

Belknap County Convention Minutes February 7, 2011

County Tours:

The County Convention met at the Belknap County Court House for a facilities tour led by Debra Shackett, County Administrator, and Harold Powell, Maintenance Director. The tour began at 9:30am and concluded at 10:15am. The following members participated in the tour:

Harry Accornero	James Pilliod
Dennis Fields	Tyler Simpson
Robert Greemore	Jeffrey St. Cyr
Robert Kingsbury	Franklin Tilton
Robert Malone	Colette Worsman
Alida Millham	

No action was taken.

The County Convention met at the County Complex for tours of the Belknap County Nursing Home, the Belknap County Sherriffs Office, and the Belknap County House of Corrections. The tours began at 10:30am and concluded at 12Noon. The following members participated in the tours:

Harry Accornero	Alida Millham
Dennis Fields	James Pilliod
Donald Flanders	Tyler Simpson
Robert Greemore	Jeffrey St. Cyr
Robert Kingsbury	Franklin Tilton
Robert Luther	Colette Worsman
Robert Malone	

No action was taken.

The County Convention took a break for lunch beginning at 12Noon.

County Attorney Interviews:

Members Present:

Harry Accornero	Alida Millham
Peter Bolster	James Pilliod
Guy Comtois	David Russell
Dennis Fields	Tyler Simpson
Donald Flanders	Jeffrey St. Cyr
Robert Greemore	Elaine Swinford
Robert Kingsbury	Franklin Tilton
Robert Luther	William Tobin (arrived at 2:43pm)
Robert Malone	Colette Worsman

Representative Millham called the Convention to order at 1pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the Convention introduced themselves and their district.

Representative Millham made a statement about a potential conflict of interest that may exist with a candidate. She stated that a conflict needed to include a financial gain for the conflict of interest to exist under Legislative Ethics Guidelines. She stated she had no personal or financial gain in the selection of any candidate to be the County Attorney. She stated she has filed a Declaration of Intent with the House Clerk's Office.

Representative Bolster stated that one candidate works as a prosecutor for the Alton Police Department where he is a town selectman. He stated he filed a Declaration of Intent with the House Clerk's Office.

Representative Luther stated that he utilized one of the candidates as a private attorney two years ago, but no longer uses the candidate for legal services.

Representative Comtois stated he is a member of the Alton Business Association where a candidate for County Attorney is also a member.

Interview of Ken Anderson for County Attorney:

Representative Millham welcomed Ken Anderson. The interview began at 1:04pm. Members of the Convention introduced themselves and their district.

Members of the Convention asked Mr. Anderson questions for the position of County Attorney.

The interview concluded at 2:05pm.

Interview of Melissa Countway Guldbrandsen for County Attorney:

Representative Millham welcomed Melissa Countway Guldbrandsen. The interview began at 2:12pm. Members of the Convention introduced themselves and their district.

Members of the Convention asked Mrs. Guldbrandsen questions for the position of County Attorney.

The interview concluded at 3:02pm.

Interview of Lori Ann Chandler for County Attorney:

Representative Millham welcomed Lori Ann Chandler. The interview began at 3:11pm. Members of the Convention introduced themselves and their district.

Members of the Convention asked Mrs. Chandler questions for the position of County Attorney.

The interview concluded at 3:43pm.

Deliberations on the position of County Attorney:

The Convention discussed what the next steps are for appointing a County Attorney.

Representative Russell, seconded by Representative Bolster, moved to pursue background checks on Mrs. Guldbrandsen and Mrs. Chandler. There was discussion that members should state who their preferred candidate is before any candidates are chosen for background checks. Representative Russell and Bolster withdrew the motion.

A preliminary vote to narrow the field was held on the three candidates for County Attorney:

Ken Anderson	3
Melissa Countway Guldbrandsen	7
Lori Ann Chandler	8

The Convention will pursue background checks on Mrs. Guldbrandsen and Mrs. Chandler. Representative Russell volunteered to work with the County Human Resources Director on completing reference checks.

The next meeting of the Convention will be on February 10, 2011, at 6pm at the County Complex.

With no further business to come before the Convention, Representative Millham adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey St. Cyr
Clerk of the Convention