## GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING Administration Building North Haverhill, NH 03774 September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

PRESENT: Commissioners McLeod, Piper, Hedberg, County Administrator Julie Libby, and Assistant County Administrator Elsholz.

OTHERS: Rep. Bjelobrk, Nick De Mayo – via Teams, Janice Novak – via Teams, David Tomaso – via Teams.

The Commissioners visited the Grafton County Farm and Pumpkin Patch with the students from Woodsville Elementary School at 9:00 AM

Commissioner McLeod called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

## **Agenda Items:**

1. Commissioner McLeod asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the September 22<sup>nd</sup> Informational meeting and the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Commissioners' meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Piper moved to approve the minutes from the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting as written. Commissioner Hedberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Piper moved to approve the minutes from the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting as written. Commissioner Hedberg seconded the motion. All were in favor

- 2. The Commissioners signed check registers 1038-1043 and 2025-09.26.2025.
- 3. CA Libby gave Commissioner McLeod the following CDFA documents for signature:
  - i. Authorization to Submit Claims
  - ii. BEDC Micro 2023 \$1,141.58
  - iii. BEDC Micro 2025/2026 \$17,348.84
  - iv. CEDC Micro 2025/2026 \$20,150
- 4. CA Libby reported that following last week's meeting request regarding Administration Building parking, a count was completed of parking spaces. The Administration Building currently has ninety-seven (97) parking spaces, which include four (4) ADA parking spots. Section 208 Parking Spaces of the ADA requires that 76-100 spots must have four (4) accessible parking spaces, which is the number of spots that the Administration Building has. We are required to keep all four (4).
- 5. The Commissioners opened bids on the 2015 Ford Taurus. There were three (3) bids received as follows:

Yousef Dabbagh, Island Lake, IL - \$1,080.00 Ringwood Motors, Ringwood, IL - \$1,280.00 David Tomaso, Lincoln, NH - \$1,955.00

**MOTION:** Commissioner Piper moved to accept the bid from David Tomaso of Lincoln, NH, for \$1,955.00 for the 2015 Ford Taurus. Commissioner Hedberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

CA Libby stated that during last week's Executive Committee meeting, Representative Bjelobrk requested that delegation members be allowed to turn their cameras on during Commissioner meetings. CA Libby said that disabling cameras is part of the Virtual Meeting policy that Director Tetreault had written. She said that she would forward that to the Commissioners, and they can review and discuss it at their next meeting. Commissioner Hedberg asked when they would be meeting again with Director Tetreault, and CA Libby stated that it would be on October 14<sup>th</sup>. They will discuss the policy at that meeting. They will also review the policy of having people turn their camera on to make a public comment.

CA Libby said that because she was not at last week's meeting when the Register of Deeds met with the Board, she has a statement to make for the record regarding information that was presented that she feels is inaccurate. CA Libby explained that her department has always received the monthly revenue report from the Deeds office. The purpose of her office receiving this report is for accounting purposes. It goes with the checks. Only one (1) copy of the report comes up attached to the monthly checks. All checks received in the Commissioners' Office are sent to her, so she does see it, but the entire packet goes to finance for deposit and processing. The accusation made last week that CA Libby receives the report and doesn't share it with the Commissioners is false and inaccurate. To the best of her recollection, she has not been asked to make copies and give reports to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Piper stated that it is compromising county operations when communication is not clear. She said it appears that there was no request from Register Monahan to change the purpose of the report or that she wanted CA Libby to share the report. It is unfortunate to broadcast that in a public meeting, portraying CA Libby as incompetent and holding her accountable for something that wasn't asked of her. Commissioner Piper said that the security of the Register of Deeds office has been discussed many times in open meetings by the Register, and last week, Commissioner Piper misspoke and wanted to apologize for that. She wishes that we could remain constructive and not be professionally attacking people. Commissioner Piper stated that we do need to correct the record when inaccurate statements are made.

## Commissioners' Issues

- 1. Commissioner Piper read the following letter (see attached) from Wren Wahrenberger, who is a constituent from Hanover.
- 2. Commissioner Hedberg stated that she attended the Grafton Regional Development Open House in Plymouth last week. It was very lovely and there was an excellent turnout. She also stated that she had contacted the NH Charitable Foundation regarding funding opportunities for

the proposed EMS District. They did not have any direct help, but did give Commissioner Hedberg some areas to look into.

3. Commissioner McLeod discussed the Rural Healthcare Transitional funding. NH will receive at least \$100 million/year for the next five (5) years. NH DHHS is putting this together, and they are looking for shovel-ready projects. Funding will be available in January 2026. It could also be up to \$200 million/year. She stated this is a huge amount of money for rural parts of our state. Whitney Hammond from DHHS is coordinating this. Commissioner McLeod encouraged her to reach out to Kate Horgan from the NHAC to get ideas from the counties.

## **Public Comment:**

N. De Mayo asked how much the principal, interest, and interest rate are for the courthouse project. CA Libby stated that she would send him that information. He stated that he still hadn't received the information that he had asked to be mailed to him. CA Libby said that information was mailed out last Wednesday.

Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a)

**MOTION:** \* 10:30 AM Commissioner Hedberg moved to enter into a non-public session for the purpose of the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. according to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a). Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote. Commissioner McLeod called the roll. Commissioner Piper said, "Yes", Commissioner Hedberg said, "Yes," and Commissioner McLeod said, "Yes." Commissioner McLeod stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

\* 11:05 AM Commissioner McLeod declared the meeting back in public session.

11:05 AM With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Wood Hedberg, Clerk

From: Wren Wahrenberger < wrenwahrenberger@gmail.com >

To: Commissioner Wendy Piper

Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 2:07 AM EDT

Subject: Your Voice & Leadership Is Needed on Nuclear Weapons

Dear Commissioner Wendy A. Piper,

Today the threat of nuclear war is real and rising. The war between nuclear-armed Israel and Iran heightens nuclear dangers in the Middle East. In May, India and Pakistan, both nuclear powers, waged a cross-border war once again. Russia has repeatedly threatened to use nuclear weapons against Ukraine.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration is planning to spend nearly \$1 trillion over the next 10 years on nuclear weapons. That's an unconscionable amount of our tax dollars being wasted on instruments of death and destruction that don't make us safe — and rob communities of the tax dollars needed to address hunger and poverty, affordable housing, underfunded infrastructure, substance abuse and so many other urgent needs.

As a local or state elected official, your voice and leadership matter. There's a simple way you can help – and join other officials from around the country.

SIGN BACK FROM THE BRINK'S LOCAL/STATE OFFICIALS LETTER URGING SUPPORT OF H. RES. 317 AND S. RES. 323 HERE: https://preventnuclearwar.org/local-state-congressional-resolutions-letter/

These resolutions lay out bold steps for the United States to lead the world toward disarmament and adopt common sense policies that will help prevent nuclear war. They articulate a truly comprehensive nuclear disarmament framework — one that addresses the past and current harm caused by nuclear weapons, and the need to care for and provide a just economic transition for the people and communities whose livelihoods depend on nuclear weapons.

We need strong congressional leadership on this issue, and H. Res. 317 and S. Res. 323 are key vehicles to help cultivate it and galvanize public demand for change.

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The Back from the Brink campaign plans to deliver this letter to every member of Congress this Fall. You can learn more about the campaign here https://preventnuclearwar.org/.

Our lives, our communities, our very future are at risk. Please join us today in speaking out.

Sincerely, Wren Wahrenberger 4 Spencer Rd Hanover, NH 03755-2306