year. She stated that this position is valuable to her office.
3. Equipment – Atty. Hornick stated that this request is to ensure that they have the appropriate equipment to do the job. They are lacking in copier/scanners to allow them to do their jobs remotely and in the office. CA Libby noted that this request was on hold because they were waiting on SNS to look at the request. She reported that she just received an email for the price estimate. The Committee agreed put this request on hold to allow the Commissioners time to go back and review the request.

Atty. Hornick answered questions from the Committee regarding her three (3) requests.

MOTION: Rep. Abel moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$310,000 in American Rescue Plan funding for a new Attorney. Rep. Egan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rep. Gordon noted his frustration that the courts created a problem that the county now needs to use these funds to help correct, rather than using it to benefit the county in other ways. He stated that rarely in the state do they see funds appropriated for things like this, that they do not end up permanently funding.

Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

MOTION: Rep. Weston moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$300,000 in American Rescue Plan funding for a new Investigator. Rep. Egan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rep. Weston stated that she feels this is a good use of funds and that the County Attorney has demonstrated a need.

Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to put the request for new equipment in the Attorney's Office on hold. Rep. Greeson seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep.

Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Alternative Sentencing

1. Security Equipment – Commissioner Piper stated that the Commissioners strongly recommended this request given the population the Alternative Sentencing Department supports. There are no safety measures in place. AS Director DePalo stated that she is asking for two (2) security cameras as well as panic buttons for each office and conference room. She reported that they are looking to start a batterers intervention program and they need these security measures in place. She also noted that their department is the only building on campus to have no security measures in place.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$6,935.00 in American Rescue Plan funding for the purchase of security equipment for the Alternative Sentencing Department. Rep. Greeson seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Human Resources

1. COVID Relief Pay - Commissioner Piper stated that the Commissioners strongly support this request as well. They are having a rapid increase in COVID cases. This request provides COVID relief pay for up to 14 days for all employees. She stated that this is in the best interest in morale and supporting employees. HR Director Clough stated that given the rise in Covid cases she has opted to put a pay structure in place for COVID related leave. She noted that this number is worst-case scenario for all employees at 14 days. She answered questions from the Executive Committee.

MOTION: Rep. Greeson moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize up to \$1,002,734.88 in American Rescue Plan funds for COVID Relief Pay for employees. Rep. Gordon seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Egan “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being seven (7) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Rep. Egan left the meeting.

Sheriff's Department

1. Stipend Program – Commissioner Piper stated that the Commissioners did not recommend that this request move forward. She explained that this request was based off the request that was put through by HR in the first round of ARPA requests. She explained that the DoC and Nursing Home were awarded stipends from ARPA money as these two departments are significantly

understaffed and are at critical levels. This staffing situation is not duplicated by any other department and therefore they did not recommend this request. Commissioner Piper noted that the Committee has three (3) letters in support of the proposal, discussing COVID risks of the Sheriff's Department staff. She stated that the stipends for the Nursing Home and DoC did not have to do with COVID exposure; it was not front line worker pay. She noted that they would have the results from the wage study that in February and that would most likely recommend an increase in wages. Sheriff Stiegler stated that they are a much smaller department than the Nursing Home and Department of Corrections and they had two (2) retire out of 10 staff. He noted that the hiring process was not as easy as it has been in the past, as they did not have the amount of applicants they used too. He explained that all positions are currently filled but one deputy is in the Field Training Program, they will be losing one to maternity leave and another that is on light duty after returning from FMLA and therefore he only has five (5) full time deputies at this time. He noted that he does have special deputies that he uses as well. He answered further questions from the committee regarding his request. Commissioner Piper stated that if the Executive Committee approves this request, they should be prepared to approve requests from every department. She stated that the Sheriff is a very reasonable and professional department head and she has strong respect for him.

MOTION: Rep. Greeson moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$234,000 for a stipend program for the Sheriff's Department. Rep. Sykes seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rep. Greeson stated that the Sheriff's Department put their lives on the line to keep us safe. He feels that the Sheriff's Department is worthy of the same consideration as the Dept. of Corrections and Nursing Home based on the job at hand. He stated that six (6) months of a stipend will get them through to the summer and hopes that the situation will be different. Everything they are doing is coming from ARPA funds, it does not affect the County budget. They need to think of how they can best utilize this money to take care of their employees. He stated that he feels the Sheriff's Department is worthy of the stipend as everyone else is given the stresses of their jobs. Commissioner Piper stated that this request is based off saying they are bleeding staff like they are at the Nursing Home and the DoC. Rep. Gordon noted that he was not in favor of the stipend program at the Nursing Home and DoC because it set a precedent. This request is based off their staff being underpaid. He has a hard time voting because if they are underpaid, increases should be in the budget opposed to using these special funds. Rep. Gordon stated that he would prefer to table it and let the department come back in the event that the circumstances show that they have a critical need.

Rep. Greeson withdrew his motion and Rep. Sykes withdrew his second.

MOTION: Rep. Greeson moved to put the Sheriff's Department Stipend Program request on hold for additional information. Rep. Gordon seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Rep. Sykes stated that this is a tool they would have to try to help with the pay but acknowledges that by doing this it opens the door to all departments. CA Libby stated that they are attempting to address the pay with the wage study and it would be

incorporated into the new budget. If the route problem with this request is not enough money, they are trying to address that. She stated that she does not feel that they should be giving stipends.

Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “no”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being five (5) in favor and one (1) in opposition the motion passes.

