



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Minutes
Belknap County Commissioners Meeting
March 3, 2010

Commissioner Philpot 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: Vice Chairman Edward Philpot Jr., Clerk, Richard W. Long and Chairman Christopher Boothby was in attendance via Skype technology, County Administrator, Debra Shackett and HR Director, Norman O'Neil.

Investment Policy updated: Ms. Shackett presented an updated version of the county's investment policy. Ms. Shackett pointed out that the only difference was under reporting. In the old policy, it indicated that there would be an investment committee. In the new policy, there is no cause for a committee. Commissioner Philpot pointed out that the report section of the new policy covers this. Ms. Shackett concurred. M/Long, S/Philpot to approve the investment policy as submitted/dated 3/3/10 and for the Board to sign. Commissioner Philpot did a roll call vote: Y/Boothby, Y/Long, Y/Philpot. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Authorize Tax Anticipation Note: Ms. Shackett is seeking motion from the Commissioners to authorize the treasurer to borrow in anticipation of taxes up to \$14 million dollars for 2010. The first note will be for \$7.8 million. There will be a second borrowing in the fall. This one authorization approval covers both borrowings. M/Long, S/Philpot to authorize and instruct the County treasurer, per RSA 29:8, to seek authorization from the Executive Committee of the County Delegation to borrow up to \$14 million dollars in anticipation of taxes for 2010. Commissioner Philpot asked for public comment. There was none. Commissioner Philpot did a roll call vote: Y/Boothby, Y/Long, Y/Philpot. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** Ms. Shackett also reported that the cash flow is better than last year at this time. Some of that is attributed to the stimulus money. We should save money in interest and should borrow less in 2010 than we did in 2009.

Nursing Home Survey: Mr. Marshall was pleased to report that the Nursing Home survey last week came out excellent. The State surveyors arrived last Tuesday morning, there were six surveyors total. They exited the Nursing home on Thursday at 3:00 PM. They were there three days total. Over the course of those three days, they put the staff through their paces. The Nursing home received two level D deficiencies for the health care portion. These are low level

deficiencies. This is way down from last year's survey, and the declining numbers of deficiencies are an excellent indication of how the Nursing Home is operating. In the life safety area, there were 6 minor safety issues. For example, one was regarding the CO2 tanks. Instead of having them all chained together, they need to be chained individually, that way if one falls, it does not take all the others with it. Mr. Marshall reviewed the others. Commissioners commended Mr. Marshall and his staff. They wish to recognize all Nursing Home employees for this impressive survey and for their hard work in making the Nursing Home the best it can possible be. This is an excellent survey and they are to be commended!

New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) lawsuit: Ms. Shackett has a letter from the Attorney in the NHRS lawsuit. Commissioners are very much in favor of the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) making payment contingent on the outcome. Ms. Shackett is requesting authorization for a Commissioner to sign the letter so that she may return to the Attorney. M/Boothby, S/Long to authorize Commissioner Philpot to sign. Commissioner Philpot took a roll call vote: Y/Boothby, Y/Long, Y/Philpot. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** Commissioner Philpot stated that he would read again to make sure about the NHMA organization making payment. All concur. Commissioner Philpot is part of a meeting that takes place at 3:00 PM today regarding this issue.

Administrators Report, Debra A. Shackett, County Administrator

Phase I Energy Grant: MS. Shackett reminded the Commissioners that they had received the Phase I grant for \$1 dollar pending the historic review. That has been completed. That means the County has been awarded the other \$256,999. Mr. Powell had put together an RFP on the heating system in the Jail. This was sent to legal counsel for review. After review, it will be posted in the newspaper for the RFP bid process to begin.

Commissioners Reports

Commissioner Boothby: Commissioner Boothby wanted a follow up from the email that was sent out to all the affiliate chairpersons on the 2010 NHAC Annual Conference that Belknap County is the host County of. Commissioner Boothby asked Ms. Shackett if she has received any feedback on the email and the two specific areas of interest. (Regionalization and professional staff development/leadership) Ms. Shackett said that the HR affiliate responded to her, and Mr. O'Neil followed up with saying that this item was on their affiliate meeting tomorrow. Ms. Shackett said that in the email that feedback was to go to Peggy Danis at NHAC, so she would double check with her on responses. Commissioners are trying to be ahead of the planning and to advocate change, structure and content of the conference. After the affiliates have all met to discuss their ideas/opinions, then the Commissioners would like the affiliate chairs to attend their next meeting to bring their ideas forth.

Commissions Long: Nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Philpot: Commissioner Philpot wanted to take a moment to acknowledge that the Commissioners have not met since the passing of Kinney O'Rourke. They are deeply saddened by his passing and stated that Kinney will be sorely missed by all. Commissioners wanted to have a moment of silence in his honor.

Approval of 2/10/10 minutes: M/Boothby, S/Long to approve the minutes of the 2/10/10 Commissioners meeting as presented. Commissioners Philpot took a roll call vote: Y/Boothby, Y/Long, Y/Philpot. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Public Input: Commissioner Philpot asked for public input. There was none.

Updates on the Jail: Mr. Ward briefed the Commissioners that the D-9 medium security unit has been renovated. Approximately \$1800 was spent to repair and renovate and all repair and renovation work was completed with inmate labor. Mr. Ward would like the Commissioners to see the work completed. Mr. Ward updated the commissioners that Ms. Jan Best, the Programs Director has retired from the County after 33 years of service effective 3/1/2010 and that they have received approx. 60 résumés for this position. At 8:15 AM, the Commissioners and the County Administrator went to eh Department of Corrections with Superintendent Ward to see the work done in the D-9 area and other areas of the jail. Commissioner Boothby signed off at 8:15 AM.

Adjourn: At 9:00 AM, the Commissioners and County Administrator returned from the DOC. M/Long, S/Philpot to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant