

# Belknap County Commissioners Meeting

## November 21, 2008

### Commissioners Conference Room

Commissioner Daigneault called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:04 AM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH.

In Attendance: Chairman Philip Daigneault, Vice Chairman Christopher Boothby, Clerk Richard Long, and Debra Shackett, County Administrator.

### Minutes of the Meeting

#### Richard Grenier, Superintendent of the Jail

***Budget request:*** The Superintendent took to heart the letter about new personnel that the Commissioners sent. In good conscience the Superintendent came before the board today to request a 40 hour a week Correctional officer position to maintain safety and security in building. There was discussion. Commissioner Long made a motion to approve the hiring of a 40 hour full time CO. Commissioner Boothby seconded for discussion. Commissioner Boothby said timing could not be worse and asked Superintendent Grenier if this could be done with part time staff. The Superintendent told the Commissioners that he needs the 40 hours. Whether it is full time or part time, he needs 40 hours. There was extensive discussion. Commissioner Long amended the motion to approve funding the equivalent of a full time salary into part time wages to equal 40 hours a week. Commissioner Boothby seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

#### Debra Shackett, County Administrator

***2009 Budget Technology:*** Debra spoke to all department heads and met with Jon Rich. She would like permission to leave the \$10,000 in the 2009 budget. The Nursing home will still keep 6 for replacement in their budget as discussed with Debra. Commissioners concur. Five computers have been identified as needing replacement and will be relocated within the county. The remainder of money will be available as needed during the year.

***Citizen's council:*** Commissioner Boothby made the motion to restore the funding for the 2009 budget for Citizen's council minus the rent amount of \$14,448, for one year. In addition that the council will be housed at the office of the cooperative extension in the county. This is contingent on one year of fundamental changes including a signed agreement with the State where the state will agree to pay for diversion and youth at risk services by 2010. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

***Restorative Justice:*** Commissioner Boothby made the motion to restore the 2009 budget request for Restorative Justice. Further, that Restorative Justice accepts and supports the willingness of Willard

Martin and Senator Sgambati to spearhead the efforts to have the services for Restorative Juvenile Justice paid for by the state of New Hampshire and that this support is for one year as a bridge to that State support. This is per the offer in a memo from Willard Martin dated 11/20/08. Commissioners would also like to receive periodic updates on the progress. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**LRMFA (Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid):** In accordance with LRMFA stated request, Commissioner Boothby made the motion to support the 2009 full budget request which will provide for one full year to LRMFA to provide one year to transition to municipal funding starting with the 2010 County budget. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Conservation District:** Commissioner Boothby made a motion to restore the full BCCD budget request for 2009 with the provision that the County receive an audited financial statement by a certified auditing firm of BCCD books before any future funding will occur. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Genesis:** Commissioners have a fundamental problem with funding one non-profit over another when all have a great importance. There was discussion. Commissioners had met with Genesis and told them during last year's budget cycle to anticipate this recommendation and they had over 12 months advance notice. Commissioners unanimously concurred not to fund Genesis 2009 budget request.

**CAP (Community Action program):** Commissioners unanimously agreed to support the Meals on wheels program and the rural transportation program. These programs directly affect the residents of Belknap County and pertain to seniors. Commissioners supported the rural transportation to allow our seniors to access necessary services which will allow them to remain in their homes rather than become a BCNH resident. Family planning, prenatal and the Winnepesaukee transit will not be supported as unanimously voted on by the board.

**BCEDC (Belknap County Economic Development Council):** Commissioner Boothby made a motion to restore the full 2009 budget request of \$75,000 with the provision that \$65,000 go to BCEDC for the organization's mission and that \$10,000 be earmarked for the advancement of regionalization of social services in Belknap County (as they spoke of at the public forum 11/20/08). Commissioner Long seconded for discussion. Commissioner Daigneault said that Jennifer Boulanger told them they could survive for one year if they have to without the County's funding if they had to. Basically, the County has no administrative oversight of BCEDC, all we really do for them is guarantee grants and the Commissioners will still continue to support that. There was discussion. Commissioner Daigneault said there is a motion on the floor. All in favor. Commissioner Boothby I, Commissioner Long, Nay and Commissioner Daigneault Nay. Majority rules. Motion fails and BCEDC will not receive their 2009 budget request.

**County Departments Budgets:** Commissioners would also like to acknowledge the efforts and diligence of all department heads for coming in with decreased budgets and doing more with less. Commissioners commend you.

**Surplus:** There was extensive discussion on the surplus figure for the 2009 budget. Commissioners took a recess at 9:44 AM to allow Ms. Shackett to calculate the proposed budget implications as the Commissioners discussed. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**2009 Surplus vote:** Commissioners started the meeting again at 10:27 AM. Commissioner Boothby then made a motion to apply 1 million dollars of surplus to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes in the 2009 Belknap County Budget. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**2009 Budget Vote:** Commissioner Boothby made the motion to approve the amount to be raised by taxes in the amount of \$14,306,858 and to authorize/recommend the Treasurer to the County Convention to borrow up to that amount (\$14,306,858) in anticipation of taxes (TAN's) for the 2009 budget. Commissioner Long seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Non-public session:** Commissioner Boothby made the motion to enter into a nonpublic session per RSA 91:A-3, paragraph II, section (C) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Long seconded. Commissioners Daigneault took a polling of the board. Unanimous. Motion carries. The board was in a non-public meeting at 10:33 AM.

At 11:01 AM the Commissioners concluded non-public session by a unanimous vote and were back in public meeting. While in non public session, there were no actions taken and no decisions made.

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:02 AM.

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Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Philip P. Daigneault, Chair**

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**Christopher D. Boothby, Vice Chair**

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**Richard W. Long, Clerk**