



Delegation Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Chair Vadney called the Belknap County Delegation meeting to order at 6:04 pm on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH. Representative Huot led the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Representatives Abear, Aldrich (at 7 pm), Comtois, Fields, Flanders, Fraser, Howard, Huot, Lang, Plumer, Silber, Spanos, Sylvia (at 7:30 pm) and Vadney.

Absent: Representative Maloney and Varney.

Rep Silber read a resolution for Rep Huot for his 50 years of service in law. Unanimous.

Gunstock RAN: Sean Sullivan, Chair of the Gunstock Area Commission introduced the other members Ruth Larson, Robert Durfee, Stephan Nix, Russell Dumais and also present General Manager Greg Goddard. Mr. Sullivan proposed a 1 year extension to the current MOU with the County.

M/Howard, S/Lang to accept the offer from the Gunstock Area Commission. Discussion: Rep Silber reviewed the statue regarding Gunstock. He handed out copies of the Gunstock recreation data sheet and reviewed it. Rep Silber asked what the vote results were to not pay the County. Mr. Sullivan stated no vote had been taken. Mr. Sullivan stated the Delegation set the expiration date. There was discussion about the meeting that took place with the Gunstock Area Commission and some members of the Delegation. Mr. Sullivan stated the document Rep Silber handed out was the same one addressed at the meeting with incorrect figures. M/Huot, S/Fraser to move previous question. Rep Abear called roll: Abear-Y, Comtois-Y, Fields-Y, Flanders-Y, Fraser-Y, Howard-Y, Huot-Y, Lang-Y, Plumer-Y, Silber-N, Spanos-Y and Vadney-Y. 11-1 Silber opposed. **Motion passed.**

M/Silber to direct the County Commissioners to remove the Gunstock Commissioner for failure to follow statue. Motion failed due to lack of second.

Rep Vadney asked if there was any public comment.

Joe Hass, Gilmanton stated on page 2 bottom paragraph states you will negotiate a line of credit with a local bank. He asked to see the list of banks? Steve Blakney listed the banks they work with. Mr. Goddard explained what bond counsel does.

David Stamps, Laconia stated he supports Greg and all the staff at Gunstock. He stated they have done a very good job at making Belknap County a four season county.

Dianna Lacey, Belmont thanked the Gunstock Area Commissioners for the great work they do at Gunstock and would like to see positive support from the Delegation.

Rep Huot stated in 2013-2014 he was on the Gunstock subcommittee and found everything to be done responsible and great care for their customers.

Rep Vadney stated he is an avid skier and Gunstock is kept in good shape and employees are very friendly.

M/Lang S/Fields. See attached Resolution.

Minutes: M/Lang, S/Howard to approve the minutes of 3/10/17. Unanimous. **Motion passed.**
M/Lang, S/Howard to approve the minutes of 3/13/17. Unanimous. **Motion passed.**
M/Huot, S/Fields to approve the minutes of 3/28/17. Rep Comtois point of order there was not a quorum. Rep Vadney stated the minutes need to be adjusted to state: The meeting of March 28th was a gathering due to lack of quorum and was adjourned. Unanimous. **Motion passed.**

Supplemental Appropriation: Rep Vadney stated his main concern with the request is not the annual payment it is that we do things that will have legs in the future.

Rep Howard stated the meeting was noticed under RSA 24:14. He stated he believed it was not noticed legally and they should only hold the public hearing but not vote. There was discussion about the meeting notice.

Commissioner DeVoy stated there was a slideshow for the supplemental appropriation request.

Sheriff Mike Moyer reviewed his portion of the slideshow. He stated the cuts to his department were devastating. There was a discussion about the statistics presented. Rep Howard asked if the Sheriff had thought about dispatch going black during the day. Sheriff Moyer stated he had not and there would be a lot involved. He stated we would still need dispatch for our deputies.

Superintendent Keith Gray reviewed his portion of the slideshow. There was a discussion about staffing levels.

