

Maine Cumberland County

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MINUTES

March 14, 2016

CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

The Board of Cumberland County Commissioners, Chair Stephen Gorden, Susan E. Witonis, Neil D. Jamieson, Jr., Thomas Coward and Jim Cloutier convened this meeting at 5:30 PM in the Peter J. Feeney Conference Room at the Cumberland County Courthouse. Also in attendance were County Manager Peter Crichton, Assistant County Manager Bill Whitten, Alex Kimball, Finance Director/Treasurer and Martha Sumner, HR Director.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

Chair Gorden asked for a motion for the approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Cloutier so moved, Commissioner Witonis seconded. No discussion was had. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

16 – 013 Cumberland District Public Health Council - Chair Kristen Dow and Treasurer Naomi Schucker

Ms. Dow and Ms. Schucker gave an overview of the Cumberland District Public Health Council. Commissioner Cloutier asked if data was available on uninsured citizens in Cumberland County. Ms. Schucker noted that the Cumberland County data report is available and it can be customized. Assistant County Manager Whitten asked how closely they worked with CCRCC and Casco Bay CAN. Ms. Dow noted that they work closely with Cumberland County's EMA, including sitting on the Board, and through the Healthy Maine

Contracts, they work with Casco Bay CAN workgroups. Chair Gorden asked if they had seen any trends in Public Health and Ms. Dow noted that access to services and substance use including opioids and tobacco were the top three trends.

16 – 014 Alliance Medical – Phil Hoelscher

Mr. Hoelscher reviewed the inmate healthcare program, noting the Corizon contract renewal in June since the merger. Pleased with consistently coming in below budget. Mr. Hoelscher also noted that mental health was a big issue, as was Hepatitis C, though the medical cure was good, it is very expensive. He explained he would like to see more of a dovetail with public health programs for inmate health for prescription drug cost discounts. Commissioner Jamieson asked about Cumberland County's percent increase for psychotropic drugs and how it compares to other counties. Mr. Hoelscher stated that ours was 5-7% 30 years ago and has risen to 20-25%, though most counties at 50%. He attributes the increase to lack of psychiatrists in the area. Chair Gorden asked about serving other counties within the state. Mr. Hoelscher noted that he didn't but would love to see a regional inmate healthcare system set up.

16 – 015 MCCA Risk Pool – Malcom Ulmer

Mr. Ulmer reviewed the Risk Pool. County Manager Crichton asked what has been paid out for claims compared to the \$2 mil paid in. Finance Director Kimball noted that the Fund Balance is up in 2013 and 2014 and where do we stand currently. Mr. Ulmer noted that 2015 and 2015 not looking good but the dates were tough, as a 2014 claim was being paid out in 2016. Commissioner Jamieson asked about the reinsurance paid and how that affected the numbers. Mr. Ulmer noted that \$950,000 was paid, which was less than what was paid years ago but a slight increase from last year.

16 – 016 Cumberland County Community Development Program 5-Year HUD Consolidated Plan & 2016 Annual Action Plan – Aaron Shapiro

Mr. Shapiro noted that on April 11 and May 9 he would hold public hearings for his strategic plan. Of note, \$1.3 mil received, which is 2% down from last year, though considered flat funded. The competition for this year's awards was keen and only 40% of applicants funded. The completed report will be available on April 11 after the committee meets on March 24. Manager Crichton asked how much money the CDBG program has brought into the county thus far and Mr. Shapiro said \$15 – 16 mil.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVALS:

The Deputy County Clerk read the Consent Agenda Items.

16 – 017 Approval, Gorham Contract – CCRCC

16 – 018 Approval, Replacement of Front Load Washer – CC Jail

16 – 019 Approval, Reassignment of Non-Debt CIP Monies – CCSO

The County Manager concurs with the recommendations for the Consent Agenda Items.

Commissioner Jamieson moved to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Cloutier seconded. No discussion was had. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Crichton noted that he had a joint committee meeting of Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG), Robyn Saunders of Cumberland County Soil and Water, Chris Hall of Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce and Cumberland County Government to discuss the business of stormwater given the new federal regulations coming to fruition.

County Manager Crichton also noted the Maine Town and City/County Managers annual interchange would be focusing on aging population of the state and how to handle within the community.

Assistant County Manager Whitten handed out an introduction to legislation for next session regarding the Cross Insurance Arena. Mr. Whitten noted this session of the legislature is at a standstill for LD1614 and it would be the last bill worked most likely, as it came out of committee 11-2 at \$2.4 mil for last fiscal year and this year and it was in appropriations now.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Coward noted that he attended an interesting Maine County Commissioners Association meeting regarding jail funding and how there isn't enough money to run the system. He noted that we're at the point where things are starting to fall apart.

Commissioner Jamieson congratulated Gorham High School's girls' basketball team and Scarborough's boys' hockey team. He also noted the record caucus turn out and thanked citizens for participating. Finally, he reiterated Commissioner Coward's note on jail funding and encouraged citizens to speak to their legislators.

Commissioner Witonis noted that last Thursday she held a gathering on rural community service needs and encouraged other commissioners to do the same.

Commissioner Cloutier also noted the great turnout for the caucus. He also expressed his thanks to the Cross Insurance Arena for the Strive Dance-athon.

Chair Gorden noted he recently learned of Jared Cohen a 12 year old who has Muscular Dystrophy from Yarmouth. For his birthday he collected food for the food pantry and delivered 1100lbs and \$500 in cash. Well done!

OLD BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ACTION ITEMS

16 – 020 Move to Approve 2016 Insurance Payment, as presented.

The County Manager concurs with the recommendations for this Action Item.

Commissioner Coward motioned to approve. Commissioner Cloutier seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

Discussion: Commissioner Coward pointed out that 75% of the assessment goes to jail operations. It's a risk and this protects us.

**16 – 021 Move to Approve 2016 Cumberland District Public Health Council
Payment, as presented.**

The County Manager concurs with the recommendations for this Action Item.

Commissioner Jamieson motioned to approve. Commissioner Cloutier seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

Discussion: No discussion was had.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to address.

AGENDA PLANNING

Future workshop topics to include a Finance workshop; Legislative workshop; Regional Assessing; and Annual Retreat. IT workshop needs to be added and discussion on a consistent workshop date was had. It was proposed that possibly the fourth Monday of each month could be a standing workshop, with materials provided ahead of time for review.

Chair Gorden asked for a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A) to discuss the compensation of certain employees at the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Cloutier so moved. Commissioner Coward seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

Chair Gorden motioned to move out of Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. Commissioner Jamieson so moved, Commissioner Coward seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

Chair Gorden noted that no actions would be taken pursuant to the Executive Session.

ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn by Commissioner Witonis. Commissioner Cloutier seconded. 5-0, unanimous. Adjourned at 7:30pm.

Next Commissioner's meeting: April 11, 2016 at the Cumberland County Courthouse in the Peter J. Feeney Conference Room at 5:30 PM.

ATTEST:

**Amy M. Carole
Public Information Officer & Deputy Clerk**