

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' BUDGET MEETING

3855 Dartmouth College Hwy

North Haverhill, NH 03774

March 20th, 2014

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael Cryans and Linda Lauer, Executive Director Julie Clough and Admin Assistant S. Norcross.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Richards

Farm

Farm Manager Donnie Kimball arrived to present his budget requests for fiscal year 2015.

Revenue

FM Kimball stated that he is estimating that they will produce two (2) million pounds of milk at a price of \$21.00 per hundred weight. He stated the sale of milk will remain up in price for a while unless something drastic happens.

The produce to the Nursing Home is at zero (0) and he stated what they will do is monitor what goes to the Nursing Home like they do the jail.

The sale of produce from the farm stand is set at \$65,000. He stated last year they would have surpassed that number but lost a lot of potatoes. FM Kimball feels comfortable that they will reach that number again this year.

Commissioner Lauer stated that the misc. farm revenue six (6) month figure is below what the projected amount was. FM Kimball stated that they have not sold as much hay this year as they normally have but he feels comfortable that this year they will reach his budgeted \$8,000.

Expense

FM Kimball stated that his health insurance line increased \$20,000 due to him adding one of his employees on the plan.

He stated that his budget has remained about the same. It is up roughly \$30,000 and \$20,000 of it is health insurance

Capital Outlay

FM Kimball stated that he has put in to replace his International tractor, it was built in 1978. He stated to replace it brand new would cost about \$135,000 but he will be looking to purchase a used tractor built in 2005 or newer and has budgeted \$50,000 for that.

FM Kimball stated that he is looking to pave one of his trench silos and this is the last of his three (3) that will need to be done. He stated he received a quote from Blacktop for \$9,000-\$10,000 to pave the floor in the silo. Paving the silos will prevent corrosion that is currently happening with the cement that is there.

The feed cart that they currently have is from 2004 and is in need of replacing.

The Farm does not have the means to haul the animals to shows so he has put in for a cattle trailer that will cost \$4,500.

Department of Corrections

Supt. Glenn Libby and SIT Tom Elliott arrived to present the budgets for the Department of Corrections and associated programs.

Expense

SIT Elliott stated that the Superintendent line is down significantly due to Supt. Libby retiring during fiscal year 2015. Under the correctional personnel SIT Elliott stated that there is an increase due to merit increases and SIT Elliott's salary is under that line while Supt. Libby is still here.

They have budgeted for overtime in the Medical Personnel line due to some unforeseen circumstances where nursing staff has not always been able to leave at the end of their scheduled shifts.

The health insurance line has increased due to the 11.9% increase.

SIT Elliott stated that there is a 2.4% increase in their FY15 budget.

He stated the cost for meals has decreased from \$1.99 to \$1.89 due to them processing the produce that they receive from the farm stand more efficiently.

ED Clough stated that under their meals line they have budgeted for kitchen equipment. She asked if they have ever considered making a new line item for equipment. Supt. Libby stated that they track their meals separately and while kitchen equipment may seem like a large line item it mainly consumables or small items needed to prepare the meals.

SIT Elliott stated that under the Community Corrections budget there are no significant changes other than the health insurance line. They have added a few people who have family plans who didn't have them before.

Commissioner Lauer asked under the strategic monitoring line why there is only \$1 budgeted for FY15 but the six (6) month figures state they have spent \$1,396.76. SIT Elliott stated that is the company that provides them the bracelets and home monitoring equipment for inmates who are released into the electronic monitoring program. That expense is offset by a revenue line item; they charge the inmates \$10.00 a day to be out on the bracelet and are only charged \$3.50 a day from the company which gives them \$6.50 a day in revenue per inmate. When they get the revenue they post the portion that the County is charged back against the expense line and the balance goes against the revenue line.

SIT Elliott stated that the Governors Commission Grant will be funded just like it was in FY14. There is only a \$304.00 increase this year. Bill O'Malley, who was the previous substance abuse counselor at the jail has returned part time and will replace the work that the Jail had contracted with Headrest previously to provide. He is a part time counselor and his salary has been included in the salary line.

Commissioner Cryans stated that under the RSAT grant they have spent \$8500.00 in the first six (6) months but only budgeted for \$10,000. SIT Elliott stated that there have been indications that they are going to give them another \$4,000. They have not received it yet but they will be slowing down their counselor to insure she does not go over the budgeted amount.

Revenue

SIT Elliott stated that for next year they have renegotiated the contract with Coos County to house their females. They have increased from \$40 a day to \$50 a day. The inmate phone lines have increased as well.

Capital Outlay

SIT Elliott stated that they are in need of a new cruiser. They have not requested a new cruiser in three (3) years. He stated that \$27,000 will get them a new cruiser with the radio and security set up.

Human Services

Human Service Administrator Nancy Bishop arrived to present her fiscal year 2015 requests.

HSA Bishop stated that the largest increase in her budget is due to the statutory payments that are made to the State of NH for long term care. Director Clough asked how HSA Bishop determined what her CAP would be for FY15. HSA Bishop stated that she wasn't able to get the total Medicaid billings to date from Health and Human Services. She can't figure out the CAP based on the current formula because she doesn't know what our percentage is of the whole.

She stated that she looked at the last couple of years and the statutory CAP does go up to 112,500,000 which is the gross cap. This year's is \$109,000,000. She stated that they have the

standard \$5 million credit which brings our net CAP down to \$107,500,000 for all ten (10) Counties. The net percentages that Grafton has had over the last several years has started to decline some but since she does not know where we stand this year she did not want to increase or decrease it and left it the same basic percentage of the overall gross percentage.

HSA Bishop added the Education & Conference line this year for \$500 because she was using her travel expense line to cover everything.

The Human Service budget is up \$289,441 or 4.28%. HSA Bishop reminded the Board that 98.39% of her budget is mandated expenses.

UNH Cooperative Extension

County Office Administrator Deb Maes & Dave Falkenham arrived to present their budget requests for fiscal year 2015.

COA Maes stated that Dave Falkenham will take over as the new COA once she retires.

The majority of increases in the expense lines are for the Administrative Assistants. Step increases have been included but not the COLA because one has not been set yet.

There was a substantial increase in the health insurance line as well.

In the Professional Staff Salary line has a 1.5% increase and they are asking all Counties to increase the Professional Staff salary line. This includes 25% of the four (4) educators in the office, all their benefits and covers 75% of another employees cost.

D. Maes stated that the telephone line has decreased due to the new phone systems not costing as much. She did not lower it by too much to make sure they have enough to cover the bills.

The rental fees for the copier used to be under the capital budget but have now been moved to the Extension Operations budget.

Treasurer

Treasurer Bonnie Parker arrived to present her budget requests for fiscal year 2015.

Treasurer Parker stated that the budget has increased very little in FY15.

Bank Service charges have increased slightly and Treasurer Parker stated she has no control over that.

Commissioner Cryans asked if the \$125 in the Education and Conference line would be enough. Treasurer Parker stated that she doesn't know of anything that is coming up that she would attend. She put the \$125 in the budget just in case something comes up.

10:43AM- With no further business the meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Linda D. Lauer, Clerk