



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
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Christopher D. Boothby  
Chairman  
Meredith

Edward D. Philpot Jr.  
Vice-Chairman  
Laconia

Richard W. Long  
Clerk  
Belmont

Minutes  
Belknap County Commissioners Meeting  
January 6, 2010

Commissioner Philpot called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 7:35 AM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Chairman Christopher Boothby was present electronically (via Skype technology), Vice Chairman Edward Philpot Jr., Clerk, Richard W. Long and County Administrator, Debra Shackett.

**Approval of minutes:** M/Long, S/Boothby to approve the 12/16/09 minutes. Roll call vote: Boothby/Y, Philpot/Y, Long/Y. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** M/Long, S/Boothby to approve the 12/16/09 non public minutes. Roll call vote: Boothby/Y, Philpot/Y, Long/Y. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Acknowledgement of Alan Robichaud:** Commissioners acknowledged Alan Robichaud for his years of service to Belknap County. Commissioners presented Mr. Robichaud with a very nice desk clock marking his tenure with Belknap County. They thanked him for all the time and effort he has put into the Citizen's Council on Children and Families and wished him well in continuing that legacy under the United Way. Mr. Robichaud thanked the Commissioners.

**HB1483 discussion with Rep. Alida Millham:** Commissioners expressed the fact that they were upset that they had not been notified of this effort and that it would be the second time that the Commissioners would have to go to Concord to oppose a bill sponsored by Belknap County Delegation. They have been working very hard to have open communication and working together in keeping everyone informed. Rep. Millham apologized for not giving them a copy of the bill. It was never her internet to be deceitful; rather there was a very small window of time that allowed her to submit the bill. Rep. Millham stated that the intent was never to usurp the Commissioners authority and that will come out in the bill session. Commissioner Boothby stated that we do not want any unintended consequences. The whole reason for this bill is to try to define "appropriation" language (in grants, supplementals, etc) Commissioners unanimously agreed with that. A scrutiny of the whole statute needs to take place, and Rep. Millham hoped this would get the ball rolling. The goal is to redefine appropriations. There was discussion. Rep. Millham apologized again and all agreed that they are all trying to work together in the best interest of Belknap County

**Work session scheduled:** Commissioners scheduled a work session of Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 8:00 AM for policy review. Commissioners would also like Ms. Shackett to call Primex to schedule another goal planning session to take place once Commissioner Boothby returns.

**February Commissioners Meetings:** Commissioners regular meeting for February will be on Wednesday, February 3, 2010 and Wednesday February 17, 2010 both at 7:30 AM. Commissioner Long asked if Primex could be schedule that day and they could commit to getting through a lot of business at once.

**Nursing Home Disaster planning exercise:** Courtney Marshall, Nursing Home Administrator discussed that disaster planning is required at the Nursing Home as life safety compliance. (Mr. Marshall also reminded the Commissioners that they are in their survey window). Mr. Marshall informed the Commissioners that a table top power point presentation took place on 12/23/09, and was followed by a live exercise in collaboration with the Sheriff's department on 12/27/09. Mr. Marshall said that the live exercise went very well. They learned some helpful information from the Sheriffs department for what to do the next time. The only conflicts or challenges that are to be expected were the moral and ethical dilemmas. Mr. Marshall thanked the Sheriff's department and stated that this was a great exercise. (These are done twice a year.)

### **Administrative report from County Administrator Debra Shackett**

**Dept. of Corrections:** Ms. Shackett shared a copy of a letter written by Interim Superintendent Lt. David Berry. It was a letter of commendation for the outstanding job by CO Elly Pickowicz. CO Pickowicz discovered some medication during a POD search and possibly prevented a serious situation in the Jail. She is a credit to the Dept. of Corrections and the Citizens of Belknap County.

**United Way Funding for the Friends of Fosters Grandparents Program (\$7,000 of the \$55,000 CAP):** Ms. Shackett explained that when the Commissioners agreed to fund the \$55,000 to CAP on behalf of the United Way (during the Citizen's Council transition) that \$7,000 of the \$55,000 was intended by the United Way to go to the Friends Foster Grandparent Program with the remaining \$48,000 to Senior Care Program. Ms. Shackett would like to know how the Commissioners want to handle paying. Commissioner Philpot and Commissioner Long both concurred with sending the money (\$55,000) to the United Way and have them distribute to the programs to continue full filling their commitment.

**New County Website:** Ms. Shackett informed the Commissioners that the new website design is under way with Virtual Town Hall.

**Non public session:** M/Long, S/Boothby to enter into non public session at 8:25 AM per RSA 91: A-3, II, (b). Roll call vote: Boothby/Y, Philpot/Y, Long/Y. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Non public session concluded by roll call unanimous vote at 8:40 AM and the Commissioners were back in a public session.

**Hiring of a new Superintendent of the DOC:** Commissioners announced that they will hire Mr. Daniel Ward as the Superintendent of the Belknap County Department of Corrections. A thorough nationwide search took place and there was a wide range of qualified candidates. Ms. Shackett and Mr. O'Neil felt that Mr. Ward is an excellent choice. Partnered with Lt. Berry, it will be a strong professional management team to lead the Department of Corrections. They are estimating that Mr. Ward will start by the end of the month.

**Public comment:** Commissioner Philpot asked for public comment. There was none.

**Adjourn:** With no further business to discuss, M/Long, S/Boothby to adjourn at 8:43 AM. Roll call vote. All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Angela A. Bovill, Admin. Assistant