

Coös County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Coös County Nursing Hospital - W. Stewartstown, NH
June 15, 2011

Present: Commissioners Bing Judd and Tom Brady; County Administrator Suzanne L. Collins; Director of Finance Jennifer Fish; Nursing Hospital Administrator Laura Mills; Nursing Home Administrator Louise Belanger; Superintendent Craig Hamelin; Chief Deputy Keith Roberge (*arrived at 9:37*); Administrative Assistant Linda Harris; County Treasurer Fred King; Max Makaitis, Tri-County CAP; Donna Lane, CDBG Consultant (*arrived at 9:30*); Dr. Robert Soucy; Planning Board Chair John Scarinza (*arrived at 10:15*); Katie Stewart, District Ranger-WMF(*arrived at 10:25*); Bill Allen, Town of Stewartstown Water Commission (*arrived at 10:45*) and members of the press. Commissioner Grenier was away on vacation.

Commissioner Judd opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2011 meeting. All approved 2-0.
2. The Board reviewed the Payrolls and Disbursements for the month of May 2011. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to approve the Payrolls and Disbursements for the month of May 2011. All approved 2-0.
3. Hearing of the Public:
 - a. Dr. Robert Soucy thanked the Board of Commissioners for giving him the opportunity to work at the Department of Corrections. He complimented Evelyn Early, RN who serves as the Medical Services Coordinator. She is efficient and keeps things rolling. One of Dr. Soucy's main concerns is the cost of treating inmates that is exorbitant, especially medications. He has brought in samples and continues to do so. He asked if the Commissioners could issue a polite directive to police officers about requesting inmates' medications at time of arrest. Superintendent Hamelin will discuss this request with the Chiefs of Police at their next meeting. Commissioner Judd stated that the Sheriff's Department has done this in the past. Dr. Soucy spoke about the lack of parenting in most of these inmates' lives being the cause of their behaviors. He left at 9:27 a.m.

Chairman Judd recessed the meeting in order to proceed with the CDBG Public Hearings. He welcomed Donna Lane and Max Makaitis.

Chairman Judd opened the public hearing for the CDBG Application for the Notre Dame Elderly Housing project in Berlin. Donna Lane, Grant Administrator, read the CDBG guidelines. Informational packets were provided. The following was read into the record.

Community Development Block Grant funds are available to municipalities through the NH Community Development Finance Authority. Up to \$500,000 annually is available on a competitive basis for economic development, public facility and housing projects and emergency activities that directly benefit low and moderate income persons. Up to \$12,000 per year is available for feasibility study grants.

The purpose of this Community Development Block Grant funding request is a proposed application to the Community Development Finance Authority for up to \$500,000 in Community Development

Block Grant Economic Development funds for the proposed Notre Dame Elderly Housing project in Berlin. The majority of the funds, \$475,000, will be sub-granted to Tri-County Community Action Program Inc. to fund project expenses such as architectural services, equipment and furnishings at the proposed site. Notre Dame will be converted into 33 affordable, senior housing units for low and moderate income people. The population to be served is independent elderly households. The building is currently owned by the City of Berlin while undergoing environmental remediation and is under contract to Tri-County CAP, the project manager and developer. The building has been vacant since 1985 and requires substantial exterior and interior renovation.

This project conforms with Coös County's Housing and Community Development Plan's goal of: encourage a varied stock of safe, sanitary, decent, attractive and affordable housing for persons of all ages and income groups with a focus on the elderly and physically and emotionally challenged population. (Short-term and Long-term goal).

The funding request is up to \$500,000.

Chairman Judd asked for public comments. Edith asked what percentage of this project will the \$500,000 be and Mr. Makaitis replied about 6 percent. The majority of the remainder of the funds will come from the NH Housing Authority. Max Makaitis agreed to provide Ms. Tucker with additional information about project details and financial information. Chairman Judd closed the public hearing.

