

Belknap County
May 21, 2013
Delegation Meeting Minutes

Chairman Worsman called the Belknap County Delegation meeting to order at 6:00 pm on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance: Reps. Arsenault, Burchell, Comtois, Cormier, Fields, Fink, Flanders, Greemore, Gulick, Holmes, Huot, Raymond, Sylvia, Tilton, Vadney, Worsman.

Absent: Reps. DiMartino and Luther

Also present: Commissioners Philpot, Nedeau, Thomas; Finance Director, Glen Waring; Nursing Home Director, Matt Logue; and Administrative Assistant, Angela Bovill

Acceptance and/or correction of minutes: Executive Committee: 4/17 **M/Flanders**
S/Greemore. Unanimous vote. MOTION CARRIES.

Full Delegation Minutes: 2/19/13; 2/25/13 (with petition added); 3/4/13 (as previously voted – attached with line item delegation approved budget); 3/19/13; 4/17/13. **M/Greemore, S/Comtois Unanimous vote. MOTION CARRIES.**

Rep. Huot commented the Clerk of the Convention did not meet the Public Hearing statute for this meeting for appropriation. Statement needs amount to be appropriated and date for the proposed appropriation. Angela notes the towns were informed as has been the county's past practice and May 1 re-schedule for the meeting was sent. Rep. Vadney said vote could be put off until the statute notice is completed and continue briefing at this meeting for the supplemental proposal. Rep. Gulick requested a vote be made to be able to proceed with the presentation and then a vote to get the appropriation approved for the Nursing Home. Delegation will re-schedule public meeting to meet all requirements of the public notice. Chair Worsman requested Angela to send draft notice to Rep. Huot to address concerns prior to mailing public notice.

Chairman Worsman had a statement about a notice in Laconia Daily Sun which ran on May 16, 2013. Chair read a statement about this news article being misleading and inaccurate. "Commissioners say convention majority has already pre-judged proposal to expanded nursing services." Chair stated this is not true. No one in delegation has spoken or communicated regarding any motions made on supplemental appropriation. It was noted Ms. Shackett was quoted in this article "The intent of the leadership is not to deliberate issues in public...not allowing the public to hear the discussion." Chair stated it is sad that our county administrator presents such false information. Commissioner Thomas commented Ms. Shackett is with her brother at Dartmouth and would not be in attendance at this meeting.

NH Admin/County Administration/Commissioners gave presentation headed by Glen Waring.

Supporting information contained answers to delegations questions and explained how supplemental will fund Medicare A program. Approval date for this program must be soon. Concerns and comments were heard by the public. Skip Murphy, Gilford questioned changes regarding Affordable Care Act in adjusting Medicare A should service conditions change. Commissioner Philpot responded this was a dynamic process with discussion to delegation. Glen Waring discussed this program can bring good news to taxpayers and is flexible with “no carry over effect” and with no staffing changes. Commissioner Thomas responded since we have effectively ‘stopped’ the program already, this shows it is “fluid and can be stopped.” Roger Gray, Sanbornton thanked the Chair and delegation for taking into account taxpayer concerns and declared he is “happy you are asking questions.” Michael Lehrman from Catholic Charities and Brenda from St. Francis were concerned about the county nursing home competing with private industry and questioned the Belknap County Nursing Home mission. Matt Logue responded consumers are driven by choices. BCNH offers a choice. Commissioner Thomas responded that Medicaid beds are priorities at BCNH.

Discussed scheduling delegation Monday June 3, 5:30 pm for public hearing with information handouts and condensed presentation by Commissioners for this r/s hearing.

M/Vadney to authorize Chair Worsman point of contact between counsel and county convention. Rep. Vadney suggested in interest of fairness that contact should include Rep. Huot as well if he is interested in accepting. **S/Comtois**. Rep. Raymond asked how to pay the counsel. Chair Worsman responded it was Commissioners’ responsibility to pay the bill. Vote was 11 in favor and 3 opposed. **MOTION CARRIES**. Rep. Huot was not present for vote.

M/Greemore to move into non- public session RSA 91-A: 3, II (e) regarding litigation. **S/Comtois**.

Roll call vote YES: Comtois, Cormier, Fink, Flanders, Greemore, Holmes, Sylvia, Tilton, Vadney, Worsman. NAY: Gulick, Raymond. Vote was 10 – 2. **MOTION CARRIES**.

M/Greemore made in non-public session to seal the non- public minutes until information becomes public. **S/Holmes**. Vote was 10 – 2. **MOTION CARRIES**.

M/Greemore to return to public session. **S/Comtois**. Back in public session on 8:33 pm. Vote was 10 – 2. **MOTION CARRIES**.

M/Comtois to adjourn 8:35 pm for the evening. **S/Tilton**. Unanimous vote. **MOTION CARRIES**.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Cormier, Clerk of the County Convention