

County of Sullivan, NH

Type of meeting: Board of Commissioners, Executive Session Meeting Minutes:
Per RSA 91-A:3.II.i. Discussion Regarding Preparations for and
Carrying Out of Emergency Functions

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 6, 2012; 3:40 PM

Place: Newport, NH – County Administration Building, 14 Main
Street, 1st Floor County Commissioners' Conference Room,
Newport, NH 03773

Attendees in Executive Session: Commissioners Bennie Nelson – Chair,
Jeffrey Barrette – Vice Chair and John M. Callum Jr. – Clerk, Greg Chanis – County
Administrator, John Cressy – Facilities Director, Rep. Steve Cunningham; and
Sharon Callum – Administrative Assistant/Minute Taker.

**Agenda Item No. 4. Executive Session Per 91-A:3.II.i. – Discussion Regarding
Preparations for and Carrying Out of Emergency
Functions**

3:40 Motion: to go into Executive Session Per RSA 91-A:3II.i. to hold
discussions regarding preparations for and carrying out of emergency
functions. Made by: Barrette. Seconded by: Callum Jr. Roll call vote: All
in favor. Those in Executive Session include the above names.

Mr. Chanis provided a brief summary: County is considering an emergency
central dispatch center, they have done so over a thirty year period, performing
three different studies; there are 46 agencies in the county dispatched by seven
(7) different dispatch facilities; the opportunity arose where Claremont consented
to give the County the US Armory building; if County takes over ownership, they'd
perform renovations on the building to house: a central dispatch and the Public
Health program, emergency shelter, regional training and an additional plug in are
for ambulances - off-site triage. This idea would only be feasible if they have 'buy-
in' from the three largest communities: Charlestown, Claremont, and Newport –
all of which operate 24 hour dispatch; they've put a lot of time into this and have
tentatively set a meeting for March 22nd to present the idea to select board
Chairs, City Council members, town administration, and emergency service Chiefs
of police, fire and ems; Claremont and Charlestown appear to be on board; Sheriff

Prozzo and Mr. Chanis met with Chief Burroughs, Chief Conroy, and Newport Town Manager Paul Brown to discuss the idea – this prompted them to engage all municipalities. The Commissioners reviewed a draft invitation letter [Appendix D] to go out to the municipalities. Mr. Chanis noted, at the meeting he would take the lead, present the concept, turn the meeting over to the radio representative who would discuss the towers, upgrades needed, and dispatch system, then he'd explain the public health side and other facility space options. Mr. Chanis confirmed he would invite Delegation members. He explained, the reason they were holding this in Executive Session, was that there are three new Claremont City Council members who have not heard about the building transition, and the Sheriff will attend the next Council meeting to discuss; assuming the Commissioners and new members are all on board, he'll speak with the press.

3:57 Motion: to come out of Executive Session. Made by: Barrette. Seconded by: Callum Jr. Voice vote: All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Callum, Jr., Clerk
Board of Commissioners, County of Sullivan, NH

JMC/sc

Date minutes approved and released: March 20, 2012