Chairman Judd opened the public hearing to discuss the updated Housing and Community Development Plan. Donna explained that there were no changes to the Housing and Community Development Plan which was updated in 2010. Chairman Judd asked for public comment. Mr. Fred King asked where the CDBG funds have been spent in the County over the past few years. Ms. Lane noted Deanbrook Village in Northumberland among a few other projects. Chairman Judd closed the public hearing.

Chairman Judd opened the public hearing to review the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan.

Donna explained the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. Although this project does not involve any displacement or relocation of persons (or businesses), if the County was to undertake a CDBG project which involved displacement or relocation it would follow this plan. The plan outlines the measures the County would take to find comparable, suitable housing for persons (or businesses) displaced or relocated. Chairman Judd asked for public comment and there was none. Chairman Judd closed the public hearing.

Chairman Judd opened the public hearing to note the progress of the Deanbrook Village CDBG Project in Northumberland.

Ms. Lane stated that the Deanbrook Village Cooperative CDBG project will provide upgrades to the sewer and electrical systems within the park. The project was delayed awaiting the commitment of matching Rural Development funds, but is now preparing to go out to bid, with a construction startup in the summer. Chairman Judd asked for public comment and there was none. Chairman Judd closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Judd reconvened the regular meeting at 9:37 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd, and unanimously approved to re-adopt the updated Coös County Housing and Community Development Plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd, and unanimously approved to re-adopt the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan for the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd, and unanimously approved to apply for up to \$500,000 CDBG funds for infrastructure improvements at Notre Dame Elderly Housing Project in Berlin.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd, and unanimously approved to authorize Burnham A. Judd, Chairman of the Coös County Commissioners or Suzanne L. Collins, Coös County Administrator, to sign all forms relative to the CDBG application for the Notre Dame Elderly Housing Project in Berlin.

The Board signed all necessary documents. Donna Lane and Max Makaitis left the meeting.

Chairman Judd continued with the regular meeting.

Hearing of the Public *(continued)*:

- b. Chief Deputy Keith Roberge reported that the Operation Stone Garden grant request had been reduced to \$38,000. Sheriff Marcou wanted the Board to know that he was driving the cruiser that had 167,000 miles. The production on the new car will not start until mid-July.

Chairman Judd asked if the Sheriff's Department still picked up medications at inmates' residences. Chief Deputy Roberge replied that if the officers are informed of the meds they do pick them up. Officers are not allowed back in the houses unless authorized by the incarcerated individual. Family members may bring the meds to the police departments and the Sheriff's Department will bring them to the jail.

- c. Mr. Bill Schomburg from Columbia, NH asked what the Commissioners thoughts were on the Northern Pass project as statements have been made that areas of the Unincorporated Places are being considered. Chairman Judd replied that the Commissioners have taken no position and no information has been provided to them regarding the project. Initially, Valerie Herres had requested to be placed on the agenda to speak to the Board however she had cancelled the previous day.
- d. Planning Board Chair John Scarinza reported that he had attended the 2nd Summit of the Northern Forest in May. A 10-page report had been issued. He stated he would provide the Internet link to Sue in case the Commissioners would like a copy. He also spoke with Chuck Henderson, Senator Jeanne Shaheen's representative for the North Country and discussed the possibility of a County Forest.

Mr. Scarinza reported that if the dump proposals for the Balsams go forward, they will need to be discussed further. Mr. Scarinza had reviewed DES files available online. After reviewing the information, he concluded that expert advice may be needed on these issues. A letter was received on June 3 from Tillotson Corporation stating that a private company had been hired to monitor these sites and the corporation has also hired a Concord law firm to provide legal advice on a parcel bounded by the town line and a road.

A Planning Board Meeting has been scheduled for July 5. Mr. King suggested that DES be invited to the meeting. He has reviewed the information provided by DES and in his

opinion they have been more than generous with Tillotson Corporation over the past 20 years. Tillotson Corporation is disbanding at the end of the year and the Unincorporated Place of Dixville could very well be the owner of these sites in the future if the Planning Board and Commissioners do not proceed with caution.

