

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH 03774
October 12, 2021

PRESENT: Commissioners Piper, Lauer, CA Dorsett and Administrative Assistant Norcross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Register Monahan, Nursing Home Administrator Labore, Paul Hodes and Latha Mangipudi – Plasma Gen. Inc.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Ahern

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

Register Monahan arrived and gave the attached report:

Register Monahan stated that in compliance with written recommendations made by archive specialist Carolyn Freisa of Works on Paper, she would like to order museum quality board to act as covers for the loose documents, which were cut from the books under previous leadership. She noted that she received the three (3) following quotes:

Talas - \$5,832.59
Gaylord Archival - 6,925.00
Archival methods - \$6,580.00

Register Monahan recommended the Commissioners select Talas' quote of \$5,832.59. This is included in the Register of Deeds budget for FY22.

MOTION: Commissioner Lauer moved to accept the bid from Talas for \$5,832.59 for to order museum quality board to act as covers for the loose documents. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and were all in favor.

Paul Hodes and Latha Mangipudi – Plasma Gen. Inc. – Waste to Energy Presentation

P. Hodes and L. Mangipudi gave a presentation on Waste to Energy and answered questions from the Commissioners. (* see attached summary of the presentation)

Nursing Home Administrator Labore arrived and gave the following report: (* see attached)

NHA Labore informed the Commissioners that he has lent Cottage Hospital three (3) of the Nursing Home beds because they are overflowing on their med-surge unit. They do not have the ability to discharge to Nursing Homes because Nursing Homes are not taking admissions, mainly due to staffing issues and the potential of additional staff reduction resulting from the Biden Administration's announcement of the pending vaccine mandates. He stated that they are

creating a wait list and fielding calls regularly. He noted that there was an article on WMUR about the possibility of six (6) Nursing Homes in the State of New Hampshire either being sold or closed for the same reason.

Recertification Survey – NHA Labore stated that the survey was completed two (2) weeks ago and short of a couple of oversights on his part in the reading of expectations for testing, overall they did excellent and he is very proud of the employees. They did not have any on the spot infection control deficiencies.

CMS Mandatory Vaccination – NHA Labore stated that CMS is getting close to releasing this information and they expect it as early as this week or by the end of the month. CA Dorsett inquired if NHA Labore and staff are planning for the potential of losing another 40 staff due to the Biden Administration’s vaccine mandate. He asked what level of services are reduced with the Biden Administration requiring us to lay off 40 staff when they are already short staffed. NHA Labore indicated he is looking at a scaled down facility, serving less of the county’s most vulnerable elderly population. He explained that if they were to lose staff that they would have to draw the census down, noting that this would be done naturally by not admitting residents. They would not send residents back home.

October 26th Pfizer Booster Shot Clinic –Residents who are at the six (6) month mark from their last dose are eligible to receive the booster. They have contacted the 78 residents who are eligible, and 73 have agreed to receive the booster. He noted that the CDC is saying a person who has had two (2) doses is still fully vaccinated. The third dose is not required but helps increase immunity level.

Agenda Items

1. Commissioner Piper asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the September 14th, September 15th and September 21st meetings. Commissioner Piper had a comment on a sentence that needed clarification from the September 14th minutes. CA Dorsett stated that they would make the clarification.

Commissioner Piper stated that the Commissioners look forward to the minutes being proof read twice, once by the County Administrator and once by the Administrative Assistant so they can avoid these problems in the future.

MOTION: Commissioner Lauer moved to approve the minutes as amended from the September 14th, September 15th and September 21st meetings. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2. The Commissioners signed check registers 1042-1045; 1047-1049; 1051; 2021-09.17.2021, 2021-09.17.2021, 2021-10.01.2021.

3. CORD Surplus Land Request Application - 2021 SLR 004 – CA Dorsett explained that this is a standard State of New Hampshire right of way request. This involves notification to the county, town and other parties of interest to make public comment. A golf course is rerouting how the

golf cart path goes around and through a state right of way near the interstate. It does not involve County owned land; they are asking if there are any comments. The Commissioners had no comments.

4. Nursing Home Heifer Program – CA Dorsett stated that this agenda item was Commissioner Ahern’s request. He explained that a Nursing Home Resident has stated that it would be nice to see a cow from time to time. CA Dorsett reached out to UNH Extension for the 4H program and Farm Manager Nelson to see if this could be a possibility.

5. CA Dorsett submitted the Subrecipient Agreement for the NH Alliance of Regional Development Corporations for Commissioner Piper to sign.

6. CA Dorsett submitted the Environmental Review for Exempt Activity for the RDC Technical Assistance Grant for Commissioner Piper to sign.