Dr. David Armstrong stated he is very frugal and supportive of the new community corrections with its programs. He suggested members of the Delegation walk through the current jail to see the deplorable condition the inmates are living in. Dr. Armstrong stated the staff are doing the best they can with what they have.

Rep Vadney asked if there was any public input.

David Stamps, Laconia stated they are being penny wise and pound foolish. He stated the Commissioners are not asking for excessive funds and are trying to make our County safer. Mr. Stamps stated they are trying to turn inmates into tax paying citizens and we all will win in the long run. He stated he had been in the current jail as a volunteer and it is deplorable.

Phil Spagnola stated he is a person in recovery. He stated not once had the human been discussed. Mr. Spagnola stated they need to think about the legs can go the other way too.

George Feeney, Alton stated he does bible studies in the jail as a volunteer. He stated there are people that cut in and out of the room so not much can be accomplished.

Brian Gallagher, Sanbornton stated he had an opportunity to become familiar with budget in last few years. He asked the Delegation to share for current 2017 budget compared last year how much more does the Commission have to manage compared to 2016? Rep Abear stated \$1.4 million. Mr. Gallagher asked how much money from the 2016 budget was left unspent. Commissioner DeVoy stated somewhere around \$2.1 million. Mr. Gallagher stated the Sheriff and Superintendent have provided a good overview of particular needs. He stated he learned a lot more about the Sheriff and Jail departments. Mr. Gallagher reviewed the different revenue options for the supplemental appropriation.

Jacqui Abikoff, Gilford state the program will reduce cost to the County in general. She stated 28 people have graduated from CORE in a year and there is a 70% recidivism rate. Ms. Abikoff stated of 28 people only 5 have returned. She stated a grant proposal has gone to the federal government for 3 year funding. Ms. Abikoff urged the Delegation to understand the human impact to continue the program.

Dianna Lacey, Belmont stated she is fully supportive of the budget request. She stated all her family and friends are supportive.

David, prior inmate stated he is thankful for the turnaround in his life due to the CORE program. He stated he would pay the extra money to have someone walk around changed like him.

Dean LaPlante, BC Recovery Court participant for 17 months and a contributing member of society. He stated the program turned his life around for the better.

Amy Beaudoin, Laconia thanked the Delegation. She stated she is Vice Chair of Stand up Laconia and a person in long term recovery. Ms. Beaudoin read what is faith, love and hope. She stated we all have choices and can make a difference.

Dick Smith, Laconia stated he fully supports the additional money needed for the new Community Corrections facility. He is actively involved with navigating recovery and stand up Laconia.

Terry Donovan, Gilmanton stated she watched the Delegation meetings and is ashamed to say she has never come to speak out. She stated she supports the funding of the jail and Sheriff. Ms. Donovan stated she is proud of County services. She spoke of the previous budget meetings.

Ian Raymond, Sanbornton spoke of the expense of substance abuse to the County and stated the human element is not being considered.

Clare Persson, Laconia and Stand up Laconia chairperson stated 85% of inmates have substance misuse problem. She stated 27% of children in Laconia have parents that are incarcerated. Ms. Persson urged the Delegation to fund the four people and get more involved.

Tim Sullivan, Gilford stated what he is seeing tonight is a huge demonstration of the growing monster of public employees telling us we have to pay up. He stated seniors are not seeing increases and everything is going up.

Eileen Morrison Smith, Laconia stated she has raised 5 children and proud of the community. She stated the human part of the discussion is more important than money. Ms. Smith stated we have a great jail with programs that help people.

Heather Carter, Barnstead stated she would happily give money every year if it meant supporting the Sheriff and Jail.

Valerie Johnston, Laconia stated she has two kids that are drug addicts and currently in jail, 1 other disabled child. She stated everyone knows someone who is an addict and if you love them it doesn't matter who they are when they are using their lives matter. Ms. Johnston stated the corrections officers bust their butts and we have the best Sheriff.