The Colebrook Planning Board has indicated it is willing to coordinate efforts to resolve these issues.

- e. Katie Stewart, Ranger-WMNF: Ms. Stewart stated that the working forest is a good working program. A proclamation boundary has been set. Land transfers do not move forward without town approval. When working with adjacent community forests both speak of items concerning mutual interests. She invited the Board to visit and see the land management practices of the National Forest in early August. Commissioner Brady asked what percentage of the National Forest is a working forest and she replied half. Commissioner Brady re-phrased and asked what percentage is available for harvest and Ms. Stewart replied 1-2 percent.

Mr. King stated that he is one who is opposed to increased federal ownership of land in Coös County. More acquisition within the proclamation boundary is not the issue. He is concerned for the large tracts that are bought by the government and will no longer be included in the tax base. In his opinion adding more land to the Umbagog Refuge is not necessary. He asked that the Commissioners ask the Congressional Delegation to put a moratorium on land acquisition outside of the proclamation boundary in the Unincorporated Places.

Ms. Stewart will follow up with Commissioner Judd on setting up a field day with the Commissioners.

- 4. Report of the County Administrator Suzanne L. Collins. The written report that was submitted to the Board in advance of the meeting was as follows:
 - a. On May 27, AFSCME negotiations culminated in tentative agreement on a contract. This results in all county employees receiving a 50-cent per hour raise effective 05/01/2011 and the same health insurance plan (with the exception of the SEA unit) that is being provided by LGC HealthTrust. Meetings were held with all employees and retirees at both W. Stewartstown and Berlin. LGC was especially responsive and was on-site within 4 days of tentative agreement on the AFSCME CBA to meet with union employees to describe the benefits, deductibles, prescription plan, wellness incentives and prescription plan before the unit voted on the CBA. The next day, bargaining unit employees voted almost unanimously to accept the agreement (of 62 voting, 61 voted in favor and 1 voted against). Last week payroll staff at Coös County Nursing Home Berlin made the minor modifications needed in payroll deductions for the July premiums. The 50-cent per hour cost item may need to be ratified by the Delegation. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to accept the Collective Bargaining Agreement. All approved 2-0. The Board signed two copies of the CBA.

Sue discussed the 50-cent hour cost item. She continued that the Delegation already voted on appropriations and were made aware of the pending negotiations at the annual budget meeting. Sue recommended paying the raise to the employees. This would go a long way with employees. Chairman Judd had a problem with the raise being retroactive to May 1. Sue replied that in all fairness to the employees the difficulties in getting an agreement

passed on time were with the union representative. County Treasurer King noted that the budget was approved by the Delegation and the money is in the budget. Commissioner Brady added that the failure of the union representative should not be taken out on the employees. Chairman Judd added that the group negotiated 3 more months than should have been necessary. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to pay the 50-cent hour raise, retro to May 1 since the funds were already appropriated in the 2011 budget. All approved 2-0.

Chairman Judd thanked Sue and Louise for working on this issue.