County Administrator Update

1. CA Dorsett stated that he toured the Tullando Farm in Orford with the Farm staff and Heather Bryant from UNH Cooperative Extension. He stated that the Tullando Farm has several dairy robots in place. As a part of the ARPA funds, the County is planning to have a feasibility study done which looks into modernizing the County Farm and therefore they were interested to see what a modern dairy operation looked like. He discussed the tour with the Commissioners and noted that this is not something you add to your facility; it is a complete operational change.

2. He stated that he met with the Bureau of Courts and discussed the future of the Courthouse. He explained that the Bureau of Courts wanted to look into the study further and noted that their financing comes from the Judicial Bureau. CA Dorsett discussed three development methods - the first being the County building a new facility and lease to the state, the second being the State building a new facility and leasing to the County and the last being a private developer building the facility and leasing back to the county and/or state with a balloon payment after a certain time period. He stated that the Bureau of Courts plans to meet with the Judicial Bureau within the next few weeks and the Bureau of Courts noted that this is not going to be a quick process to explore how to move forward.

3. CA Dorsett stated that the NACO Leadership Academy requires a good amount of time from his schedule, but he finds the program very beneficial.

4. He stated that he attended the NHAC Executive Committee meeting in Concord and he discussed details from that meeting with the Commissioners.

5. CA Dorsett met with NH Electric Coop and their Board of Directors to discuss best options for a broadband collaboration.

Commissioner Issues

1. Commissioner Piper stated that due to her personal experience over the last three (3) weeks and after the Director of Nursing's note and NHA Labore's note, she is wary of even vaccinated folks being in a closed in environment, with unvaccinated folks and therefore she will not be attending the Employee Recognition Dinner. She stated that it is everyone's personal choice. Commissioner Lauer stated that when they made the decision to hold the dinner this year, they thought there was a light at the end of the tunnel with COVID.

11:03 AM With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda D. Lauer
Vice-Chair

Grafton County Registry of Deeds
Kelley J. Monahan Register
Report to Commissioners
October 12, 2021

September Revenue

County Revenue 9/2009	\$ 79,523.88	State Revenue 9/2009	\$ 443,381.76
County Revenue 9/2010	\$ 91,360.22	State Revenue 9/2010	\$ 509,792.64
County Revenue 9/2011	\$ 68,850.10	State Revenue 9/2011	\$ 566,395.12
County Revenue 9/2012	\$ 80,461.98	State Revenue 9/2012	\$ 530,544.96
County Revenue 9/2013	\$ 87,560.35	State Revenue 9/2013	\$ 719,801.28
County Revenue 9/2014	\$ 79,919.81	State Revenue 9/2014	\$ 696,111.36
County Revenue 9/2015	\$ 84,231.51	State Revenue 9/2015	\$ 671,610.24
County Revenue 9/2016	\$ 91,677.13	State Revenue 9/2016	\$ 743,402.28
County Revenue 9/2017	\$ 89,844.07	State Revenue 9/2017	\$ 769,602.24
County Revenue 9/2018	\$ 87,259.79	State Revenue 9/2018	\$ 929,124.48
County Revenue 9/2019	\$ 93,182.00	State Revenue 9/2019	\$ 988,372.80
County Revenue 9/2020	\$142,038.55	State Revenue 9/2020	\$1,644,360.32
County Revenue 9/2021	\$144,460.11	State Revenue 9/2021	\$1,287,071.04

Foreclosures

2009 133 year to date
2010 167 year to date
2011 170 year to date
2012 144 year to date
2013 119 year to date
2014 117 year to date
2015 81 year to date
2016 88 year to date
2017 60 year to date
2018 37 year to date
2019 58 year to date (+280 in one day time share foreclosures)
2020 0 year to date
2021 1 year to date

1. I have attached my memo requesting a motion to accept a bid over \$5,000 to complete the historic record repackaging and storage project.
2. I have signed, without approval, the US Imaging Contract for \$150,000.00 which will facilitate a rapid and professional scanning of our indices and historic books which have yet to be digitized. This will protect public health, public employee health and improve our infrastructure. The Board of Commissioners unanimously approved and recommended this proposal at their meeting on September 15, 2021. As you are aware, the Executive Committee skipped over the two proposals that I presented, which were on the agenda on September 20, 2021 and ended the meeting without addressing these pressing issues. I will be seeking back and future hazard pay bonuses for my team of four at the October 25, 2021 meeting. Will they be approving the ARAP request at that time for the scanning project or will this be funded by the tax payer?

