



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
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Chairman  
Laconia

John H. Thomas  
Vice-Chairman  
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Stephen H. Nedeau  
Clerk  
Meredith

## Commissioners Meeting Minutes September 7, 2011

Commissioner Philpot called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 5:30 PM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Commissioners Edward D. Philpot Jr., John H. Thomas, Stephen H. Nedeau and County Administrator, Debra Shackett.

**Registry of Deeds/Audit Requirements:** Register of Deeds Barbara Luther and her Attorney Philip McLaughlin attended the commissioners meeting as requested by the Board. The Commissioners asked how and when they will implement the audit recommendations. Atty McLaughlin spoke on behalf of the Register. Atty. McLaughlin requested time to work on this with the Commissioner's attorney directly. The Commissioners agreed to allow one week. Commissioners are trying to impose the best accounting practices and want all to comply with the recommendations of the county auditors.

**Economic Development:** Dave Haley, Sean Sullivan and Carmen Lorentz came before the board to give their quarterly update. They outlined the various projects that they have going on along with the August 2011 newsletter regarding the State of Manufacturing in Belknap County. They indicated that they are looking into moving their office locations to a more budget friendly location and also that when their PT staff retires next year, that they will not fill that position but rather outsource those services in an effort to cut expenses. Carmen has been working closely with surrounding communities and the work force development initiative. BCEDC also briefed the Commissioners on their struggle with Lakes Region Wood Pellets they are pursuing avenues to secure assets for the county. Atty. Rod Dyer and various members of the Cultural Art Center of the Lakes Region (Marie Bradley, Alida Millham, Carmen Lorentz and Atty Dyer) came before the board with an outline of the Colonial Theatre endeavor. Atty. Dyer detailed specifics on the history of the Colonial Theatre. The Commissioners thanked them for the update. Public Comment: Laconia resident Thomas Tardif commented that the theatre should be saved, but not with taxpayers money, but rather, personal donations.

**Approval of minutes:** M/Thomas, S/Nedeau to approve the 8/24/11 and the 8/29/11 meeting minutes as written. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Administrators report:** Administrator Shackett briefed the Commissioners on the meeting with the three lowest bidders for the Administration wing Renovations. The committee is unanimously recommending Careno Construction at a price of \$470,000. There was discussion. M/Thomas, S/Nedeau to accept the recommendation of the County Administrator and the committee to award the bid to Careno Construction. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** Ms. Shackett and Finance Director Glen Waring have a meeting tomorrow with MUNIS regarding the new software. Barnstead's committee is meeting with their selectman next week. County officials will be present also. Barnstead will hold a public hearing the following night; Sheriff and County Administrator will also be present for that. It is a positive outlook at this point.

**Project update:** Administrator Shackett reviewed a spreadsheet with the various projects and their status.

**Commissioners Committee Reports:** Nothing new to report.

**Public Comment:** Laconia resident Thomas Tardif indicated that he read the audit report on line. He is requesting a copy of the management letter. He concurs with the Commissioners in that matter of the Registry of Deeds; Mr. Tardif also inquired if there is to be a contract between the Town of Barnstead and the County, who would sign the contract on behalf of the County. He was informed that the Commissioners would sign as the governing body.

Commissioner Nedeau asked when the construction might start on the administrative wing. Ms. Shackett will contact the contractor to get an approximate start date.

With no further business to come before the board, M/Nedeau, S/Thomas to adjourn at 6:50 PM. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant