

County of Carroll
Commissioners' Meeting
Carroll County Administration Building
May 27, 2020

Meeting convened: 9:00 a.m.
Members Present: Amanda Bevard (Chair), Terry McCarthy (Vice-Chair)
Members Remotely: David Babson (Clerk)
Present Remotely: MVC Administrator Howie Chandler, HR Generalist Leslie Heaton, DPW Director Will DeWitte, Director of Maintenance Bob Murray, Finance Director Katheryn Armstrong
Others Present: Treasurer Joe Costello
Public Present: Rep. Ed Comeau (www.governmentoversite.com), Joe Haas (via Zoom), Clearview TV (via Zoom), Rep. Susan Ticehurst (via Zoom)
Recording Clerk: Mellisa Seamans

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

All votes during this meeting were taken via roll call. There were instructions posted on the administration building door for anyone wishing to enter for the meeting. The instructions to join the meeting remotely via Zoom were posted with the agenda on the County website and at the administration building entrances.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: “Approve the minutes of May 20, 2020 with corrections” by Comm’r Babson, 2nd Comm’r McCarthy. Passed 3-0. Comm’r Babson corrected wording under the Executive Coordinator report and the vote taken to award the records restoration contract (vote should have read 2-1 with Comm’r Babson opposed). Comm’r Babson gave permission to use his signature stamp.

Media Questions

None

Public Comment

Mr. Haas asked that the commissioners be more specific in stating which subsection they are entering into non-public sessions under. He is particularly interested in compensation discussions to alert employees of their options how they can be paid.

Manifest

Chmn. Bevard announced the manifest of week ending May 22, 2020 is \$372,634.46.

Appointment – Kate Belisle, Effingham

Ms. Belisle arrived to follow-up on a previous right to know request seeking “dispatch logs and all audio calls about, pertaining, or originating in the town of Effingham for a period of seven years back from today which is the statutory recordkeeping for electronic records in the state of New Hampshire.” Ms. Belisle said during her initial request the sheriff asserted the Town of Effingham controls the records but now states the sheriff’s office controls access and release of the records. All Effingham Police Department calls are being forwarded to the sheriff’s office. Rather than printouts of the logs, she requests electronic pdf files. She provided three thumb drives. She is seeking “all audio of routine and 911 calls” and for anything that is not provided she is requesting a Vaughn index suitable for judicial review. She has many of the records and will note any omissions not provided this time. She said Effingham Police Department will be taken to Superior Court and she has no interest in the County being involved in this. Ms. Belisle said she has requested this information from the

sheriff's department "two years ago, one year ago, and six months ago". She noted she has been the target of ongoing harassment by three neighbors, two selectmen and the current acting chief of police. She was recently arrested and spent four hours at county jail, picked up on warrants for dog-at-large. The arresting officer was not wearing a mask. She was placed in a cell with another person for four hours. Chmn. Bevard will talk to the sheriff. Ms. Belisle asks that the entire request not be held until complete but rather that most recent information be provided as soon as available. She is most desperate for the past two months' logs.

Department Head Report – DPW Director Will DeWitte

Dir. DeWitte provided an update on the activities of his department and discussed with the board (attached). He will provide a hay price list to the commissioners and work with Coord. Seamans to post it on the County website.

General Linen Agreement – Director of Maintenance Bob Murray

MOTION: "Award the contract to General Linen, LLC for linens and bedding at Mountain View Community at a cost of \$663 per week. The bid process is waived because there are few companies that provide this service, General linen has provided good service for four years and have maintained the same price for four years" by Comm'r McCarthy, 2nd Comm'r Babson. Passed 3-0

MOTION: "To authorize Director Murray to sign the contract" by Comm'r Bevard, 2nd Comm'r McCarthy. Passed 3-0.

Starting Wage Adjustment Policy

MOTION: "To adopt the starting wage adjustment policy as presented" by Comm'r Babson, 2nd Comm'r McCarthy. Passed 3-0

Treasurers' Report – Joe Costello

Treas. Costello said the County is nearing its need for a second draw on the tax-anticipation line of credit.

Hale's Location – Joe Costello

Treas. Costello, Comm'r McCarthy and the Hale's Tax Collector Denise Leighton attended an online property assessing seminar. Ms. Leighton will be creating a procedure manual.

Comm'r Babson will contact County counsel for advice on what school district the allocation for federal forest lands should be sent to.

Executive Coordinator Report – Mellisa Seamans

Coord. Seamans presented the first draft of the 2019 County report. She will present a quote from the printers to the commissioners for approval next meeting. Chmn. Bevard suggested the commissioners begin review of all County policies by Coord. Seamans bringing forward one policy per week.

Commissioners' Comments

Comm'r McCarthy suggested that non-public sessions be held at the beginning of the weekly meetings rather than following. The commissioners took it under consideration.

Comm'r Babson will ask legal counsel if the commissioners must first convene a public meeting to hold non-public sessions. He agreed to request her response in writing.

Comm'r Babson suggested the board consider working with an insurance consultant to assist with future employee medical insurance plan negotiations. Chmn. Bevard agreed.

Comm'r Babson said a recent email from Rep. Glenn Cordelli was "right on". The topic was the newspapers asking for candidates' ages.

Comm'r McCarthy will attend the June 4 department heads' meeting.

Non-Public Session

Non-public Session 1

MOTION: "To enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee"

Non-public Session 2

MOTION: "To enter into non-public session RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant"

Non-public Session 3 & 4

MOTION: "To enter into non-public session under 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 meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted"

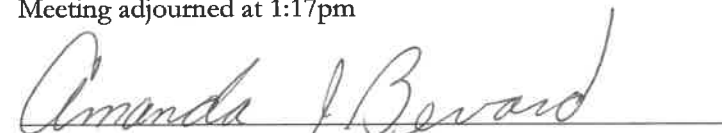
by Chmn. Bevard, 2nd Comm'r Babson. Passed 3-0.


The meeting reconvened and a motion passed 3-0 to seal the minutes of sessions 1,2,3 and 4.

GOFERR Grant Agreement - Finance Director Katheryn Armstrong

MOTION: "To accept the GOFERR Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant Agreement in compliance with NH RSA 21-P:43 and to designate Chairman Bevard as the signing authority for the grant" by Chmn. Bevard, 2nd Comm'r McCarthy. Passed 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 1:17pm


Amanda Bevard, Chairman


David Babson, Clerk


Terry McCarthy, Vice-Chairman