



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 March 19, 2014

Commissioner Thomas called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 5:30 pm on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and recited the pledge of allegiance.

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

Calendar: Commissioners reviewed the meeting calendar.

Approval of minutes: M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to approve the 03/05/14 minutes as submitted. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to approve the 03/05/14 nonpublic minutes as written. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Correspondence: An email was read regarding a photo opportunity for the Rivers Edge CDBG project in Laconia on 05/16/14 and they have requested that the Commissioners and County Administrator be present and part of the event if they can. Commissioners will all go. Administrator Shackett gave the Board an update on the Financial Stability Partnership along with an invitation to the “One Thing” event in an effort to reduce poverty. Administrator Shackett gave a copy of the Commissioners report for the 2013 Annual Report for the Board to review and approve so that we can get the annual report finalized.

Commissioner Nedeau’s Statement for the record: Commissioner Nedeau would like his response entered into the record and minutes of today’s Commissioners meeting. The Delegation struck this statement from the record of their 03/04/14 meeting minutes. M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to include the email from Rep. Worsman dated 02/28/14 and Commissioners Nedeau's response on 03/4/14 that he had read into the record at the 03/04/14 Delegation meeting. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Administrators report: A request for legal counsel was made to the Commissioners by the Chair of the Delegation, Rep. Worsman for both her and the Clerk, Rep. Cormier. 5 members of the Delegation have brought legal suit against them. Administrator Shackett spoke with the County Attorney about this. It was the County Attorneys professional opinion that the action was brought against the county and that the acts of the Chair and Clerk were committee while acting

within the scope of their duties. Administrator Shackett recommends providing legal counsel in this matter. Commissioners talked about funding and logistics. A Supplemental Appropriation request could be made to go along with the request for legal representation as there is not enough legal money budgeted for this. (The last lawsuit brought against the delegation cost approx. \$8,100.)

M/Nedeau to fund the legal representation and to request a \$10,000 Supplemental appropriation for that purpose. S/Philpot for discussion and wanted to make the motion to approve legal counsel contingent on approving the Supplemental appropriation. Commissioners Nedeau and Philpot withdrew their motions. M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to approve payment contingent on receiving a Supplemental Appropriation sufficient to cover the attorney fees related to this action. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Public input: Commissioner Thomas asked for public input. There was none.

Adjourn: M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to adjourn at 5:46 pm. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant