

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
County Hall Building
Stillman Rogers Conference Room
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

Present: Commissioners: Charles Weed, John Wozmak and Robert Englund

Staff: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, HR Director May, Sheriff Rivera, Dispatch Director Crowell, Grants Manager Bansley, Register of Deeds Tilton, and Assistant County Administrator Bouchard

Guest(s):

At 8:30AM The Chairman opened the meeting and recognized Suzanne Bansley who presented Master Agenda Item #693: Community Health Improvement Plan Workgroup Subcontract for Monadnock Voices for Prevention and Greater Monadnock Medical Reserve Corps.

Bansley began by asking the Commissioners to vote to accept a \$26,400.00 grant from Cheshire Medical Center for Community Health Improvement Plan implementation activities. Monadnock Voices for Prevention will receive \$13,000.00 for direct expenditures to (1) Launch campaign to promote healthy gatherings/activities; (2) Print incentives to promote harm reduction for young adults; (3) Develop an ordinance that prohibits the use of alcohol on city owned property; and (4) Provide safe server trainings. The Greater Monadnock Medical Reserve Corps will receive \$11,000.00 for direct expenditures to (1) Provide emergency preparedness training and exercise opportunities for emergency personnel; (2) Provide family emergency preparedness trainings to citizens; and (3) Launch campaign to promote preparedness to weather related emergencies specific to the area. The County will receive \$2,400.00 for indirect costs related to managing this grant.

Following a question by Commissioner Weed, Commissioner Englund moved to accept the grant as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously. (2-0).

Administrator Coates was then recognized for the Weekly Operations report.

Coates said that some senior staff will be out of the office for the July 4th long weekend, and he inquired if the Commissioner wish to cancel the July 3rd Commissioners meeting. The Commissioners were amenable to the idea as there are not any items of note scheduled for the meeting on the 3rd.

Following discussion, Commissioner Englund moved to cancel the Commissioners meeting for July 3rd and was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon vote the motion passed with two (2) Yea's. Bouchard will send out the cancellation notification.

Coates then said that the former Director of the Region 1 Integrated Delivery Network (IDN), Ann Landry was contacted and she has arranged for Department of Health and Human Services, (DHHS) Commissioner Myers to attend the July 24th Commissioners meeting to provide an overview of the future direction of DHHS. Coates will invite other Region 1 County Administrators to attend the meeting.

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
County Hall Building
Stillman Rogers Conference Room
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

Coates then said that the Wall Dogs event that took place here last weekend was a great success. He said that over \$10,000 was raised during the Art Auction and that the event went very smoothly with about 250 people attending the events held at the Old Courthouse.

Master Agenda Item: #688: Funding for Dispatch Software Upgrade - Sheriff Rivera
Action Expected: To review and discuss the request for the Dispatch Software Upgrade request.

Rivera said that they have discussed the upgrade costs with IT and that the only costs that could be identified are \$16,957 for the upgrade of the Motorola System radio system software. Coates said there is a Keene campus contingency fund of \$50,000 however \$40,000 has already been allocated to the upgrade of the 33 West Street parking lot rebuilding and repaving project. An extended discussion of possible funding sources was reviewed and options for proceeding were covered.

At 8:59AM Commissioner Wozmak joined the meeting.

Master Agenda Item: #687: Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) / Forensic Lab Funding - Sheriff Rivera - To review and discuss the funding of the ICAC/Forensic Lab.

Rivera the discussed options for being able to fund the movement of the lab position from a .6 FTE to a full-time position. He said that after investigating the issue with finance, the only way to put the position into play this year would be amend the budget in August to increase the budget line to reflect the 30% share of the benefit overhead.

Rivera said that in addition to the possible funding options, he is requesting that the lab position be eligible to be admitted to the insurance program within 30 days instead of the standard 90 waiting period. A review of the history of the use of the insurance program began and a discussion of the how the waiting period is determined and how it is managed resulted.

Following an extended discussion of possible funding options and the request for the shorting of the time for insurance eligibility, it was determined that further review with the Administrator and Finance will be needed to determine the best way to move forward.

Rivera then said that the town of Richmond patrol will be beginning July 1st. The Sheriff has purchased some of the Police equipment from the town and will be crediting the town \$900 a month for 36 months.

At 9:43AM Commissioner Englund moved to enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) 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 public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted and was seconded by Commissioner Wozmak. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of deliberations in non-public session a decision was made and a unanimous (3-0) vote was taken to terminate the employment of S. G. effective July 6, 2019.

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
County Hall Building
Stillman Rogers Conference Room
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

At 10:00AM the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to public session.

At 10:01AM Commissioner Englund moved to enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) 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 public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted and was seconded by Commissioner Wozmak. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of deliberations in non-public session a decision was made and a unanimous (3-0) vote was taken to terminate the employment of C. B. effective July 6, 2019.

At 10:26AM the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to public session.

Master Agenda Item #692: County Attorney McLaughlin - NH RSA 28:10a and RSA 91: A - Policy Review

County Attorney McLaughlin was then recognized to review with the Commissioners the current policy for determining the proper courses of action for employee disciplinary actions as defined by RSA's 28:10-a and 9-A.

Following extended discussion, it was determined that procedures for personnel grievances, suspensions and termination should be reviewed for clarity and fairness and then updated in the Employee Handbook.

The County Administrator's report then continued...

Coates said that he met with the Restorative Justice staff yesterday and they will work with the grants manager to begin to explore possible grant funding to grow and expand the nascent program.

Coates remarked that the Rural Development Alliance (RDA) group will meet in the next few weeks to discuss economic workforce development issues. He said that it has been learned that the \$9M allocated to Keene State College has been removed from the State budget and other sources of funding will be need to be investigated.

He then said that on July 24th the Cheshire at Home program that is part of the Keene Senior Center will present an overview of their program at the Commissioners meeting.

Coates said that the letter by the Commissioners on State Cost Shifting was published in the Keene Sentinel in the Op Ed section yesterday. A discussion of the reason for the letter and reaction in the community to raising the issues was covered in detail.

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
County Hall Building
Stillman Rogers Conference Room
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

Coates then said that at 4:00PM today Eversource will be presenting their battery storage proposal at the Westmoreland school and he will attend to provide perspective on the County interest and support of the project.

Coates said that HR has been very busy in the past few weeks and that nine (9) new hires are starting this week and seven (7) new hires next week and HR Director May added that five (5) new employees will be entering the next LNA program training program.

Coates then discussed that he would be meeting with Finance Director Trombly to review the request from the Department of Corrections last week for modifying the compensation structure for critical staffing positions needed for all County facilities.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The Weekly Census was then reviewed and the report was accepted as informational.

The Weekly Manifest was then reviewed, and Commissioner Wozmak moved to accept the Manifest as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Weed, upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of June 12, 2019 were then reviewed and Commissioner Weed moved to accept the minutes as amended and was seconded by Commissioner Englund. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The calendar was then reviewed and no changes were noted.

General Discussion: Cost shifting letter

At 11:57AM there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Englund moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Commissioner Wozmak and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Englund, Clerk