- b. Jennifer arranged for Group Dynamic, Inc. of Falmouth, ME to administer the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). Meetings with employees were scheduled for June 13 in W. Stewartstown and June 16 in Berlin. The process for filing claims for medical services subject to the deductible appears to be clear-cut.
- c. The change in Health Insurance Providers will require either a change to the approved Retiree Drug Subsidy Program or a complete new application. The CMS customer service center is obtaining a determination on this issue. Also, LGC is offering a MediComp Plan to retirees 65 and older that does not include a prescription plan. The premium for MediComp without Rx is \$250.49 versus MediComp with Rx that costs \$594.97 monthly. This option has been well received by some retirees.
- d. USource, an energy broker based in Portsmouth, signed an agreement in February with NHAC to form a statewide energy buying group including all ten counties. Bill Kibler, USource Director of Business Development met with Jennifer and Sue on June 7 to describe the program which he estimates could save Coös County up to \$17,000 per year in electricity costs. Currently, five counties have signed an energy buying service agreement with USource. As more counties join, it is anticipated that when energy contracts are renewed in the future, the County can benefit from both more competitive rates and aggregation with other New Hampshire counties. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to authorize the County Administrator to obtain bids on electric energy for the next Commissioners' meeting and authorize PSNH to provide USource with data about Coös County's electric usage. All approved 2-0.
- e. To date the Bureau of Court Facilities has not sent a new lease agreement for the Register of Deeds and Sheriff's spaces in the Coös County Courthouse. Sue has been assured that it will arrive soon. In the meantime, the issue of the 3-way space swap in the Courthouse will resurface very soon. Court Facility personnel who have been occupied solely with the state budget process will be addressing the County's request in the very near future.
- f. The Coös County Nursing Hospital entrance retaining walls are complete. Two bids for paving the entrance were presented to the Board: Paving Unlimited \$1,200 and Central Asphalt Paving \$1,460. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to approve the low bid of \$1,200 from Paving Unlimited. All approved 2-0.
- g. Sue has provided Coös County Forester Brendan Prusik with Coös County brochures and Master Plans for his booth at the Northern Forest Heritage Park River Day Festival in Berlin on June 18th.

- h. NH Retirement System Legislation has passed both the House and Senate. NHRS is hoping for a quick turnaround from enrolled bills and the Governor as new employer rates must be calculated for July. In addition, effective July 1, NHRS qualifying employees will see a hike in contribution from 5% to 7% for Group I employees and from 9.3% to 11.55% for Group II employees. Most NHRS reform applies to employees who are not yet vested (less than 10 years of service) and new hires. The new definition of “part-time” employment for Group I and Group II employees is no more than 32 hours per week. Bailiffs are exempt from the part-time restrictions allowing per-diem Sheriff’s Department pensioners to work more than 32 hours per week. This legislation also changes the makeup of the NHRS Board of Trustees to include 4 employer representatives. The NHAC is taking nominations for the county seat on the Board. Sue added that the 125% assessment (spiking) has been delayed to July 1, 2012 but noted that the AFSCME Staff representative had provided excellent contract language that protects the employer.
- i. Another legislative change that will have an impact on county government is a change in RSA 28:10-a. This statute deals with suspension and discharge from county employment. The protection of RSA 28:10-a will no longer apply to employees who are classified as per diem, on call, seasonal or part-time less than 20 hours per week. This bill was signed by the Governor and is effective August 7, 2011.
- j. The impact of HB1 and HB2 on the county budget is still very much an unknown as changes to the Medicaid program are included in the state’s budget.

Report of the County Farm:

- a. Ken Beerwort of Knowlton, Quebec paid in full for the dairy herd and associated veterinary costs required to transport part of the dairy herd to Canada. Part of the herd left in mid-May for Strasburg, PA and the cows that were transported to Canada left on May 30. The plan was to transport the herd to the Derby, VT port of entry and on to St. Hyacinthe, PQ. At Derby, the trucks were re-directed to the Champlain, NY border crossing. The animals that left W. Stewartstown on Monday AM after milking did not reach their destination until 8 PM.
- b. Northeast Kingdom Sales will conduct an auction of farm equipment and remaining feed at 11 AM on June 18. Farm employees have worked all week cleaning/preparing the equipment for auction. The outside inmate crew has cut the grass growing around farm buildings to “spruce up” the place for the auction.
- c. The John Deere farm tractor and PTO driven generator are included on the auction list but sale of this equipment leaves the water system without a backup generator during a major loss of power. Sue presented five bids to the Commissioners for a stand-by generator with an automatic transfer switch that will power both the water system and the DOC garage.

