

BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Chairman
Belmont

Edward D. Philpot
Vice-Chairman
Laconia

Stephen H. Nedeau
Clerk
Meredith

Commissioners Meeting Minutes September 24, 2014

Commissioner Philpot called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 1:00 pm on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and recited the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Commissioners Edward D. Philpot, Jr., Stephen H. Nedeau and County Administrator, Debra Shackett and all County Department Heads.

Absent: Commissioner John H. Thomas.

The Commissioners called an Emergency meeting to order. This emergency meeting of the Board has been convened to address the imminent and dire consequences of complying with the court order to stop all spending in excess of the Delegations' stated budgetary intention.

Budget: Administrator Shackett told the Board that she is working on transfers in the format requested by the Executive Committee. Administrator Shackett and Finance Director, Glen Waring have identified additional transfer requests.

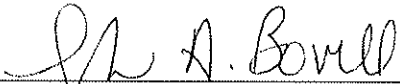
Judges orders not to exceed line items: The Judge's order was not to exceed line items. Administrator Shackett and Finance Director Glen Waring have come up with recommendations of how they might maintain services until the Executive Committee meets. Commissioners said there has to be ways we can achieve providing services without violating the court order. Can we notify the State, or someone who can help the County on an interim basis? The Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on 09/29/14 at 5 pm. Commissioners then asked Departments heads for ideas. Superintendent Ward needs to provide medication for the inmates and make sure they are receiving necessary medical treatment. He may be able to eliminate some staffing issues if he hires the two new positions in his budget now. His staff is has been great and they're working diligently at the jail. Nursing Home Administrator Charlotte Flanagan stated that her staff has pulled together to get through the weekend and do whatever it takes so that the Nursing Home does not have to shut down. This type of situation has never happened to any County and everyone is trying to figure out collectively the best way to handle this situation. The Sheriff also stated that his staff that has pulled together to be creative and be available to fill dispatcher's shifts. They are going to run into a problem with the vehicle maintenance line item. One cruiser got hit last week, 2 need to be repaired, they are going to need routine maintenance like oil, tires, brakes etc. Superintendent Ward stated that the medical need for the population at the jail changes daily. Medications come in daily and cannot be stopped; some are for life threatening

conditions. Department heads asked if there is a time table on the temporary injunction. Answer is none at this time. Department heads are still unsure what to do and asked Commissioners how they intend to run the jail, or who could help the Superintendent. Commissioners suggested the Attorney General. Superintendent Ward's career is at stake. The Sheriff stated as an elected official that when it comes to a matter of safety, he will do whatever needs to be done as a public servant, including any situation in the jail. Ms. Flanagan also stated that the Nursing Home is bound by federal laws that they need to abide by those laws or she could lose her license. She will not allow that in this facility and neither will Superintendent Ward. Even with their careers on the line they won't do it. Commissioners would like all department heads present at the 09/29/14 5:00 pm meeting. Commissioners thanked all Department Heads for their hard work and professionalism during this tough time. Commissioners instructed Administrator Shackett to give the Executive Committee anything and everything they need.

Commissioner Philpot suggested that they suspend today's meeting in order to obtain advice from all sources, lawyers and talk to a federal judge and then that they reconvene the meeting. The Jail and the Nursing Home have federal regulations that they are forced to comply with. Commissioners appreciate that all departments heads are sticking together to get through this situation and asked that all be present at the 09/29/14 5 pm meeting.

Adjourn and reconvene: M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to reconvene and to get together as soon as necessary. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** Meeting was over at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant