



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 April 2, 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 and Stephen H. Nedeau and County Administrator, Debra Shackett.

Absent: Commissioner Edward D. Philpot, Jr.

**Calendar:** Commissioners reviewed the meeting calendar.

**Approval of minutes:** M/Nedeau, S/Thomas to approve the 03/19/14, 03/27/17 and 03/27/14 nonpublic minutes as submitted. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

**Correspondence:** Commissioner Thomas read the letter from Norman O'Neil, Human Resource Director announcing his retirement. Commissioners were sorry to see him go and thanked Mr. O'Neil for his service. Commissioners said he has been a real asset and advocate for employees here at Belknap County and that he will be greatly missed. Mr. O'Neil has enjoyed his service and his colleagues and he has truly appreciated this opportunity.

**Administrators report:** Administrator Shackett gave the Board an expenditure report and noted that the month of March is not closed yet. Due to a retirement in Administration, funding has been made available to recall the f/t employee formerly laid off in the Nursing Home. Health insurance rates have been set by the LGC Board and the rate increase will be 6.2% effective 07/01/2014. (A lot less than expected). Superintendent Ward is gathering information supporting the jail planning committee's choice to follow the Direct Supervision model. Administrator Shackett is gathering cost information from the most recently constructed facilities in New Hampshire. Dustin Muzzey and Brian Loanes have met with Probation and Parole at the courthouse. All agree that there is enough room there for everyone. Any renovations that P & P will make will be at their own costs. Nothing will be done until plans are approved by the Commissioners. P & P will be coming to the next Commissioners meeting with the plans for discussion. Mr. Loanes and Mr. Muzzey will have a chance to review the plan. Administrator Shackett will contact the Sheriff regarding security etc.

**Ratification of the Nursing Home Contract (CBA):** HR Director Norman O’Neil gave the Commissioners a detailed briefing on the tentative agreement reached with 80 employees in the Nursing Home. This is a one year contract from 01/01/2014 to 12/31/14. The total costs required to fund the proposed contract is \$336,170.66. Mr. Neil Smith, the SEA representative for the Nursing Home Employees first expressed his deep appreciation to Mr. O’Neil on his vital role in Belknap County and negotiating with his unsurpassed professionalism and for establishing a standard that the LGC would like to see in all union contracts. Mr. Smith told the Commissioners that both sides of the table negotiated this contract with mindful innovative ways to be better all-around and that they have made significant strides. If you average the total cost to taxpayers to fund this contract, it would equal one cup of coffee per household per year. M/Nedeau, S/Thomas to ratify the Nursing Home Contract for 2014 (starting 01/01/14) and thanked both sides of the bargaining units and expressed their desire for passage. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** The next step will be for the Delegation to fund the cost items.

**Committee reports:** Nothing new to report.

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

**Adjourn:** M/Nedeau, S/Thomas to adjourn at 6:13 pm. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant