

COÖS COUNTY DELEGATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
Friday, August 23, 2019 - 10:00 a.m.
Coös County Nursing Home - Berlin, NH

Present: Representatives Wayne Moynihan - Chair; Edith Tucker - Vice Chair; Larry Laflamme - Clerk; Troy Merner, Henry Noël and Yvonne Thomas. Also present: County Administrator Jennifer Fish; Superintendent Ben Champagne; Director of Finance Carrie Klebe; Nursing Hospital Administrator Laura Mills; Acting Nursing Home Administrator Lynn Beede; Administrative Assistant Linda Harris; Captain Keith Roberge; and members of the press and public.

Chairman Moynihan called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and asked Captain Roberge to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by the Clerk, Representative Laflamme. There were six members present. Representatives Craig, Fothergill, Furbush and Hatch were absent.

Review & Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Representative Merner, seconded by Representative Thomas to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2019 meeting. The Chair requested that the County Administrator email the proshare information as noted in the minutes. The motion was approved in the affirmative by voice vote.

A motion was made by Representative Merner, seconded by Representative Thomas to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2019 information meeting. The motion was approved in the affirmative by voice vote. A motion was made by Representative Tucker, seconded by Representative Thomas to send the minutes of the July 10 meeting to the Commissioners. The motion was approved in the affirmative by voice vote.

Chairman Moynihan also noted that STL&ARR invited the Delegation members to a gathering in Groveton on July 16. Representatives Merner, Noël, Tucker and Moynihan accepted the invite.

Review & Approval of the Financial Statements of Coös County and of the Unincorporated Places for the Period Ended June 30, 2019: Chairman Moynihan reviewed the appropriations of the Coös County Financial Statements.

Director of Finance Carrie Klebe distributed information to the Delegation (*copies on file*) to discuss a proposal in regards to a legislative change to RSA 29:1 and possibly RSA 6:7, 6:8, 41:29, 48:16 and 197:23. Under New Hampshire law governing municipal and school entities, Bangor Savings Bank is not eligible as a depository. In 2018 Bangor Savings Bank merged with Granite Bank and the resulting entity is a Maine State chartered financial institution. New Hampshire states require treasurers of the state, counties, cities and school districts only deposit public funds in New Hampshire chartered or federally chartered banks.

The Director of Finance requested the Delegation's assistance with the proposed change. Chairman Moynihan stated that he will place a LSR (legislative service request) and will report back to the Delegation at the next meeting.

Superintendent Champagne distributed copies of a proposal that he will be submitting to the Integrated Delivery Network (IDN) for funding for Case Management/Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). He is

requesting \$35,000 to fund a subcontracted position through Northern Human Services. Chairman Moynihan stated that if the application is fortified a letter of support from the Delegation would be helpful.

The Chair continued the review of appropriations with no questions. A motion was made by Representative Tucker, seconded by Representative Thomas to approve the second quarter expenditures. The motion was approved by roll call vote 6-0.

Chairman Moynihan reviewed the revenues of the Coös County Financial Statements. There were no questions. A motion was made by Representative Noël, seconded by Representative Thomas to approve the second quarter revenues. The motion was approved by roll call vote 6-0.

Chairman Moynihan reviewed the Unincorporated Places Expenditures and Revenues. There were no questions. A motion was made by Representative Noël, seconded by Representative Thomas to approve the Unincorporated Places second quarter expenditures and revenues. The motion was approved by roll call vote 6-0.

Representative Noël was excused at 11:05 a.m.

Hearing of the Public: Ms. Zeanny Egea of UNH/Cooperative Extension explained that she had replaced Heidi Barker in the area of nutrition. Mrs. Barker accepted a new position at the Extension office. She explained that she has been working with the local food pantries. Certain foods that are being donated to the food pantries are not being picked up as people are unfamiliar with the product and do not know how to prepare it. She has created kits which include ingredients and recipes.

Old Business:

- a. Appointment of subcommittee to review the annual National Forest Funds Distribution. Volunteers requested.

Chairman Moynihan stated that at the May 17 meeting, Representative Tucker had proposed an alternative for next year. She suggested the distribution be prepared on a per pupil distribution. She asked that the distribution be prepared both ways.

Representative Tucker stated that currently monies left over, after the tuition of students in the Unincorporated Places is paid to the school districts, is divided equally amongst all school districts in Coös County. This means that the larger schools like Berlin and White Mountains Regional get a smaller amount and the smaller schools get a larger amount. She suggested a per pupil amount whereas the schools with more students get more funds. County Administrator Jennifer Fish distributed informational handouts to the Delegation. *(Copy on file.)*

Chairman Moynihan appointed Representative Tucker to recruit members to this subcommittee and to report to the Delegation at a later date.

New Business:

- a. Discussion of HB 540, bonding for Balsams development in Dixville and Delegation process. Chairman Moynihan suggested that the item be moved to old business for future meetings. Representative Tucker noted that at a previous meeting the Commissioners had agreed to a joint meeting with the Delegation. She hopes that the meeting occurs at the Balsams.

- b. Discussion of development of County Delegation Handbook. Chairman Moynihan stated that several counties have handbooks. He has a copy of the Carroll County handbook which he will share with members of the Delegation. The County Administrator added that she had a copy of a handbook created by former Representative Tholl. Chairman Moynihan asked that this item be added to Old Business for the next meeting.
- c. Chairman Moynihan suggested a future one hour meeting with various wood entities from the county. The representatives expressed an interest in this subject.
- d. Coös Grid: Chairman Moynihan stated that since northern pass has been defeated; a discussion must begin with Eversource regarding the Coös grid. One of the questions was does Eversource plan on increasing capacity in Coös County. The Chair suggested setting up a meeting between breakout sessions in Concord. Representatives were agreeable to the suggestion.

Subcommittee Reports: There were no reports.

County Administrator Jennifer Fish introduced Lynn Beede as the Acting Nursing Home Administrator in Berlin until the position is filled.

Chairman Moynihan noted that he and the entire Delegation were grateful for Louise Belanger's years of service and dedication to Coös County. He also thanked Ms. Beede for stepping in.

A motion was made by Representative Tucker, seconded by Representative Merner to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 a.m. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Larry Laflamme, Clerk