

The County of Cumberland is committed to providing quality services to all citizens equitably, in a responsive and caring manner.

## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

### MINUTES December 15, 2008

The Board of Cumberland County Commissioners, Esther B. Clenott, Richard J. Feeney and Malory Shaughnessy convened a meeting at the Cumberland County Courthouse in the Peter J. Feeney Conference room.

Chairperson Clenott called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and the following business was conducted.

Minutes of the Cumberland County Commissioners Regular Meeting of December 8, 2008 were read and were approved unanimously.

#### **Comments from the County Manager:**

The County Manager indicated because of the adoption of the 2009 budget he will defer his comments until the next Commissioners meeting on December 22, 2008. He will make some comments on the budget motions.

#### **Comments from the Commissioners:**

##### **Commissioner Feeney:**

Commissioner Feeney reserved his comments until the next Commissioners meeting on December 22, 2008.

## **Commissioner Shaughnessy**

Commissioner Shaughnessy announced that she received a letter from the Governor notifying her that she had been appointed to Chair the State Sentencing and Correction Practices Committee. She indicated it is very important to be working with the new Board of Corrections on changing the sentencing structure and some of the practices. In regards to the Budget, we have got to really look at our County systemically and look at ways to make changes in a fundamental way this coming year. She is hoping the County will look throughout our departments and the way we are doing things and try to restructure to make ourselves an even more lean machine than we are currently.

## **Chairperson Clenott:**

Chairperson Clenott noted she will be leaving County Government. By having the Charter Commission it will help bring more unity within the departments so they will feel more like a team. We are presently already doing this with the municipalities and the State. As we talk about the set up of County Government we will talk about unifying the departments.

## **Comments from the Public:**

Chairperson Clenott asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, she asked Jim Budway, Director of Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency, what has been happening in the State of Maine weather wise. Director Budway reported for this ice storm we did have a 72 hour notice through the National Weather Service. The Maine Emergency Management Agency gave us great guidance as to shelters and updates on the electricity outage. The major impact of the storm was up and down I-95 of Cumberland County. West of Sebago Lake, the impact was not as much. The fire departments, public works departments and law enforcement departments worked with Central Maine Power in full response mode to make roads passable. After the initial response period, we went into recovery period where they all worked together to start bringing services back to Cumberland County. Next, we will transition into working with the State and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to see if we might qualify for a disaster declaration.

Chairperson Clenott asked that the Action Item to adopt the 2009 Budget be presented. She indicated the County and the Budget Advisory Committee worked for hours and hours discussing the financial situation in Cumberland County and in our towns.

Please open up the Excel spreadsheet for the Motions