



**Delegation Meeting Minutes**  
**February 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm**

Chair Frank Tilton called the Belknap County Delegation meeting to order at 6:00 pm on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and recited the pledge of allegiance. The Chair asked the Clerk to call the roll.

In Attendance: Representatives Aldrich, Comtois, Dumais, Fields, Flanders, Fraser, Gallagher, Howard, Lebreche, Luther, Spanos, Tilton and Vadney.

Absent: Representatives Fisher, Hurt, Russell, Sylvia and Varney.

**Minutes:** M/Aldrich, S/Luther to approve the 02/09/15 minutes as written. **Motion passes.** Unanimous.

**Subcommittee minutes:** M/Gallagher, S/Luther to approve the 01/23/15 maintenance subcommittee minutes. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** M/Flanders, S/Comtois to approve the 01/23/15 Nursing Home subcommittee minutes. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** M/Vadney, S/Gallagher to approve the 01/26/15 Admin/Finance subcommittee meeting minutes. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** Now that Rep. Comtois is present to vote on the Executive Committee minutes, M/Tilton, S/Comtois to approve the 01/26/15 Executive Committee minutes as written. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

**Executive committee meeting updates:** Rep. Vadney briefed the Delegation of their Executive committee meeting and the transfers that were approved. (#2014-57 for \$1380.89 and #2014-58 for \$59,839.75)

**Commissioners Budget recommendations:** Chair Tilton said the Commission gave a handout with their recommendations. (Attached-Board of Commissioners 02/13/15 Budget review notes) They are based on the budget reviews from their 02/13/15 all day budget work session with Department heads/elected officials along with an updated budget reflecting the changes. He turned the meeting over to Commissioner DeVoy to present. Commissioner DeVoy reported that he and Commissioner Taylor met from 7:30 am – 4:30 pm on 02/13/15 in an all-day budget session where the department heads and elected officials could explain their budgets. There is a bulleted list of recommendations for each department and Commissioner DeVoy asked each department head to come forward to explain their department's changes. Lengthy discussion ensued as department heads presented their changes. All departments in the budget were covered and Delegation members asked various questions as they went through. Commissioner DeVoy then summarized that the recommendations made tonight were made thoughtfully and deliberative with their best effort put forward to meet the taxpayers and the county's needs.


These recommendations result in a 2% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes and exactly where the Delegation asked the Board to be. Commissioner Burchell then spoke to the fact that he has 7 or 8 divergents from the other two Commissioners. That the way the County is being run, in his opinion, it is not efficient. Other counties follow different models that are successful. (Written comments (2 pages) included) Commissioner Burchell is also suggesting that the county fund outside agencies on a fee for service basis. Commissioner Burchell said that he would send his recommendations to the other two Commissioners. In his opinion, the Proshare numbers maybe too high. Also in capital, there needs to be funding for the schematic costs or the jail included in the budget. He would also like to create a “development costs” line item in the jail budget. Chair Tilton reminded everyone that they have to have a budget put together during the month of March. Rep. Comtois asked if Commissioner Burchell could email his cost savings summary to all Delegation members. Commissioner Burchell ended with stating that in his opinion \$25,000 for legal is not enough in the budget for 2015.

**Summary:** Chair Tilton said tonight’s meeting was a good meeting. He was impressed with the work that the Commissioners did at their budget work session. There is good dialogue going on and he asked all the Delegation members to digest tonight’s information. They will come back to make further progress at their next meeting on February 23 at 5:00 pm. Rep. Comtois suggested the delegation needs to work harder on the proposed budget.

**Public comment:** Chair asked for public comment. There was none. Chair Tilton reiterated for the public that the next two Delegation meetings will be 02/23 at 5:00 pm and 03/02 at 6:00pm.

**Adjourn:** With no further business to discuss M/Aldrich, S/Comtois to adjourn at 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Gallagher, Clerk  
County Delegation