Kevin Warwick, consultant spoke about the model he has used in every state in the Country and understands no one wants to spend money. He stated he hopes they can make the difficult decision.

Commissioner DeVoy stated the jail staffing will still be the lowest staffed out of the Counties. He stated he lost his youngest brother to drugs and it happens all families. Commissioner DeVoy stated this is common sense to make communities better and stronger.

Rep Vadney stated they should gather more data.

Rep Spanos stated all the facts have been represented and should not delay the vote.

Rep Howard brought up voting against HB413. He stated if they are going do this than they need to add the \$280,000 back into the budget.

Rep Abear stated they should make one vote to cover revenue and expense. He stated they should hold off vote until later and would like to have time to think about it.

Rep Vadney closed public hearing at 9:54 pm.

M/Huot, S/Lang to approve the supplemental appropriation for \$229,500 which would consist of \$93,000 for Sheriff and \$136,500 for jail and the source of funds be undesignated fund balance.

Discussion: Rep Spanos stated it had been discussed that if this passes then there would be no effect to the tax payers. Rep Comtois stated she thought they need to designate an amount to each department line. Rep Huot stated an appropriation does not require line item amounts. Rep

Abear stated if they address the \$200,000 from HB413 it would come from the fund balance and asked if the Commissioners would be ok with that. Commissioner DeVoy stated they would be but need to understand at some point there will have to be a tax increase. Rep Plumer asked including this new amount of spending what the increase would be over last years spending. Rep Abear stated it would be a 0.08% increase. Rep Sylvia stated he heard discussion that taxes are not being increased this year but next year the new positions will need to be funded for a full year. Rep Lang stated they need to protect the \$8million investment. He stated they have an obligation to employees to provide a safe working environment. Rep Fields stated not one constituent has contacted him.

Rep Abear called roll: Abear-N, Aldrich-N, Comtois-N, Fields-Y, Flanders-Y, Fraser-Y, Howard-N, Huot-Y, Lang-Y, Plumer-Y, Silber-N, Spanos-Y, Sylvia-N and Vadney-N. 7-7. Motion failed due to a tie.

Rep Huot requested the chair to call a meeting in the next two weeks to reconsider the vote.

Adjourn: Rep Vadney adjourned the meeting at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jamie Ellsworth
Administrative Assistant

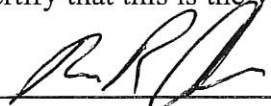
Certificate of Vote
Resolution for Gunstock Notes or Bonds (RAN)

The following motion was made at the meeting of the Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation) on May 22, 2017. Notice of said meeting was posted as required by law.

Resolved: "Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 399:15, 1959 NH Laws as amended, to authorize the Belknap County Treasurer to issue notes, on the concurrence of not less than four members of the Gunstock Area Commission, in an amount not to exceed Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000.00) on such terms and conditions as shall be negotiated by the Gunstock Area Commission. Said notes are issued in anticipation of revenues at Gunstock Ski Area and shall have a maturity date of not later than April 1, 2018. All notes issued pursuant to this authority shall contain an express provision that all fees, fares, and tolls, as authorized by statute, shall continue to be collected until such notes have matured. The Gunstock Area Commission shall pay the principal and interest on said notes out of revenues collected by Gunstock Area."

Representative: <small>AB/AMT</small>	YES	NO
Marc Abear	✓	
Glen Aldrich ✓		
Barbara Comtois	✓	
Dennis Fields	✓	
Don Flanders	✓	
Valerie Fraser	✓	
Raymond Howard	✓	
David Huot	✓	
Timothy Lang	✓	
Michael Maloney ✓		
John Plumer	✓	
Norman Silber		✓
Peter Spanos	✓	
Michael Sylvia ✓		
Herb Vadney	✓	
Peter Varney ✓		
Total:		

I certify that this is the vote as included in the minutes of the aforementioned meeting.



 Marc Abear, Clerk
 Belknap County Delegation

5/22/17

 Date

