

Maine
Cumberland County

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MINUTES

April 11, 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 and Alex Kimball, Finance Director/Treasurer. Absent was Martha Sumner, HR Director.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405 (6)(D) to discuss CCRCC negotiations and consult with its attorney.

Chair Gorden asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Jamieson so moved, Commissioner Coward seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

Chair Gorden asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Cloutier so moved, Commissioner Witonis seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Regular Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2016 at 5:30 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 – 022 Stateside Elevator Repairs – Bill Whitten

Mr. Whitten gave an update on the elevators. He noted that they were slightly ahead of schedule and slightly below budget. The elevators are 25 years old and have a life expectancy of 25-30 years. It appears that at installation there was a scratch on the hydraulic shaft at installation which then rusted out quickly. The new shaft is porcelain, which has a longer shelf life. Mr. Whitten noted the other elevator should be updated soon as well.

Commissioner Jamieson asked what the cost of repairs for the elevator was. Mr. Whitten noted that the original quote was \$100,000, with the State side paying 50%, though it looked as though the end cost would be \$4-5,000 under budget.

16 – 023 Cumberland County Community Development Program 5-Year HUD Consolidated Plan & 2016 Annual Action Plan – Aaron Shapiro

Mr. Shapiro gave an overview of the HUD program, noting that there would be two public hearings – one tonight and one on May 9. Mr. Shapiro's program assistant Maeve Pistrang introduced Jay Chase of Scarborough, chair of the municipal oversight committee and review team. Mr. Chase noted there were a number of great applicants this year and thanked everyone for their consideration.

Mr. Shapiro and Ms. Pistrang reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the program's five year plan and grant projects for this year, noting more housing rehabilitation than in the past years.

Karen MacDonald of PortResources spoke, noting it was her first time applying to the CDBG program and she thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Commissioner Jamieson asked how much in funds have been brought in over the past ten years. Mr. Shapiro noted approximately \$15 million in total. Commissioner Jamieson thanked Mr. Shapiro for all of his hard work.

Commissioner Coward asked what the funding trend looked like. Mr. Shapiro noted it was hard to tell, though there had been a slight trend downward, of approximately 2-4% overall. Commissioner Gorden asked if there were HUD requirements on leveraging the funds. Mr. Shapiro noted that these funds are usually used as gap funds, as many times the award amount is only a quarter or a third of the total funds needed for the project.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVALS:

The Deputy County Clerk read the Consent Agenda Items.

16 – 024 Approval, Mechanic Services Contract – Facilities

16 – 025 Approval, Siemens Contract – Facilities

- 16 – 026 Approval, Board of Directors Appointment – CCRCC**
- 16 – 027 Approval, Contract Renewal - Bridgton – CCRCC**
- 16 – 028 Approval, Reserve Deputy Program – CCSO**
- 16 – 029 Approval, Forfeiture of US currency seized – CCSO**
- 16 – 030 Approval, Reassignment of CIP funds – CCSO**
- 16 – 031 Approval, West Bath office copier lease agreement – DA**
- 16 – 032 Approval, West Law Books Subscription – DA**
- 16 – 033 Approval, Project Reentry/Co-occurring disorders grant renewal – VIP**

Faye Luppi gave a reentry grant overview. She requested approval for the next round of grant application, \$649,998 for the Second Chance grant. Bill Whitten asked if Ms. Luppi's project worked with Casco Bay CAN. Ms. Luppi noted that the grant and population it served were very specific to reentry and recidivism, though someone from CAN should be on the steering committee for the program.

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

Commissioner Cloutier moved to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Jamieson seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Crichton discussed the recent Maine Town and City and County Managers Association forum he attended. The topic was the aging population of Maine. Several Cumberland County managers were there and it was evident they're doing a great job on the issue within their communities. Manager Crichton noted there needs to be a focus countywide on the issue and there's lot of opportunities for the County to partner with municipalities and agencies. The next meeting of MTCMA will cover how to retain and attract the younger generation, another important issue.

Manager Crichton noted the jail budget for FY16/17 will need to be acted on in June. He suggested having the Finance Committee convene to review, as it would be a higher budget due to health insurance, retirement and other costs.

Manager Crichton asked Assistant County Manager Bill Whitten to share comments. Mr. Whitten noted that there were not many updates as the legislature was almost over. LD1614 for one year of funding did get through the House of Representatives and there was another bill by Oxford County looking at lifting the tax cap.

