



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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John H. Thomas
Chairman
Belmont

Edward D. Philpot
Vice-Chairman
Laconia

Stephen H. Nedeau
Clerk
Meredith

Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 10, 2013

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

Calendar items: Reviewed. A Commissioners meeting was added on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at 5:30 PM for a non-public session.

Approval of minutes: M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to adopt the 06/12/13 minutes and the 06/12/13 nonpublic minutes as written. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** M/Nedeau, S/Thomas to approve the 06/26/13 minutes as written. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

CDBG Grants: The Boys and Girls Club and Genesis Behavioral Health that are each requesting that the county apply for \$500,000 through the CDBG program. The County is only allowed \$500,000 in this period/year. The \$500,000 can be split. Commissioners are willing to submit applications for both, splitting the \$500,000 if that is helpful to both agencies. M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to support The Boys and Girls Club and Genesis Behavioral Health requests in the amount of \$250,000 each. Commissioner Thomas asked if there was any public input. There was none. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Deeds: A request came from the Register of Deeds to approve appointment of her Deputy. The RSA states the register may appoint with the Commissioners approval. Commissioners will approve the current term (most recently made on January 2, 2013) as of today's date. They will not go back and approve expired terms. M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to approve the appointment of Judy McGrath for the 2013/2014 term as of 7/10/13. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid (LRMFA): Commissioners received a letter from the Center Harbor Board of Selectmen informing them that they voted unanimously to fund LRMFA directly in 2014. Commissioner Nedeau said that Meredith selectman also voted to pay LRMFA directly. The Commissioners don't see how they can bill some towns and not all. We have to do

more research regarding this process. The county has no control over their budget; direct billing might allow for more scrutiny of the LRMFA budget.

Auditor's letter: Administrator Shackett presented the auditors engagement letter which covers the 2012 and 2013 contract. M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to approve the engagement contract with Melanson Heath & Company, PC. as presented. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Administrators report: The Nursing homes "Hawaiian Night" is from 6 – 8 pm on 7/11/13. On 7/16 at 3 pm, they will be presenting the centennial cane to the eldest woman in Laconia, Rachel Hatch. She is 102. Administrator Shackett has started writing a newsletter online. If you go to the county's website and "subscribe" to the newsletter, you will receive it every time she sends one out! The budget process for 2014 will be starting in the near future. Administrator Shackett is going to arrange for a 'team building' day with all department heads to kick off the beginning of the budget process. Administrator Shackett has also scheduled department heads at the next three meetings to check in with the Commissioners prior to the budget process. Commissioners want to have on their agenda a discussion on giving guidance to department heads prior budget development.

Jail Planning: Commissioners discussed having a group of community leaders to help lead this process, talk about all the work that has been done in the last 3 years, and to articulate current and correct information and education. Dedicated people have been working very hard on this process for three years. We are trying to change the system, not just build a jail. A lot of people are supportive of this, but are afraid of the money. The Committee is looking into all types of various considerations. All law enforcement agencies that touch the system support the community corrections system, so it is something viable. Commissioners are concerned and would very much like to sit down and have a fact based discussion conversation with the Delegation and work together. Commissioners would like the Delegation to come take a tour of the Jail.

Commissioners Committee reports: Nothing new to report.

Nonpublic session: M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II, (e). Commissioner Thomas called the roll: Philpot – Y, Nedeau – Y, Thomas – Y. Commissioners were in non-public session at 8:25 AM.

M/Philpot S/Nedeau to conclude nonpublic session at 8:55 AM. Commissioner Thomas called the roll: Philpot – Y, Nedeau – Y, Thomas – Y. No action was taken.

Adjourn: M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to adjourn at 8:55 AM. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant