

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
Administration Building  
North Haverhill, NH 03774  
February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheriff Stiegler, Farm Manager Nelson

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

**Sheriff Stiegler arrived and gave the following report: (\* see attached)**

1. Sheriff Stiegler stated that changes to RSA 104:31, Fees of Sheriffs and Sheriff Deputies, took effect July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, and the upcoming budget will be the first time for the County Delegation to vote on an annual increase of fees. He stated that all of the Sheriffs are looking to go in unison to their respective Delegations to make this request, which is a 1% increase in fee; for Grafton County it amounts to roughly \$900 in additional revenue. He further discussed the request with the Commissioners. The Commissioners agreed to write a joint letter with the Sheriff requesting this action from the Delegation. CA Libby recommended presenting this to the Executive Committee at their March meeting for their vote and then it can be included in the budget to be approved by the Delegation.

2. Sheriff Stiegler stated that he is requesting a bid waiver for the purchase of the Axon in-car cameras, body cameras, Tasers and software program for a five-year operational service agreement. He explained that they are switching vendors and services from WatchGuard/Motorola to Axon due to the inability to negotiate terms and conditions with Motorola. He stated that Axon is an exclusive vendor for the products they are looking for.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lauer moved to sole source the purchase of the in car cameras and body cameras to Axon using ARPA funds for \$274,315.07. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

3. Sheriff Stiegler explained that the company that has been used for years for the Mobile Data Terminals is compatible with the Axon equipment and is frequently used together. They have provided a quote of \$67,403.15 to equip the cruisers with new MDTs that are compatible with the Axon in-car cameras. He stated that they would be abolishing the small screens that they currently have in each car and that they will now be on the MDT. Sheriff Stiegler explained that because this is the company that is connected with Axon, this is the most appropriate way to proceed so the equipment will work together.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lauer moved to waive the bidding process and purchase the MDTs through Glacier Computer for \$37,403.15 with the use of ARPA funds. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CA Libby submitted the Forest Service contract for the Sheriff's Department that provides patrol in the White Mountain National Forest from Memorial Day through Columbus Day for Commissioner Piper to sign.

**MOTION:** \* 9:25 AM Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with anybody or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph according to RSA 91-A: 3, II (e) Commissioner Lauer seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote. Commissioner Piper called the roll. Commissioner Lauer "yes"; Commissioner Ahern "yes" Commissioner Piper "yes" Commissioner Piper stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

\* 9:41 AM Commissioner Piper declared the meeting back in public session.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lauer 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 Ahern seconded the motion. Commissioner Piper called the roll. Commissioner Lauer "yes" Commissioner Ahern "yes" Commissioner Piper "yes". Commissioner Piper stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and the motion passes.

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Commissioner Piper asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Commissioner Lauer had a couple of grammatical edits.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lauer moved to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2. The Commissioners signed check registers 1118-122; 2022-02.04.22.

3. The Commissioners opened bids for the sale of one (1) 2018 Police Interceptor Utility. Eight (8) bids were received as follows:

Bayridge Motors - \$ 10,855.00  
Richard Woolsey - \$6,700.00  
Jason Fullerton \$ 5,000.00  
Tracy Claus - \$ 8,756.00  
Asia Motors - \$ 9,809  
Ruth Hook - \$4,759.00

Ruth Hook - \$ 5,759.00  
Robert Rowley - \$5,689.00

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lauer moved to accept Bay Ridge Motor's bid of \$10,855.00. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**FM Nelson arrived and gave the following report: (\*see attached)**

FM Nelson reported there are several issues as to why potato sales are not high right now. He stated that there have been complaints that the potatoes are not washed. He also explained that the outlets that they have relied on in the past are not taking any potatoes right now, as well as the fact that he feels that this is a seasonal market and they are in an off-season right now.

FM Nelson answered further questions from the Commissioners.

**Agenda Items:**

1. CA Libby submitted an Authorization to Submit Claims form for the Mid-State Health CDBG for the Commissioners to sign.
2. Broadband Committee Appointment – CA Libby stated that Mike Samson, Canaan Town Administrator, is going to be retiring and would like to be removed from the Broadband Committee. She stated that the Broadband Committee has asked that the Commissioners appoint Warren Town Administrator Austin Albro to the committee.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lauer moved to appoint Austin Albro, Warren Town Administrator, to the Broadband Committee. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Commissioner Ahern stated that Selectman Andrew Lassar from Wentworth is pushing to not have the County Broadband Committee do anything in the Town of Wentworth. The town has had two (2) public hearings on broadband. NH Electric Coop was in attendance as well as representatives from Consolidated Communication. He stated that he has ask N. Coates from the Grafton County Broadband Committee what would happen if Wentworth went with NH Electric Coop or Consolidated Communications, how will that affect what is going on with the rest of the Grafton County broadband project. CA Libby stated that she believes that would not affect the rest of the project and explained that the fiber runs through the lines, which the Town of Wentworth does not own. The middle mile project is set up to be wired into each municipal building in every town and she would assume the wires run through the poles but they do not need to run into the Wentworth Town Hall

3. CA Libby stated that she would be meeting with the third party vendor that Kevin Low from SNS suggested to discuss the USAC grant.
4. ARPA Requests – CA Libby stated she had thought about presenting the next round of ARPA requests in May, but a department head had inquired about funding they would request through