S&S Electric (14,000 Kw)	\$4,000 (estimated)
Edwards Electric (14,000 Kw)	\$7,000
LN Purrington & Son (14,000 Kw)	\$11,500
Prehemo Electric (14,000 Kw)	\$5,450
DTM/Electric Works (15,000 Kw)	\$6,408

Chairman Judd stated he would accept the bid from S&S Electric if it did not exceed \$4,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to approve

the bid for a 14,000 Kw generator with an automatic transfer switch from S&S Electric, not to exceed \$4,000. All approved 2-0.

This purchase will be charged against income derived from the farm. Commissioner Judd asked that the work be done as soon as possible.

- d. The bulk tank that the Board agreed to sell to Lyons Dairy of Derby, Vermont was removed during the week of June 13 and payment was received on the day the equipment was picked up.
- e. David Santamaria and his Santa's Tree Farm crew have been busy (when it is not raining) spreading manure and planting corn for the maze, sweet corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, etc. They have brought a temporary travel trailer on-site for employees who need to get away from the mosquitos during their breaks.
- f. The County Farm is also home to over 50 cats and kittens. Adoption proceedings began on June 8 and 6 kittens were taken to good homes. The hope is to get the word out to the public to **STOP** dropping off unwanted cats at the County Farm. Staff will continue to work on the placement of these animals and would appreciate hearing from anyone who has suggestions to address this issue humanely.

Report of the Unincorporated Places:

- a. Regarding the Planning Board appointments that expire at the end of June, long time Board members Rick Tillotson and Ed Mellet have indicated a desire to continue serving on the Board. Rick stated, *"It will be an appreciated honor to be re-appointed to continue to serve the County as a member of the Planning Board"* and Ed stated, *"I'm still interested and will be glad to serve on the board. I see some good times ahead as we look at a county forest"*.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to re-appoint Rick Tillotson and Ed Mellet to the Coös County Planning Board. All approved 2-0.

- b. The Coös County Planning Board met on May 26 on the 4 subdivision applications filed by Tillotson Corporation in Dixville. There were many questions raised about the 3 solid waste sites located in Dixville. Mike Wimsatt, Director of the Waste Management Division at DES has arranged for representatives from his agency to meet with the Coös County Planning Board on July 5 in Lancaster to provide Board members with specific information about each of these sites (facilities) updating the Board on their status and any future work that may be required. Ron Guerin, Plant Engineer for Tillotson Rubber Corp. will also be present to answer questions about these sites as he has been the Tillotson point of contact on these solid waste matters for many years.

Sue reported that she had received an email from Ron Guerin Wednesday morning stating that Tillotson Corporation may withdraw applications #1 and #2 that seek subdivision approval for the dumpsites but would like to proceed with the application #3 and #4 that seek subdivision approval for the wind generation sites and the homestead of Tom & Debra Tillotson.

- c. The Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse & Disposal District (AVRRDD) has filed with the NH Department of Environmental Services a Type I-A Modification to its Solid Waste Permit for the reconstruction of the leachate storage pond at Mt. Carberry. In a correspondence that Sue sent to Commissioner Grenier who represents Coös County's

Unincorporated Places on the AVRRDD Board, he stated that in fact, this is something that has needed to be done since AVRRDD purchased the Mt. Carberry landfill years ago. This is part of an EPA order requiring AVRRDD to alter its NPDES discharge permit as a result of the pulp mill closure. Contracts and technical specifications prepared by CMA engineers are available at the Commissioners' office.

Copies of the permitting and design drawings for planned improvements to the land fill gas collection system at Mt. Carberry have been filed with the county as well as design and permitting documents for the start of operations in Stages 10 and 11 of the Mt. Carberry landfill which entails landfilling of wastes over the top of the existing Phase II, Stages 7, 8, and 9.