3. In reviewing LSRs, I notice that there is not an effort to revisit the role of Register of Probate. There is a bill proposed to eliminate the position entirely. Having no real advocate for these records, I reached out to Deputy Secretary of State Dave Scanlon and State Archivist Brian Burford and suggested that the State of New Hampshire explore using ARPA funds to digitize the old probate records. Unfortunately, Brian Burford has retired, with no one to replace him, he is acting State Archivist. He acknowledged my email and said that we would talk soon. I planted the idea, I hope something comes of it. A great deal of information regarding the ownership of real property exists in the old probate records.
4. In effort to reduce conflict, we have gone back to taking appointments only for public access. This is of course met with hostility. This is becoming more of a problem every day. We have people from out of state blocking out days at a time, staying in nearby hotels strictly to do pleasure research. I have voiced my concerns with the public using the first floor restroom shared by other departments with the Grafton County Joint Loss Committee.
5. We are now seeing a wave of elderly citizens coming in to the office who lack access to internet or computer skills who are dealing with new neighbors who are causing conflict by restricting access or moving property lines. This is creating more conflict at the counter with my staff.
6. My proposed Zoom meeting on 10/6/21 with the NHLSA New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association, NH Planning Division/Senior Planners and NHRD New Hampshire Register of Deeds Association was a great success. We discussed mutual concerns, presented our positions on controversial subjects and made plans to seek legislative approval to form a study commission on integrating technological changes for the future. We plan to meet again in late January of 2022 for follow up.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelley J. Monahan
Register of Deeds

Grafton County Nursing Home Commissioner's Report: October 12, 2021

Census

Medicare: 2
Medicaid: 78
VA: 2
Hospice: 0
Private: 23
Total: 105

FY '22 Budgeted Census:

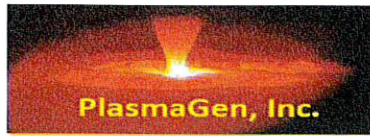
Medicare: 3
Medicaid: 89 (Daily rate= \$212.62)
VA: 1
Hospice: 0
Private: 22
Budgeted Census: 114

Monthly Admissions/Discharges

Admissions: 1
Deceased Residents: 2
Discharges: 0

Other Topics:

- 1) Recertification Survey
- 2) COVID-19 Update:
 - CMS Mandatory Vaccination
 - October 26 Pfizer Booster Shot Clinic



Company description: PlasmaGen, a Hawthorne subsidiary, is a firm dedicated to providing continuous supply of energy via Plasma Pyrolysis. The raw materials used are different types of waste materials--- solid waste, food waste, liquid waste, medical waste, other types of municipal wastes. One of the key distinguishing features of PlasmaGen is that the different kinds of wastes need not be sorted and separated. They all can be fed into the plasma furnace without having the need to separate them. A high efficiency plasma arc at 6000 degrees centigrade converts the waste into the following products:

- a. syngas
- b. steam
- c. water
- d. metals
- e. crude waste material

All the above are revenue-producing components. Syngas, and steam are used for energy generation by using a gas turbine, and a steam turbine.

Product Description: We offer continuous energy at an affordable price. We also help the environment since landfills are becoming more expensive all around the world, and our use of the raw material of different kinds of waste addresses the land scarcity issue. Additionally, ground water contamination from the landfills is a serious problem in many areas of the world.

Staff Description: Founding Members: Dr. Ganesan (Vish) Visvabharathy, B.S.E.E, MBA, PhD. Dr. Vish is also the President of Solar Micronics, Inc, a solar firm focused on commercial solar installations. In PlasmaGen, he is in charge of the commercial/business side of the enterprise.

Dr. Kumar Sundaram is a material scientist, focused on technology improvement and use of proper materials for generating a high efficiency plasma arc.

Other core team members include an environmental engineer, a mechanical engineer, and a plasma furnace operator with years of Russian plasma experience. All the team members hold a Ph. D. degree in their field of expertise.

Our secret sauce: Continuous cost reduction in the area of the different materials used in the system, such as the chamber thickness, plasma arc material, higher temperature of the arc at a lower cost.

Competitors: None that we know of, but the use of plasma pyrolysis at a high cost is prevalent. We know of two firms, one Canadian, and one Russian. Their cost per MW is known to be \$8 m, whereas we are targeting a figure of \$1-2 m per MW. At this price, plasma pyrolysis competes favorably with solar, and wind power.



Strategic partners: Currently, in talks with one of the the nation's largest waste handling firms for raw material supply on a continuous basis.

Environmental benefits: Land is a premium commodity, and so the cost of the landfills is increasing phenomenally. Also, the landfills contribute to ground water contamination in many areas, thereby resulting in long term illnesses. In the present covid environment, the cost of disposal of medical waste has skyrocketed, not to mention the huge quantities of such waste. We believe our technology results in huge environmental benefits.

For information: Contact Dr. Vish at 630 842 8658