Commissioner Cloutier noted that the county needed to focus on what was in front of them and the facts they had regarding the jail budget for the next year instead of waiting and wondering what the State would do. Chair Gorden noted that it seemed the state didn't want to raise taxes, but they were pushing the cost to property taxes anyway. Commissioner Cloutier noted that the county could handle adjustments by shutting down the operation. Commissioner Cloutier reminded everyone that the county has a responsibility to

operate in a responsible and smart way. If funding sources allow only a small operation, so be it. Chair Gorden requested that something be put together for the next meeting to review potential solutions. Finance Director Alex Kimball noted that step one of two for a request for proposal for a new risk pool was almost ready. He explained he was looking for brokers who would handle all insurances, EAPs, etc and then the request for proposal would be posted. Mr. Kimball also noted the new timekeeping software will be a huge game changer and he was very happy to move forward with it.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Witonis noted that the Cross Insurance Arena had a busy past few weeks with Red Claws, High School wrestling and hockey, many concerts and events.

Commissioner Jamieson reiterated how great the Municipal Oversight Committee is for the Community Development Block Grant program and was happy to be a part of it.

Commissioner Cloutier noted the tangible results of the upgrades to the Cross Insurance Arena were showing in the amount of activity occurring there. He also noted the Cumberland County Extension program and the astonishing breadth of their 4-H program. Agriculture is growing at 7-8% a year and it's a great place for economic development within the County. He also noted that the jail issue is a serious matter. He noted the great leadership regarding the jail and his appreciation for it.

Commissioner Coward noted he was pleased with the Community Development Block Grant program and the focus on housing. He seconded the great leadership of the jail and noted that a regional focus could be a solution.

Chair Gorden noted the upcoming high school proms, end of school and graduation celebrations and asked citizens to celebrate wisely. He wished college graduates luck entering the work force and reminded working adults that tax day was upon us. He requested the Deputy County Clerk read the National County Government Month resolution and asked for a motion for it to be adopted. Commissioner Coward so moved, Commissioner Clouter seconded. The resolution was voted on unanimously by all commissioners, 5-0.

*National County Government Month - April 2016
"Safe and Secure Counties"*

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serving more than 300 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe, vibrant and economically resilient communities; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, well-being and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, through National Association of Counties (NACo) President Sallie Clark's "Safe and Secure Counties" initiative, NACo is encouraging counties to focus on strengthening the safety and security of their communities; and

WHEREAS, in order to remain healthy, vibrant, safe, and economically competitive, America's counties provide public health, justice, emergency management and economic services that play a key role in everything from residents' daily health to disaster response;

and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to actively promote programs and services to the public we serve; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County Government employees work diligently to protect and provide quality services to all citizens equitably, in a responsive and caring manner. Cumberland County strives to seek new ways to be a more efficient form of government, to find better ways to serve our citizens and will continue our initiative to provide essential services to the taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Stephen Gorden, Cumberland County Commissioner Chair, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as National County Government Month and encourage all county officials, employees, schools and residents to participate in county government celebration activities.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was had regarding scheduling a monthly date for standing workshops. It was discussed that the third Monday of each month at 5:30 would be a workshop date.

ACTION ITEMS

16 – 034 Approval, Courthouse Coffee/Lunch Kiosk – Executive, as presented.

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

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

Discussion: Commissioner Jamieson noted this was a long time coming. The kiosk would be a huge help to those within the courthouse, especially on bad weather days, as everything is two blocks away and sometimes time is a huge issue as well. He also noted it was a great use of the space. Commissioner Witonis noted she would like the Commissioners to see the contract when it was done and the Chair should sign it.

16 – 035 Approval, CCRCC contract, 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

May meeting in Gray discussion.

Commissioner Cloutier requested other districts be looked at for June, July and August. Commissioner Jamieson noted he would look into holding a meeting in Scarborough. Chair Gorden noted the next Commissioner's meeting would be held on May 9 at 5:30 in Gray.

The Chair asked for a motion. Commissioner Jamieson motioned to approve. Commissioner Cloutier seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

AGENDA PLANNING

Future workshop topics to include a Finance workshop; Legislative workshop; Regional Assessing; Annual Retreat; IT; Standing workshop.

Chair Gorden asked for a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A) to discuss personnel issues.

Commissioner Jamieson so moved. Commissioner Witonis seconded. All Commissioners voted unanimously in favor, 5-0.

Chair Gorden motioned to move out of Executive Session at 7:58 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 8:00pm.

Next Commissioner's meeting: May 9, 2016 at the Gray Town Council at 5:30 PM.

ATTEST:

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