5. Report of the Superintendent of Corrections Craig Hamelin. The written report that was submitted to the Board in advance of the meeting was as follows:

HOUSE OF CORRECTIONS	19
PRETRIAL	21
STATE PRISON INMATES	4
ELECTRONIC MONITORING	0
WORK RELEASE	0
OTHER COUNTY INMATES	0
INMATES AT OTHER FACILITIES	CARROLL DOC: 2 PT F, 5 HOC FEMALE GRAFTON DOC: 1 PT FEMALE ROCKINGHAM DOC: 1 PT MALE NHSP: 6 PT M, 1 HOC M

- a. The population has continued a steady increase, resulting in pretrial housing being full at this time.
- b. The DOC is recruiting for a vacant position on Second Shift due to the most recent hire not working out. Advertisements will run for two weeks, at which time the applications will be reviewed.
- c. With the closing of the farm, four inmates assigned there became available for other details. They were quickly integrated into other work details, giving the Department ability to work a full crew at the Recycling Center as well as the Outside Crew to expedite spring cleanup, brush clearing and mowing.
- d. In addition to weekly mental health counseling, a new program began on June 6 which offers a counselor specializing in drug and alcohol addiction on Monday evenings. Inmates may request to go on their own, through referrals from the weekly mental health counselor, or by court order. There was great interest and attendance on the first night.
- e. Corporal Dana Prehemo successfully completed the Instructor Development Course at N.H. Police Standards and Training on May 20. He was immediately assigned the task of updating the training curriculum and schedule, as well as supervision of the Field Training Program.
- f. Following approval by the Commissioners to expend funds from the Inmate Trust Fund, two loads of sand were delivered and spread on the inmate recreation field at a cost of \$550.

- g. East Coast Granitex completed the coating of another pretrial shower stall on May 19, adding a non-slip step out area as well. The finished result was not satisfactory, so the company will return to refinish the shower when the pretrial population can be moved to accommodate the work.
- h. Superintendent Hamelin has applied to the National Institute of Corrections to attend a Jail Administration Course from September 12-16, 2011 at the National Corrections Academy in Denver, CO. Accepted applicants are provided air fare, lodging and meals to attend the training. More information will be provided following the enrollment deadline of June 17.

Chairman Judd and Commissioner Brady both agreed that if there was no cost to the County Superintendent Hamelin should attend if selected.

- 6. Report of the West Stewartstown Nursing Hospital Administrator Laura Mills. The written report that was submitted to the Board in advance of the meeting was as follows:

- a. Census: The census today was 67. The average census for May was 65; occupancy for April was 67.2%. In May there were three (3) admissions, no (0) deaths and one (1) discharge. There has been one (1) more admission in June but also one (1) death. Staff is working on two (2) regular admissions and a respite for the end of June. Of the 67 residents, fifteen (15) are Private Pay. Three (3) of the Private Pay residents are from Vermont. Eight (8) residents are Vermont Medicaid.

Laura was recently approached by a local physician about the availability of beds in the facility. He had the impression that the Nursing Hospital was full and not taking admissions. Laura was very surprised and concerned and has created an ad that she intends to put in the newspapers that cover Coös County. A copy is attached to the report.

- b. Survey: The survey window opened May 8, 2011.
- c. Nurse Staffing: Nurse staffing on the night shift continues to be an issue. There is still a 40 hour position open and staff is becoming burned out trying to cover. There continues to be 24 hours open on the 7-3 shift. Laura requested the Commissioners' approval to hire a contract nurse to get through the summer months while continuing attempts to recruit a full time nurse. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to hire a contract nurse at \$40/hour, 40 hours/week for 13 weeks and not to exceed the cost of \$21,000. All approved 2-0. The Board signed the budget transfer request.
- d. Medicaid Rate: Coös County Nursing Hospital received good news last week on its Medicaid Rate. As of July 1, the rate will increase from \$144.49 to \$149.03 per day, an increase of \$4.54 per day.
- e. Nursing Hours at HOC:

2010	MINUTES	Hours	2011	Minutes	Hours
January	3,821	64	January	3,907	65
February	3,678	61	February	4,035	67
March	3,474	58	March	3,930	66
April	3,350	56	April	4,427	74
May	3,031	51	May	4,280	71

June	3,048	51	June		
July	2,509	42	July		
August	4,013	67	August		
September	3,895	65	September		
October	3,784	63	October		
November	3,699	62	November		
December	3,460	58	December		

The inmate population is up and med passes continue to average well over an hour each evening.

