

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, January 06, 2021
County Hall Pursuant to Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04
This meeting will be conducted electronically.

Conference Call Information

Phone Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 6031233

Present: Commissioners: Jack Wozmak, Robert Englund and Terry Clark

Staff: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, IT Director Hummel, IT Supervisor Beckford, HR Director K. May, Department of Corrections Superintendent Iosue, and Assistant County Administrator Bouchard.

Guest(s):

At 8:30 AM, Commissioner Wozmak opened the meeting, and County Administrator Coates conducted a roll-call of the Commissioners attending the meeting. Commissioners Wozmak, Englund and Clark responded as "present."

Commissioner Wozmak then moved to conduct this meeting as an emergency meeting under the relevant provisions of NH RSA 91-A, and consistent with the recommendations contained in Executive Order 2020-04 Order 12 issued by Governor Sununu.

Commissioner Englund seconded the motion, and upon roll-call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04

Temporary modification of public access to meetings under RSA 91-A

Pursuant to Section 18 of Executive Order 2020-04, it is hereby ordered, effective immediately, that:

1. Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, paragraph 8 provides: "State and local government bodies are permitted and encouraged to utilize the emergency meeting provisions of RSA 91-A to conduct meetings through electronic means while preserving, to the extent feasible, the public's right to notice of such meetings and ability to observe and listen contemporaneously."

2. Pursuant to Emergency Order #2 issued pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, gatherings of fifty people or more are prohibited.

3. To implement these orders and recommendations, the requirement in RSA 91-A:2, II 1 (b), that a quorum of a public body be physically present unless immediate action is imperative, is waived for the duration of the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-04.

4. To further implement these orders and recommendations, the requirement in RSA 91-A:2, II 1 (c), that each part of a meeting of a public body is audible or otherwise discernible to the public "at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the meeting," is waived for the duration of the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-04 so long as the public body:

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, January 06, 2021
County Hall Pursuant to Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04
This meeting will be conducted electronically.

Conference Call Information

Phone Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 6031233

- Provides public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by
- video or other electronic means.
- Provides public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting.
- Provides a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are
- problems with access; and
- Adjourns the session if the public is unable to access the meeting.

Coates then outlined the rules of the meeting.

1. The public has an opportunity at the beginning of the Commissioners Meeting under "Public Comment" to speak. Community input will not be allowed after that point unless recognized and allowed by the Chair of the Commissioners.
2. All votes will be Roll Call, and when recognized, we are asking that you re-state your name and yes or no
3. If you have a question or motion that you would like to ask to put forward, please state the following, "Mr. Chair, Commissioner (your name) has a question or motion."
4. If you are having issues hearing the call, please text or call the County Administrator at 603-313-9002.
5. Please mute your phones so background noise won't interfere with the meeting.
6. This meeting has been posted on our website so that the Community, department heads, and media can listen to the meeting.
7. This meeting is utilizing a Zoom Platform so listeners can join us via audio or audio/visual.

At 8:34 AM, the Chair opened the meeting and **Commissioner Englund made a motion to appoint the following slate of officers for the County of Cheshire Board of Commissioners for the 2021-2022 term. For Chairman, Commissioner Wozmak, for Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Englund, and for Clerk, Commissioner Terry Clark. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion and upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Master Agenda Item #837: NHAC Commissioner's Proxy Letter was then taken-up for discussion and Coates discussed the proxy letter options that were developed for the NH Association of Counties. **Following discussion Commissioner Wozmak moved to accept the recommendations of Administrator for the County of Cheshire contingent and was seconded by Commissioner Englund. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Superintendent Iosue was then recognized and submitted a list of Correctional Officers to be awarded Correctional Officer certification which will provide for their enrollment in the State of NH Retirement System under the Group I category.

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, January 06, 2021
County Hall Pursuant to Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04
This meeting will be conducted electronically.

Conference Call Information
Phone Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 409 748 8803
Pin #: 6031233

Following discussion, Commissioner Wozmak signed the letter for certification and enrollment in the retirement system for list of Correctional Officers presented by the Superintendent.

At 9:54 AM Commissioner Englund moved to enter non-public session to discuss an issue pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss 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.

Commissioner Wozmak seconded the motion and upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of discussion in non-public session, Commissioner Wozmak moved to support the Sheriff in the termination of two employees for insubordination. Commissioner Englund seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 10:03 AM the Commissioner Englund moved to return to public session and was seconded by Commissioner Wozmak. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 10:07 AM Commissioner Wozmak moved to enter non-public session to discuss an issue pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss 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.

As a result of discussion in non-public session, no decision was made and no vote was taken.

At 10:17 AM Commissioner Wozmak left the meeting to attend a short previously scheduled meeting.

At 10:21 AM the Commissioner Englund moved to return to public session and was seconded by Commissioner Clark. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Administrator Coates was then recognized for the Weekly Operations Report.

Coates spoke to receiving an inquiry about the possible sale of the County Nursing Home to a private entity and said that this occurs every few years and that the County Commissioners and

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, January 06, 2021
County Hall Pursuant to Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04
This meeting will be conducted electronically.

Conference Call Information

Phone Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 6031233

Delegation has been firmly against a sale in the past. He said that he would consider the matter close and inform them that the County was not interested in proceeding with discussions.

Coates then stated that he has been working with Dartmouth Hitchcock and Cheshire Medical Center, to identify any frontline staff that should be receiving COVID-19 vaccinations. He outlined the discussions and said that he had forwarded the information to the potentially effected department heads to determine if the state will authorize the vaccinations.

He said that the ad that highlights the donation of the medical equipment to Diluzio Ambulance will run in the Keene Sentinel this Saturday.

Coates then discussed that the Hundred Nights Shelter temporary shelter bus is in place at the Latchis parking lot and will begin to be used tonight. A tour of the bus will be arranged for next weeks meeting.

Coates then reminded the Commissioners that this Friday the NHAC executive committee will hold the monthly meeting via Zoom and he will attend.

He then reminded everyone that the Executive Committee of the Delegation for Budgets that started this Monday and will resume next Monday at 9:00 AM.

Coates said that as the Commissioners requested, the County Attorney's office will join the meeting to discuss the new manager for the Restorative Justice and Victim Witness position that was recently hired next week.

Coates said that sometime in next few weeks he will be going to Maryland for the birth of his grandchild for a couple of days and will quarantine upon his return.

Director May was then recognized and discussed the extension of an unpaid FMLA for an employee at the nursing home. She outlined the case and asked for an extended leave of absence through March 30, 2021. **Commissioner Englund moved to approve the unpaid leave of absence and was seconded by Commissioner Clark. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.**

Old Business: None

New Business: Commissioner Englund spoke to a communication the he received from Cheshire Medical Center concerning the explosive growth of COVID-19 infections and said that twelve patients are in hospital with three patients on ventilators in intensive care. He outlined that he

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, January 06, 2021
County Hall Pursuant to Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04
This meeting will be conducted electronically.

Conference Call Information

Phone Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 6031233

was informed of the severe shortage of medical staff, especially physicians during this pandemic and he reached out to twenty of his retired colleague physicians and sixteen of them responded that they would be willing to volunteer their services to assist during this time of great need. He said that the President of the CMC was thrilled to receive the news and greatly appreciated the help.

Consent Agenda: Minutes of 12/30/2020 and Manifests for the week. Commissioner Clark moved the consent agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Englund. The motion passed with unanimous consent upon roll call vote.

General Discussion:

At 10:43 AM, there being no further public business to conduct, Commissioner Clark moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Englund. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes recorded by:

Assistant County Administrator Bouchard

Reviewed and submitted by:

T. Clark, Clerk