

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

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MINUTES

July 14, 2008

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

Chairperson Clenott called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM and the following business was conducted.

Minutes of the Cumberland County Commissioners Regular Meeting of June 23, 2008 and the Special Commissioners meeting on June 23, 2008 were read and were approved unanimously.

Comments from the County Manager:

The County Manager was not at the Commissioners' meeting tonight because he was attending the Annual National Association of Counties (NACO) Convention in Kansas City.

Comments from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Shaughnessy was not at the Commissioners' meeting tonight because she was attending the Annual National Association of Counties (NACO) Convention in Kansas City.

Commissioner Feeney:

Commissioner Feeney reported the figures are in for the '07-08 Budget year for the Cumberland County Civic Center and the events income finished the year at \$91,816 ahead of Budget. The Jehovah's Witnesses convention had a huge impact on the local community. High school graduations at the Civic Center also had a huge economic impact in the community with over 12,000 people total in attendance. Up coming events include Carrie Underwood on October 14th and the Ringling Circus during the first few days of October. It was a very positive fiscal year for the Civic Center, ending June 30th.

Chairperson Clenott:

Chairperson Clenott expressed gratitude for all the cards and flowers she received for her brother's passing.

Chairperson Clenott read a statement of support for the Guard and Reserve which was received from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and the Secretary of Defense. The Chairperson signed the document indicating the County will recognize and support our country's service members and their families in peace, in crisis, and in war.

Comments from the Public:

Chairperson Clenott asked if there were any comments from the public.

The Correction Officers were present and expressed their concern over the pending contract. The following people expressed concerns: CO Tom Monaghan, CO Bill Russell and Jim Beaulieu, Business Agent for AFSCME.

Chairperson Clenott read a statement to the Union as follows: "The County, through its bargaining team, and AFSCME, through its bargaining team, have been negotiating in good faith to reach agreement on a new contract. The Parties have engaged the services of a mediator to assist them in resolving the issues that remain. The County will continue to negotiate in good faith through its bargaining team and work with the mediator to reach a new bargaining agreement". Jim Beaulieu asked Pat Dunn, County Attorney and Wanda Pettersen, Human Resource Director, to meet that evening. It was agreed by both parties and the parties left the Commissioners meeting to go into discussion.

Chairperson Clenott asked that the Action Items be presented.

Action Items:

Chairperson Clenott asked for a Motion to move Item 08 – 083 after 08 – 086. Commissioner Feeney made a Motion and Chairperson seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 084 Approval, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, Equipment Transfer Agreement

Chairperson Clenott asked the Assistant County Manager for comments. The Assistant County Manager indicated that he and Jim Budway concur with this use of equipment from the grant and it will be a good use of the IPMobileNet equipment. Chief Deputy Kevin Joyce will present the item.

Chief Deputy Joyce indicated in 2003, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office partnered with six other law enforcement agencies in Cumberland County to construct an IPMobileNet system so that data could be transferred between the police cruiser and the agency's computer server. During the last 5 years, the partnership was able to construct three towers and install modems in virtually every cruiser of the involved agencies. The agencies involved include: Falmouth PD, Cumberland PD, South Portland PD, Windham PD, Westbrook PD and Gorham PD.

In June 2008, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office went to an air-card system of relaying data, which greatly improved the efficiency and effectiveness of the Sheriff's Office. As a result, the IPMobileNet system was removed from the cruisers as the equipment was not necessary. Rather than store the IPMobileNet equipment or dispose of it, it was recommended that the equipment be given to those partner agencies that could use additional modems and any other requisite equipment that had to be removed for the installation of new equipment. Since all of the equipment was purchased through three Homeland Security grants, it is recommended that the County will donate the units to any of the aforementioned agencies who could use the equipment. Any additional units could be donated to any other law enforcement agency in Maine that uses the IPMobileNet system. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve and the Chair sign the request and act as the signatory for the equipment transfer to the town of Falmouth, Cumberland, Windham, Westbrook, South Portland and Gorham police departments. Chairperson Clenott seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 085 Approval, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office 2008 JAG Grant Application

Chairperson Clenott asked Chief Deputy Joyce to present the item. The Assistant County Manager concurs with the request to apply for the grant.

Chief Joyce reported this is the third time that the Sheriff's Office has partnered with the Portland Police Department on an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

For the 2008 JAG Grant, \$52,656 is being made available and the Sheriff's office share is \$26,328 for the following description of equipment: Radio transmission recorder for the ESU Command Post, \$4,000; Throw phone/camera \$4,000; Radar Unit for cruisers (1 unit) \$2,400; additional night vision rifle scope (for one unit) \$8,500; additional night vision goggles for ESU (3) \$2,250; In-cruiser camera \$4,000; Dell Precision T3400 computer (powerful enough to receive, view and edit surveillance video) \$1,500. The Sheriff's Office would use this funding to purchase needed equipment that we have been unable to purchase with limited annual budgets. There is no fiscal impact on the County. There is no required match. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the submission of a 2008 JAG Grant application between the Sheriff's Office and the Portland Police Department. Chairperson Clenott seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 086 Update on 2008/2009 Homeland Security/MEMA Grant Requests and Approval, Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency Grant Request

Chairperson Clenott asked Jim Budway, EMA Director, to present the item. The Assistant County Manager concurs with the need for this grant application.

Assistant County Manager Whitten indicated that Director Budway has put the grants together, has gotten people to provide the necessary information, and his committee has met to make recommendations to MEMA to prioritize the four grants.

