



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
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Christopher D. Boothby  
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Edward D. Philpot Jr.  
Vice-Chairman  
Laconia

Richard W. Long  
Clerk  
Belmont

Minutes  
Belknap County Commissioners Meeting  
October 7, 2009, 7:30 AM

Commissioner Boothby called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 7:30 AM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Chairman Christopher Boothby, Vice Chairman Edward Philpot Jr., Clerk Richard W. Long and County Administrator, Debra Shackett.

**Approval of Minutes:** M/Long, S/Philpot to approve the 9/23/09 minutes. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** M/Long, S/Philpot to approve the 9/23/09 non-public minutes. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Resignation of Superintendent of the DOC:** Commissioner Boothby announced that effective December 1, 2009, the Commissioners have regretfully accepted the resignation of Richard A. Grenier and that the Commissioners have deep gratitude and great thanks for his many years of service to Belknap County and his success.

**Recruitment of Corrections Superintendent:** Mr. O'Neil, Human Resource Director has a draft recruitment schedule for the hiring of a Superintendent. Mr. O'Neil presented to the Board and reviewed in detail. The Commissioners thought this was a job well done. The ad will go into the newspapers, internet, etc by the end of next week. Ms. Shackett had a clarification question; "in the organizational structure of the county, who does the Superintendent report directly to"? Commissioners stated that it is to the County Administrator, all department heads report directly to the County Administrator.

**Update on County Administrators meeting:** Ms. Shackett briefed the Board on her first meeting with the Administrators from the towns/city on Belknap County (follow up from County Conversations). All but two towns were represented, that was very good. The group will meet monthly. The basis of the discussions at this first meeting focused around police dispatch services, ambulance supplies and health insurance. Ms. Shackett reported that it was very positively received and that they will meet on the first Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Request for Qualifications (RFO's):** Ms. Shackett informed the Commissioners that she received 14 qualification packets and was seeking direction from the Commissioners as to what the next step should be. Commissioner Philpot said to take the RFQ's and compare them, narrow down the focus and then choose candidates for interviews. Commissioner Long would like to see some from surrounding states (out of the local network) if possible.

**Conference call to review agenda for NHAC annual conference forum:** Ms. Shackett has a conference call scheduled at 10:30 AM this morning to discuss the agenda for the forum that is to be held at the annual conference and asked the Commissioners if there was something they would like her to include in this plan. Commissioner Philpot said that he would like to: 1) Have a plan, 2) Have the mechanism to identify the unique issues across the board 3) Have a sense of buy in (listen as well as talk) 4) Have a uniform presentation – be consistent! The content and the message should be the same at every meeting. Commissioner Boothby wanted to emphasize the importance of the relationship with the delegation in this process and really stress that.

**Budget Meetings:** Ms. Shackett reminded the Commissioners of next weeks' budget presentations to be held on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 from 8 am – 5 pm and also Friday, October 16, 2009 from 8 am – 12:00 pm.

**Supplemental hearing 10/05/09:** Ms. Shackett told the Commissioners that the County Convention approved the supplemental appropriation request, and waived the Recovery Zone Bonding allocation. Ms. Shackett also gave a third quarter budget review. Commissioner Boothby was also present.

**Belknap County Youth Services – GRANT:** The Restorative Justice Program is eligible to be a sub recipient of the JAG Grant through the City of Laconia. As a sub recipient, they are eligible for a \$6800 (year one) grant for 1 of a 3 year lease on a new vehicle. That means \$6800 the first year, and then the next two years need to be budgeted. This has been discussed previously and the Commissioners know that it is needed item. Commissioners are ok with moving forward on this as long as all of the terms and conditions of the grant are met.

**Commissioner's reports:** Commissioner Boothby reported that he met with the United Way members with focus on the Citizen Council services. Commissioner Boothby also mentioned that the Meredith Selectman were interested in the County budget. Ms. Shackett will forward a schedule of their budget meetings and invite them to attend to better understand the process. Ms. Shackett would like all the towns/city to understand the county Budget and will send the schedule and extend the offer to all of them. Commissioner Philpot reported that he attended the B-52 air plane event that took place at the Laconia Airport and that it was a fantastic event. Commissioner Long attended the UNH Co-op advisory meeting. The main topic that was discussed was regarding bed bug infestation. It is becoming a real issue, especially in the southern part of the state.

**United Way proposal (John Malm and Jack Terrell):** Mr. Malm and Mr. Terrill came with a written proposal which they presented to the Board. The United way proposes to take on the Alan Robichaud. In order to make that work financially for LRUW, they are asking the County to agree to take over their funding commitment for elderly support program through March 2012,

of \$55,000 per year in addition to the current level of funding already provided by the county. LRUW explained their rationale for this. LRUW has been in conversations for some time now with Alan and the citizen's council. Mr. Robichaud is a very talented and resourceful person who is doing good work. He will bring resources valuable to the LRUW and they will tap into his strengths. It is a win/win for all involved. Commissioners think that this makes a lot of sense and they are in favor. There was discussion. Commissioner Boothby stated that the past 12 months have been difficult for all involved and the Citizens Council and the United Way recognized this, thought outside of the box and came up with this solution. Commissioners would like to congratulate the LRUW and Mr. Robichaud and Citizen's council for this achievement.

**Public comments:** Alida Millham wants to make sure that the county still maintains the interest and goals of the juvenile justice initiative as the system change is under way. She wants to make sure the County will still maintain an interest in these goals, beyond the next two years. The Citizens Council is not just a program; it is a collaboration that involves more than aligning the money. This will afford the council to be involved in a broader role to inter-twine with the lruw and be in line with Juvenile Services with the State into the future. It is truly a win/win. There were no other public comments.

M/Long to vote to support in concept the proposal before the board as presented by the LRUW. That the Commissioners recommend the \$55,000 be added into the 2010 budget to the request from CAP. That in principal the county transition into the proposal made by LRUW as outlined today effective January 1, 2010. S/Philpot adding that the county needs to research the legal mechanism to see what they are subject to. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

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

**Adjourn:** Unanimous vote to adjourn at 8:56 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Angela A. Bovill, Admin. Assistant