7. Report of the Berlin Nursing Home Administrator Louise Belanger. The written report that was submitted to the Board in advance of the meeting is as follows:
 - a. Census: The current census was 98. 14 residents are Private Pay at this time. The average daily census for May was 97.53. There were 2 deaths and 2 admissions in May.
 - b. Maintenance: Painting of the 2nd and 3rd floor hallways is completed. Renovations to the Nurses Stations on each floor will begin this week.
 - c. AFSCME: On June 2 union members voted in favor of the proposed contract. 62 of the 81 members voted. 61 voted for the contract and 1 against. With a new insurance carrier stating July 1, the business office has been very busy ensuring that all employees with health insurance have completed the appropriate forms and are aware of their benefits.
 - d. Medicaid Rate Change: The preliminary Medicaid room rate set to begin on July 1 is \$144.47 up from \$138.29. This is an increase of \$6.18. The final notification letter is expected to be in later this month.
 - e. Primex: The Primex Annual Conference was held May 11 & 12 at the Mountain View Grand. Louise attended along with several other nursing home employees. The topics and speakers were interesting and informative.
 - f. Hail Storm: The June 1 hail storm dented many employee vehicles. The CCNH car and van were not affected.
8. Other Business:
 - a. Upper Connecticut Valley Community Coalition – Request for Future Inmate Community Service Project. Sue reported that this request was submitted prior to the announcement from the State that the rest area would remain open. Sue suggested that she speak with Superintendent Hamelin about sending a work crew to mow the lawn at the rest area. This would be cost savings to the rest area's budget as only \$16,000 has been earmarked in the State budget for the Colebrook rest area to keep it open until October. The Board was in favor of this suggestion. Commissioner Brady also suggested the possibility of the County running the rest areas in Colebrook and Shelburne in the future as they contribute to economic activity. Commissioner Judd thought it was a great idea.
9. Unincorporated Places:

a. Timber Warrants – The Board signed timber warrants.

10. Other public input:

Mr. Bill Allen stated he is a Water Commissioner for the Town of Stewartstown. He explained that the town is looking at updating its water system and there are three possibilities: tie in to the Town of Canaan with an approximate cost of \$1 million; tie in to the Beecher Falls system; drill their own wells with an approximate cost of \$5 million which Mr. Allen added there is not enough of a client base for this alternative; or tie in to the County reservoir (possibly lease or buy outright). He was at the meeting today to see if the County would be interested in discussing this proposal.

Commissioner Judd stated that if there is a way to work with the Town of Stewartstown and not interfere with the County's water system he was agreeable to the idea. Sue stated that the Town's engineers have been at the facility and she has not heard feedback from them on their findings. She noted that the reservoir serves as backup for the facility's fire suppression system. Mr. Allen asked if the County would be willing to pursue a meeting with the engineers and Commissioner Judd replied yes. Any upgrades would come from grant funds. Sue added that if the County were to provide water to the Town, the County should receive its water free. Mr. Allen replied free or at a reduced cost. Sue added for free. Mr. Allen concluded that he would contact Sue once he had further information.

11. A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) & (d) at 11:30 a.m. All approved 2-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brady, seconded by Commissioner Judd to come out of non-public session at 11:50 a.m.

The Commissioners voted unanimously to provide health insurance for July - September to the two County Farm employees who would be laid off on June 30.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held July 13, 2011 at the Coös County Nursing Hospital in West Stewartstown at 9:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Judd, seconded by Commissioner Brady to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. All approved 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Brady, Clerk