Director Budway presented an overview of the Public Safety Interoperable Communication grant which is a one time grant provided by the Department of Homeland Security through the Maine Emergency Management Agency, to enhance communications interoperability of public safety such as fire, EMS, police and public works. The State of Maine has \$4.1 million available. We have received the following grant applications: the University of Maine System, \$78,658; Cumberland County regional Communications Center, \$525,532.10; Cumberland County EMA, \$555,803; and City of Portland, \$225,000 with a dollar value of grant applications submitted of \$1,384,993.10. Funding has been provided to the State of Maine by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to improve the interoperable communications capabilities of first responders. The Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is administering this funding through a competitive grant application process. The four grant applications will be prioritized by a committee before being forward to MEMA to compete for funding with other State grant application submissions. A discussion followed.

Director Budway reported the CCEMA grant application. He reported the CCEMA is sponsoring one of the two County led Grant Applications. In this effort, it is requesting P25 compatible portable radios for use by first responders or personnel who might perform critical functions in a Incident Command System organization. The total number of radios requested is 443 at a cost of \$555,300.50. This request is subdivided into three groups of radios (208, 144 and 91). The first group (208 Radios) is for personnel in participating municipalities and organizations who have a high probability of being an incident commander in an emergency and would require a robust radio with multiple channels to coordinate response activities with multiple jurisdictions and agencies. The second and third groups could also serve as incident commanders but the probability is not as high. Ideally, the grant application will be fully funded by MEMA, if only partial funding is available, the desire is to fund the first group. The participating municipalities and organization include 12 municipalities – Baldwin, Cumberland,

Falmouth, Freeport, Gray, Harpswell, New Gloucester, North Yarmouth, Raymond, Scarborough, Sebago and Windham. Also 4 Organizations – Sheriff’s Department, Southern Maine EMS, Maine Medical Center and Mercy Hospital. It is therefore requested that the Commissioners approve the submission of the CCEMA P25 compatible portable radio grant application to the State for funding consideration. A discussion following.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the submission of the Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency P25 Compatible Portable Radio Grant application to the State for funding consideration. Chairperson Clenott seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – Approval, Cumberland County Regional Communications Center – Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Application

Chairperson Clenott asked Assistant County Manger Whitten to present the item. He approves this grant request.

Assistant County Manager Whitten reported the office of Homeland Security has provided additional funding above and beyond the “normal” annual funds specifically for regional radio interoperability. The State of Maine/MEMA has approximately \$4.7 million available. The Cumberland County Regional Communications Center needs to improve and upgrade its equipment, in conjunction with the continual growth of County dispatch services and the recently approved referendum for radio and microwave equipment. Included in that is a back up service with Westbrook, assisting other communities with hooking into the microwave ring, both NIMS compliant and not. There is no fiscal impact as this report only requests authority to apply for a grant in three parts, totaling \$525,532.10. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the application for a PSIC Grant to the State of Maine/MEMA (Maine Emergency Management Agency) for Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$525,532.10. There is no fiscal impact as this report is only a request for authority to apply for a grant. Chairperson Clenott seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 087 Approval, IRS Standard Mileage Increase for July 1, 2008

Chairperson Clenott asked Vic Labrecque, Director of Finance, to present the report. The Assistant County Manager concurs with the recommendation.

Director Labrecque reported the County has always authorized mileage reimbursement using the IRS maximum guidelines. The Commissioners approved an increase in January 2008 to 50.5 cents per mile. As of July 1, 2008, the IRS published a new rate for the 2008 mileage (last half of year) reimbursement rate to 58.5 cents per mile, up from the current 50.5 cents per mile approved by the Commissioners. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the utilization of the amended 2008 IRS mileage reimbursement rate of 58.5 cents per mile effective July 1, 2008. Chairperson Clenott seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 088 Approval, Official Resolution – Town of Pownal – 200th Anniversary

Chairperson Clenott asked Commissioner Feeney to read the first half of the Resolution and she will read the last half of the Resolution.

Commissioner Feeney and Chairperson Clenott read the following:

Official Resolution

On the Occasion of the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Pownal

*Whereas, the Town of Pownal was incorporated on March 3, 1808;
and
Whereas, Pownal is valued for its long and proud rural traditions;
and
Whereas, Pownal is a place of varied natural beauty, with its open fields and forested woodlands, its wetlands, its rivers and streams, and its wildlife habitats; and
Whereas, Pownal is home to one of Maine's first five state parks at Bradbury Mountain; and
Whereas, Pownal is a land incorporating many aspects of the early history of Cumberland County, from market, cattle and dairy farming to mineral extraction; and
Whereas, Pownal is valued as a community of historic traditions and engaged citizenry;
Now Therefore be it Resolved, by the
Cumberland County Board of Commissioners
that it hereby expresses its sincere congratulations and best wishes
to the Town of Pownal on the occasion of its 200th Anniversary.
Signed and sealed on this the 28th day of July in the year Two Thousand and Eight.*

Esther B. Clenott
Commissioner Esther B. Clenott

Richard J. Feeney
Commissioner Richard J. Feeney



Malory O. Shaughnessy
Commissioner Malory O. Shaughnessy

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners sign the proclamation of the Official Resolution for the Town of Pownal. It will become official when Commissioner Shaughnessy adds her signature to the Official Resolution. Chairperson Clenott seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

**08 – 089 Approval, Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office Commissions –
New, Renewals and Resolutions**

Chairperson Clenott asked Commissioner Feeney to make a Motion.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the new, renewals and revocations of the officers as submitted by Sheriff Dion dated July 7, 2008. Chairperson seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

There being no further business Commissioner Feeney made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM. Commissioner Shaughnessy seconded the MOTION. All voted unanimously.

ATTEST:

Barbara M. Buckley

Barbara M. Buckley
Deputy Clerk

The next regular Commissioners meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, July 28, 2008 in the Town of Gray at the Stimson Hall, 4 Shaker Road