2. Cruiser & Body Cameras – Commissioner Piper stated that they could use taxpayer funds from a larger pool to fund this request. CA Libby noted that the Sheriff has been working with the vendor to get them to relook at the pricing. He received a revised quote they decreased the price down to \$341,718.23. Commissioner Lauer explained to the Committee one of the reasons for the strong support of this request. She stated that have been using a system called Watch Guard which has been purchased by Motorola. When the Sheriff’s Department went to outfit the latest cars with the Motorola system, they were told they needed to sign a contract. When the Sheriff had the contract reviewed by legal counsel there were some strong concerns regarding liability to the county. This is an alternate system that provides the same service, but they are not under the liability of that contract.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$341,718.23 in American Rescue Plan funding for the purchase of Cruiser and Body Cameras for the Sheriff’s Department. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. . Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being six (6) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Dispatch

1. Mann Hill Generator – Commissioner Piper stated that the basis for the need are very clear. The tower site has become a critical part of their public safety dispatch and it is not supported by off grid power. This would be a cooperative effort with the State of New Hampshire Division of Emergency Services and Communications and they will provide ongoing maintenance of the generator. Director Andross explained this site has grown in the importance and is the only site that does not have backup power. They can address a short-term outage but they do not have any means to address a long-term power outage.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$35,546.00 in American Rescue Plan funds for the purchase of a generator for the Mann Hill site. Rep. Greeson seconded the motion. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. . Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Murphy “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being six (6) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Rep. Murphy left the meeting.

2. Consoles – Director Andross explained that this request is to upgrade the 2-position console system that they acquired when they started working with their new partners in Lancaster. Lancaster does a lot of work in building out their local radio system five (5) years ago. What

happened in the process was they had an independent radio console system that was at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation Office in Lancaster, which they have orphaned in their network by directly to their radios to provide service to them. This request will allow them to upgrade those positions to be compatible with their existing systems. Director Andross answered questions from the committee.

MOTION: Rep. Weston moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$58,979.42 in American Rescue Plan funds to purchase consoles for Dispatch. Rep. Abel seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being five (5) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

3. Phone System – Director Andross explained that this project will replace the existing county telephone switching and infrastructure, providing reliable and redundant capabilities that do not exist today, as well as affording the opportunity for improved and efficient remote work capabilities and critical continuity of operations support/ attempting to accomplish redundancy. Director Andross answered questions from the Committee.

MOTION: Rep. Weston moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$76,200 in American Rescue Plan funds for the purchase of new phones for the complex. Rep. Abel seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being five (5) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Maintenance

1. Stipend Program – Commissioner Piper stated that the Board of Commissioners voted to not recommend this request as well. The argument for this was based on maintenance being essential staff as well as the risk of contact with COVID Commissioner Piper stated that once again this was not the reason they approved the stipends for the DoC and Nursing Home. She stated that the Maintenance Department has had a vacant position for quite some time. They are experiencing problems the rest of the campus are as well. She is hopeful that the wage study will help with this problem. Supt. Oakes stated that he wrote the request was based on exposure to COVID and he mentioned not being able to fill a position that was vacant for 8 months. He explained that the past, prior to COVID, they would have 10-20 applications for any position. He stated that they have now filled this position. They are a small department as well so when they are down a position it has a domino effect. With staff, being out on COVID related leave it takes its toll. Rep. Weston asked if they should be considering this discussion with the Sheriff's Department and put this on hold to see what the wage study brings.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to put the Stipend Program request for the Maintenance Department on hold. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Sykes “no”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being four (4) in favor and one (1) in opposition the motion passes.

2. Sewer Grinder Assembly – Supt. Oakes explained that the main campus sewage grinder station handles all sewage from the complex; it has been there 12 years or more. If the grinder assembly does not work properly and foreign material makes it through to the pumps, the foreign material may jam or ruin a pump. The existing grinder needs a new lower cutting head assembly due to wear. He stated that he received a quote of \$24,859, which does not include shipping. The cost for a new assembly is \$28,500.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$28,500 in American Rescue Plan funds to purchase a new Sewer Grinder Assembly. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being five (5) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Nursing Home/DoC

PPE Supplies – Commissioner Piper stated that this request is to purchase PPE supplies for the Nursing Home and Department of Corrections.

MOTION: Rep. Weston moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$75,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for the purchase of PPE supplies for the Nursing Home and DoC. Rep. Abel seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being five (5) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Farm

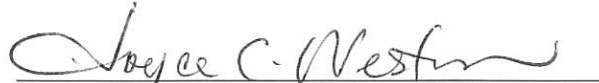
1. Tractor – Commissioner Piper explained that a lot of money is spent on repairs. The County has not invested in equipment on the farm in many years. She stated that FM Nelson has done a wonderful job keeping things going with what he has but a tractor is in bad shape. FM Nelson reported that he is looking to trade in a 16 year old bucket tractor for something new. He noted that during the last cropping season, they were down a larger tractor for a couple of months. At one point, they had 20 acres of hay mowed and another tractor failed as well. He stated that it is a challenge dealing with older machinery. He tries to maintain them but these breakdowns happen and it would be nice to have one very reliable tractor.

MOTION: Rep. Gordon moved to authorize Grafton County to utilize \$73,000 in American Rescue Plan funds to purchase a tractor for the Farm. Rep. Weston seconded the motion. Rep. Weston called the roll. Rep. Abel “yes”, Rep. Gordon “yes”, Rep. Greeson “yes”, Rep. Sykes “yes”, Rep. Weston “yes”. With the vote being five (5) in favor and none in opposition the motion passes.

Next meeting – March 21st, 2022 at 8:00am.

10:46 AM With no further business, the meeting adjourned

Sincerely,


Joyce Weston, Clerk