

## 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of Strategic Planning and Readiness Committee

April 8, 2022

PRESENT: Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont, Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Linda Corliss, CDC, Adam Hartwig, Chief Fire & EMS Administrator Roger Hooper, Commissioner Dutremble, County Manager Greg Zinser, Fire Chief Matt DuRoss, Fire Chief Rick Smith, Chief Deputy Jeremy Forbes, Police Chief Cline, MCCC EMS Department Head Eric Wellman, YCCC Workforce Development Cait Grant

Excused: Commissioner Ring, Chief David Hamel, EMA Director Art Cleaves, Jail Administrator Major Nathan Thayer

1. Review and approval of minutes of March 4, 2022 meeting-Fire Chief Rick Smith motioned to approve the minutes. Rick deRochemont seconded the motion. Vote 7 (approved) and 4 abstained.
2. Field Trips  
Visit to UNE Biddeford- Chief Hooper informed all that it was a very good trip.  
The group also visited the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro and the Fire Training Center in Yarmouth.
3. Draeger Training Towers- Chief Hooper explained the packet he circulated regarding the container type equipment.  
County Manager Zinser stated that the goal would be to burn propane but that he would defer to what the committee recommends. Chief Smith replied that the upkeep for gas is a lot. Rick deRochemont asked about propane vs. straw? Chief Smith stated that the turnover is the issue. With straw, the space is wet and smoky. Propane is easy to turn off and on. Adam Hartwig commented that the other structure (drawings given to the committee) looked like a commercial building. How is this one able to be universally used? Chief Hooper replied that the containers can be moved. Chief Cline commented that if this is cheaper and we can get more, it makes sense. County Manager Zinser asked if there was any benefit in regards to replacement? Conex boxes are easier to replace, stated Chief Hooper.
4. Architect meeting from 3/31/2022  
Floor Plan-Revised-Chief Hooper explained the three options (for the center that he distributed) with committee members. He stated that they may be restricted to no foam and may only be able to use water from the system.  
Chief Cline stated that the pad right next to canine training needs to be separated.  
Canine tent should be in the back.  
Chief Deputy Forbes asked if the emergency vehicles operations course was still part of the plans. There was a discussion of lengthening the course and that there may not be enough room. Chief Cline will reach out to one of the training officers to see what the length of the course needs to be.

Chief Deputy Forbes asked about the shooting range. County Manager Zinser stated that his preference would be to have that indoors. Chief Deputy Forbes replied that would be big money.

The County Manager stated that is probably a “down the road” thing but that he is open to it. Chief Deputy Forbes stated that it would be one more thing when we report to the academy. There was discussion about the possibility of an outdoor range in the back part of the property. County Manager Zinser stated that later there could perhaps be a dorm. The septic system will be designed for this ( 20 rooms with 2 bunks in each room).

The County Manager informed all that there will need to be a kitchen on the behavioral health side but staff will be needed. He suggested perhaps we can work with the community college. He estimated that there will be at least 4 or 5 full-time employees at the training center (administrator, scheduler, building maintenance) Chief Hooper said there will also be part time, reserve employees.

There will also need to be an operational committee which will also have to look at outside support, stated the County Manager and sustaining and running the center. On the capital side, perhaps we have sponsors on a yearly basis to fund this place.

Commissioner Dutremble informed all that the budget board has the last say on budgets. He continued that it is advisable for all to promote this within your own towns and cities. We as a group need to talk to our constituents.

Police Chief Cline asked if we should go to towns to promote this?

County Manager Zinser replied that he is not opposed the that. He added that he is fairly confident that this will get built but the Commissioners don't have the final say on funding.

Fire Chief DuRoss asked if a financial schedule had been created yet? County Manager Zinser stated that absolutely has to be part of it.

Commissioner Dutremble added that we had a tough time to pass Layman Way. The more they know, the better off it will be.

Adam Hartwig stated that regarding the kitchen space (at the behavioral health building) we may want to talk to Scott Davis about licensing. County Manager Zinser asked if maybe we hire a company like ARAMARK to run the kitchen?

Cait Grant asked at what point does this reach the press and how is the narrative going to be controlled?

County Manager Zinser responded that there is an ongoing study to bring sewer up Route 4 that he should have sometime in May.

Sebago Technics is working on sewer on this piece of property in the event we have to work with that septic system. The general occupancy is known so septic system(s) can be designed.

Surveyor should be out within a week or two to remove lot lines, continued the County Manager. He said that he is hopeful by June we will have the building design for behavioral health buildings. 3-D plans have been asked for from the architect also in the summer.

County Manager Zinser stated that from a public perspective he doesn't know how much to push this. The bigger issue is the funding of the center down the road. After the Commissioners approve it, we will have to move this forward and then that is when we talk with some of the towns. That is where the power of fire chiefs and police chiefs pushing it will be needed, explained County Manager Zinser.

County Manager Zinser stated that it is critical to set this up for the employment certification process. He added that maybe the college can help us with this. ALERT testing is a huge barrier to all law enforcement and corrections.

The County Manager added that moving forward, we don't really know the cost yet but we need to start now with an operations side to this. We can have more conversations with the college and perhaps have partnership agreements together. We will need to go to schools with this as this (center) will be an extension of a classroom.

Chief Hooper stated that he can work on an organizational document.

County Manager Zinser added that we will need to know how the college plays into this with the cost for instructors. Chief Hooper stated that perhaps YCCC becomes our EMS department and he envisions this being a satellite campus.

Chief Hooper asked the committee which one of the three options they like? The consensus was option 2.

County Manager Zinser informed all that in rough calculations, the training center is pegged at about \$8 million and the Behavioral Health Building at \$9 million with the site work at \$5 million.

We have set aside about \$22 million, stated Mr. Zinser.

There is also the cost to outfit the buildings.

There was a discussion of the auditorium with the committee deciding they liked the Pratt & Whitney building auditorium.

5. CDS Request Status- Chief Hooper explained that he is working on 2 grants- one from DOJ for simulators for \$900,000 and the other for EMS simulators for \$750,000 written into DHHS budget.

Eric Wellman interjected that that they may have some EMS simulators for the center.

Chief Hooper stated that he also put in there for a request for other equipment.

County Manager Zinser added that he will approach the Board as well to put aside money for equipment next year.

6. Alford Foundation Application- Chief Hooper informed all that he has had one conversation to see what they do and don't fund. He was told that they mostly fund central Maine and northern area. It's something the Board would probably be interested in talking about. Their Board meets in June.

County Manager Zinser commented that this is where he thinks we would need some professional help. We have two massive programs going on and we are investing \$22million in them. Committee members state that it should be one request for both programs. County Manager Zinser stated that we need to pull this together in a summary. Cait Grant commented that the College previously had a grant writer that they can reach out to and find out if she can assist us.

ACTION ITEMS- work on some budget items, grant proposal, Rod Hooper to talk to Lassell to redesign some of the floor plan.

7. Future Field Trips- Chief Hooper informs members.  
SMHC Biddeford 4/20 at 0900  
See E/R Decontamination Room  
NH public safety academy- working on getting there sometime in May  
See FAAC and MILO simulators  
Guilford CT sometime in June
  
8. Next meeting date- May 18, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.