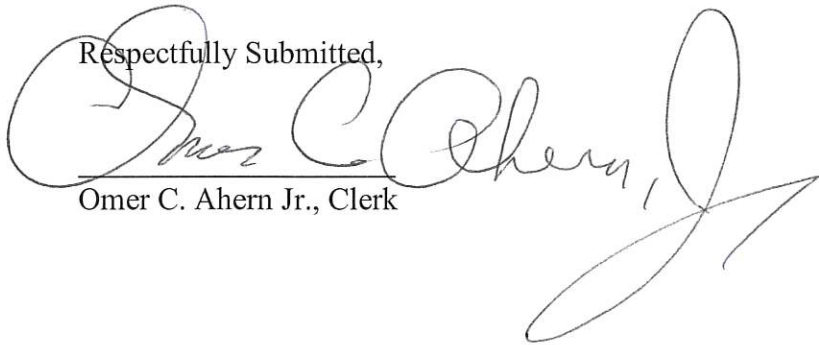
ARPA instead of the FY 23 budget and this made CA Libby think that perhaps we should do the third round in March so if a request is denied, department heads would have time to put it in their FY23 budget. She asked the Commissioners what they would like to do. Commissioner Ahern stated that the department heads need to differentiate between needs, wants and desires. CA Libby noted that her concern is that they do not use ARPA funds for normal operating expenses and use it for one-time expenses that are not reoccurring. This will prevent large fluctuations in the budget from year to year. She also stated that the BOC needs to keep in mind that they do not know the price tag on the wage study and how they are going to implement it. They may be looking to use ARPA funds to offset some increase in funding for wages and build it into the budget over the course of a few years. She stated that she would open up ARPA requests and have them due by February 28<sup>th</sup> and the Commissioners may need to schedule an extra meeting to discuss. She would state that requests are to be for onetime expenses to offset the FY23 budget.

Commissioner Ahern asked for an update on the Courthouse project. CA Libby stated that she believes her and Supt. Oakes are going to be putting together an ARPA request to present to the Commissioners for the engineering and design portion of the project. She is still waiting for a response from the courts as to whether they will be giving the county a long-term commitment for renting.

5. CA Libby reminded the Commissioners of next week's Annual Report Dedication and noted that Glenn Libby will be giving a FarmDoc presentation as well.

10:55 AM With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Omer C. Ahern Jr.", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Omer C. Ahern Jr., Clerk

## February 2022 Farm Report

1. We are currently milking 80 cows averaging 76 pounds per cow. Milk components are holding steady at 4.20% butter fat and 3.24% protein. 11,900 pounds of milk are being shipped every other day. Grafton County Farm received \$22.48 per hundred weight for January milk.
2. One inmate is available for farm staff supervision and one inmate for Sergeant Griffin.
3. The veterinarian will be pregnancy checking 5 sows the boar has serviced. There are 4 other sows with the boar now. A young boar was recently purchased.
4. The FarmDOC plan is moving forward. 2 cull cows from the County Farm were processed by Northeast Kingdom Processing. The DOC received 1,322 pounds of meat. The next scheduled processing date is April 27th for 2 cows.
5. Potato sales are improving. Big Papa's in Littleton are selling Grafton County potatoes. The New Hampshire Food Bank has plenty of potatoes.
6. The plan for operating the Farm Stand for the 2022 season will very similar to last year. The focus will be sweet corn, pumpkins, winter squash, and potatoes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grant Nelson

Farm Manager



# Grafton County Sheriff's Department

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Jeffrey F. Stiegler  
Sheriff

"In Service to Our County and State"

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## January 2022

- Prisoner Transports: 33
- CSO movements from the jail to Court: 8
- Involuntary Emergency Admissions (IEA) 12
- Arrest:s 35
  - Arrest on a warrant, superior or civil, instate wanted, and on sight arrest (people who we send to court)
- Civil: Total
  - 65 Abode
  - 58 In Hand
  - 12 Non est
    - 0 Registry Of Deeds
    - 3 Cancelled
- Motor Vehicle Stops..... 14
- Total # of Active Warrants.....
 

Criminal =	388
Civil =	26
<b>Total =</b>	<b>414</b>
- Total Miles Driven: 20,332

**Grafton County Sheriff's Department  
Investigative Services Division Activity**



**January 2022**

In addition to pre-existing cases and investigations the Grafton County Investigative and Computer Forensic Units had the following activity for the month of January 2022.

- 1 Bail Jumping HOC
- 1 Background Investigation
- No Grand Jury Proceedings
- 3 ICAC Cyber Tips Received
- 2 Child Exploitation Search Warrants – ICAC Operations and Interviews  
Possession / Distribution / Manufacture of CSAI
- 1 Arrest for Possession of CSAI (Subsequent Offense)
- 6 Investigative Search Warrants
- 1 AG Summons requested
- 10 Technical Assists
- 1 Polygraph in Criminal Case
- 11 Technical Assists
- 1 Detective – 1 week training Introduction to Skimmer Hunter Forensics
- 8 Investigations or Assists with electronics or storage medium delivered or taken into the Computer Forensic Unit (CFU).
  - Cell Phones: 7
  - Tablet: 2
  - Laptop: 1
  - Game systems: 2