

**MINUTES**  
**Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 22, 2020**  
**County Hall Building**  
**Stillman Rogers Conference Room**  
**12 Court Street**  
**Keene, NH 03431**

**Present:** Commissioners: Charles Weed, Robert Englund and Jack Wozmak

**Staff:** County Administrator Coates, Director of Finance Trombly, Dennis Calcutt, System of Care Project Director, and Assistant County Administrator Bouchard.

**Guests:** Keene City Counsellor Randy Filiault, Dr. Jim Fauth, Director, Center for Behavioral Health Innovation, Associate Chair, Clinical Psychology, Antioch University New England

At 8:32AM Commissioner Wozmak opened the meeting and recognized Administrator Coates for the Weekly Operations Report.

Coates said that Carroll County has terminated both the County Administrator and the Department of Corrections Superintendent.

He reminded the Commissioners that Southwest Regional Planning will be holding an intermodal transportation meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> at Keene State College.

Coates said that the Region #1 Integrated Delivery Network (IDN #1) council meeting will held on March 12<sup>th</sup> 8:00am — 12:00pm at the Common Man restaurant in Claremont, NH. He said that he will attend as he has done previously.

He then said that the Cheshire Medical Center Annual legislative breakfast will be held on January 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:30AM — 9:30AM and encouraged the Commissioner to be at the meeting if their schedules allow.

Coates then discussed that the first Monday in April (6<sup>th</sup>) has been tentatively earmarked as the day to hold the County Select Board council meeting that is being planned. A discussion of the content for the meeting was covered and the way to provide the towns with the information that they need to understand how the towns and county need to work together to provide support services was discussed.

He said that Bouchard and he went to a meeting in Concord with an energy consulting company to discuss electrical aggregation. Another meeting is being sought with a second energy consulting firm and a meeting with Clean Energy NH is planned to be held in the near future.

Coates said that in discussion with Jenna Carroll of the Cheshire County Historical Society he learned that she is looking for any information on African Americans that the County may have in their archives. A short discussion followed and it was explained that the County doesn't have archives in the traditional sense but some very limited information may be available in the early years Annual Reports of the County. However, these reports lack any substantive details and only inferences toward ethnicity might be found.

Coates then discussed the Cupola value engineering study that shows that approximately \$169K will need to be raised if full amount of the LCHIP grant is received and matched by County funds. He said there is more work to be accomplished but that he believes the overall number for

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completion of the project is now at about \$700K as the work identified to be completed for the slate roofing should be moved from the project budget to the operating budget under maintenance. He stated that the \$700K number is less than half of the original \$1.5M quote.

Coates said that he met with Superintendent Van Wickler last week and found out that the floor cleaning machine at the Department of Corrections has died and cannot be repaired. It will cost approximately \$6K to replace the unit. The Superintendent stated that he will purchase the machine from the inmate canteen fund if the Commissioners agree. A lengthy discussion concerning the history and use of the canteen fund ensued and the topic will be reviewed again by the Commissioners in the coming weeks.

At 9:40AM Dennis Calcutt, System of Care Project Director, and Dr. Jim Fauth of Keene State College joined the meeting to discuss Master Agenda Item #741: System of Care Semi-Annual Report.

Calcutt provided an overview of the program mentioning some of the various towns that have residents who are actively involved. He outlined that about 28 individuals and families are currently participating in various aspects of the program.

He said that the new expansion grant that is being sought from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) incorporates components that will foster closer work with the State, provide wraparound services for the population from 0-5 years of age, and enable prevention programs within the broader community. He said that the funding will enable the teams to work within more schools systems (Winchester, ConVal District high school, Franklin school in Keene, and the Cornish school). The final goal is strengthen in-home family care services.

Calcutt then spoke to the State of New Hampshire laws that instituted the first System of Care program care management services within the state and said that a second care management entity that will incorporate the western portion of the state and portions of Hillsborough County is being formed. He said that the expectation is that the current Cheshire County program will form the nucleus of the second care management team.

He explained in some detail how the program within the state is funded through Medicaid billing and discussed how the programs will reach sustainability by supplying billable services to its clients.

Calcutt said that an additional issue that will be able to be addressed under the expansion grant is that children in resident treatment can now be dealt with and the opportunity to reintegrate them into their home life and into the community will then exist because of the program expansion.

The following slides are from the handout that Calcutt and Fauth provided to the Commissioners.

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We are in our final year. Our focus is sustainability.

- ▶ Our process and evaluation continues to inform work. We will present at the national System of Care Training Institutes in July.
- ▶ Becoming a care management entity
- ▶ Applying for an Expansion Grant which is due on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Care Management Entity

- ▶ Establish a system of care approach and hub for coordinating care that is
  - ▶ Family driven and youth guided
  - ▶ Community Based
  - ▶ Culturally and Linguistically Competent
- ▶ Aligned with the Bureau for Children's Behavioral Health at Department of Health and Human Services
- ▶ Our work would expand to Sullivan County and lower Grafton County or western third of the state

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## Struggles and opportunities

- ▶ Reaching our next two goals
  - ▶ Expansion grant
  - ▶ Care management entity
- ▶ Our strategic communications will be critical
- ▶ We work with different organizational cultures
  - ▶ Collaboration is critical
  - ▶ Schools have distinct cultures
  - ▶ How do we get closer to being on the same plane?

## Success and sustainability

- ▶ This effort and not meant to replace existing services or supports
- ▶ Community Readiness Assessment has improved
- ▶ We have established ourselves as trusted partners in this work both regionally and statewide
- ▶ The system of care efforts in our region and across the state are beginning to mature

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At 10:35AM Commissioner Weed joined the meeting.

Calcutt and Fauth spoke to the program components and reviewed program result metrics for the past four years in great detail.

The Commissioners said that they were very impressed with program and its results and were very pleased with the presentation.

Old Business: None

New Business:

An extended discussion concerning the MAT program that is run at Department of Corrections across the state and specifically at the Cheshire Department of Corrections was then had. Also discussed was the use of Methadone, Vivitrol, and Soboxone for treating addiction and its impact on the local communities.

**The Consent Agenda Items which include the Weekly Manifests and the minutes of January 15, 2020 were then taken-up. Commissioner Englund to accept the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Wozmak. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

The Commissioners Calendar was then reviewed.

**At 11:30AM there being no further public business to discuss, Commissioner Englund moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Wozmak, and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Minutes recorded by:

R. Bouchard, Assistant County Administrator

Reviewed and submitted by:

R. Englund, Clerk