

BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
34 County Drive
Laconia, NH 03246
Phone (603) 527-5400
Fax (603) 527-5409

John H. Thomas
Chairman
Belmont

Edward D. Philpot
Vice-Chairman
Laconia

Stephen H. Nedeau
Clerk
Meredith

Commission Meeting Minutes December 3, 2014

Commissioner Thomas called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 3:00 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, County Administrator, Debra Shackett and Finance Director Glen Waring.

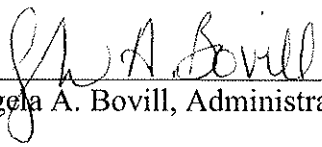
2014 budget: Administrator Shackett discussed what to do regarding the legal bills for the County. The Executive Committee denied the transfer request of \$28,000 at their 12/01/14 meeting in a motion made by Rep. Worsman and seconded by Rep. Comtois “based on the fact that the Commissioners are choosing who gets paid and when”. There is now \$25,000 in outstanding legal bills that need to be paid and the County still has personnel issues that are ongoing and require counsel. Administrator Shackett said the oldest bills were paid first. She believes that the County needs assistance from the Judge in this matter. She asked the Commissioners to authorize her to be able to call the lawyer (due to the costs). Commissioner Philpot said you can’t petition the court without a lawyer. Commissioner Nedeau asked if the County Attorney could do this. It is unfair to the County Attorney, but they are not sure what else to do. These law firms need to get paid. Administrator Shackett stressed that she needs counsel for personnel matters requiring attention now. The Executive Committee is denying the Commissioners ability to operate and defend the County in other legal matters. The Judge expected these transfer to be granted in good faith, this decision is not in good faith. The Commissioners were denied because 6 members (Vote was 6-Y, 3-N) did not like the way the Commissioners spent the money for legal bills. The Commissioners need to go to Court and present this to the Judge. Commissioners directed Administrator Shackett to call the County Attorney to ask her to provide assistance in this matter immediately.

Public input: Commissioner Thomas asked for public input. There was none. Commissioner Nedeau was disappointed the other Commissioners were not present at the 12/01/14 Executive Committee Meeting due to the fact that it was out of control.

Next Meeting: Commissioners want to post a meeting for 12/08/14 at 5:30 pm prior to the 7 pm Delegation meeting so that they can review the 2015 budget/presentation.

Adjourn: With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant