

# County of Cheshire

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12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431  
[www.co.cheshire.nh.us](http://www.co.cheshire.nh.us)

June 29, 2020

Jail Inspection Reports  
First Semi-Annual Report  
County of Cheshire  
Director of Administration  
NH Dept. of Justice  
33 Capitol Street  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: Management report pursuant to RSA 30-B: 12,  
Cheshire County House of Correction**

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the above statutory requirement, the County Commissioners for Cheshire County are pleased to submit the following report on their examination into the management, condition and security of the inmates in the county correctional facility. Following is our written report to you of the findings and actions or proposed actions on such findings, as recorded within the Public Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners, recorded at the time of the meetings.

**June 17, 2020: 1st Semi-Annual Inspection**

**At AM Master Agenda Item #686: Semi-Annual Inspection of the Department of Corrections as required by RSA 30-B 12 was taken-up and the Commissioners began the inspection tour of the Department of Corrections physical facility and its operations.**

At 10:40AM the Commissioner's began an inspection tour of the facility with everyone wearing face masks and observing social distancing rules. Interim Operations Director Morey accompanied the Commissioners and staff discussed the use of the computerize law library, a recent change in commissary providers and responded to a question by the Commissioners concerning the number of internal complaints and grievances received by saying that both categories were very low in number and quite infrequent.

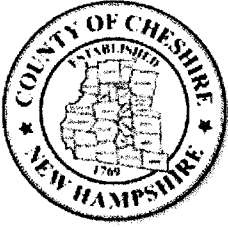
At 10:52AM the touring group entered the F-02 Pod and it was noted that the flooring in the entire Pod area appears to be rapidly degrading and should be scheduled for replacement. A discussion of the upgraded tablets used by the inmates was had and the use the video visitation system was covered.

A recently introduced change in the way that disciplinary issues are handled was discussed by DOC staff and it was learned that voluntary assignment to counseling has been successfully in some cases with inmates who are prepared to be actively engaged in the process in lieu of being placed in segregation cells.

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♦ County Commissioners 352-8215/Fax 355-3026 ♦ Registry of Deeds 352-0403/Fax 352-7678 ♦ Finance Department 355-0154/Fax 355-3000 - 12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431 ♦ County Sheriff 352-4238/Fax 355-3020 ♦ County Attorney 352-0056/Fax 355-3012 - 12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431 ♦ Alternative Sentencing/Mental Health Court 355-0160/Fax 355-0159 - 33 West St. Keene N.H. ♦ Department of Corrections 825 Marlboro Street, Keene, 03431 - 903-1600/Fax 352-4044 ♦ Maplewood Nursing Home & Assisted Living 399-4912/Fax 399-7005 - TTY Access 1-800-735-2964 ♦ Facilities 399-7300/Fax 399-7357 ♦ Human Resources 399-7317/399-7378/Fax 399-4429 - 201 River Rd, Westmoreland, NH 03467



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At 11:05AM the Commissioners entered the Medical Unit and met with the on-duty personnel. The use of suboxone in addiction treatments was discussed and the number of diabetic inmates was learned to be much lower than usual. How medications are distributed to inmates in need was covered as well as the rules and necessity for being engaged one-on-one with medical staff in the medical unit instead of receiving medications in the holding Pods was reviewed.

At 11:14AM The R Block Pod was entered and it was again noted that the flooring is in poor condition. The Commissioner's checked for the presence of inmate handbooks, grievance forms, and medical request forms and all were found to be readily available to any inmate who wished to submit a request.

At 11:21AM The Commissioners passed-by room P0-2 where a recovery session was being conducted and it was noted that the room was almost full.

At 11:23AM The Commissioners entered the D Block Pod and found that the current population of the block is at 64. The use of the inmate tablets for communication with their families and friends was explained and how the communications are filtered to prevent prohibited communications was covered.

The flooring problem was once again noted and a plan for replacement will be developed and a budget will be submitted in the coming years budget request.

At 11:29AM The Commissioner enter the K Block Pod (high risk unit) and were informed that the current population in the unit is at 29. A discussion of inmate control techniques and officer was covered and how teleconferencing in the day rooms is handled was discussed.

It was noted that the air ducts in the unit need to be inspected for cleaning as it hasn't been done in some time.

At 11:33AM Commissioner Wozmak left the building to attend a previously scheduled meeting and the Commissioners adjourned for a short lunch and recap of the tour.

At 12:01PM the Commissioner reconvened in the meeting room.

**At 12:04AM there being no further public business to discuss, Commissioner Englund moved to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon roll-call vote the motion passed unanimously.**

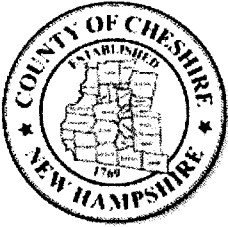
We trust that this report complies with the intent of the statute requiring inspection of correctional facilities by the County Commissioners. Please feel free to contact this office if you have any questions regarding this report.

As we have said in each of our reports over these many years, we continue to be proud of our facility, its management and the dedicated service of the correctional officers and support staff.

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Sincerely yours,

THE CHESHIRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles F. Weed, Chairman  
County of Cheshire, Board of Commissioners

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