

COÖS COUNTY DELEGATION  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
Monday, October 31, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.  
North Country Resource Center - Lancaster, NH

Present: Representatives Robert Théberge, Chair; Troy Merner, Vice Chair; Larry Laflamme, Clerk; Kevin Craig; Arnold Davis; Eamon Kelley; and Edith Tucker. Also Present: Commissioner Raymond Gorman; County Administrator Jennifer Fish; Superintendent Ben Champagne; Director of Finance Carrie Klebe; Nursing Home Administrator Lynn Beede; Captain Keith Roberge; County Attorney John McCormick; Ray Berthiaume, County Forester; Andy Schafermeyer, 4-H Healthy Living/Outdoor Education Field Specialist; Administrative Assistant Linda Harris.

Chairman Théberge called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called by the Clerk, Representative Laflamme. There were seven members present which was a quorum. Representatives Hatch and Thompson were excused.

*Review & Approval of the Minutes of the May 16, 2022, and August 29, 2022, Quarterly Meetings, as distributed.* A motion was made by Rep. Tucker, seconded by Rep. Davis to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022, and August 29, 2022, Quarterly Meetings, as distributed. The minutes were approved in the affirmative by voice vote.

*Hearing of the Public:*

- a. Introduction of the three new Cooperative Extension personnel: Commissioner Ray Gorman introduced two of the three newly hired Cooperative Extension personnel: Ray Berthiaume, County Forester; and, Andy Schafermeyer, 4-H Healthy Living/Outdoor Education Field Specialist. The third individual was at orientation.

*Review & Approval of the Financial Statements of Coös County and of the Unincorporated Places for the period ended June 30, 2022 and period ended September 30, 2022:*

Chairman Théberge began the review of the Coös County financials. The total expenditures for the period ending June 30, 2022, were \$18,992,457 or 41% expended. There were no questions. The total revenues for the period ending June 30, 2022, were \$22,759,717 or 49% received. There were no questions.

Chairman Théberge continued with the review of the Unincorporated Places expenditures and revenues. The total expenditures for the period ending June 30, 2022, were \$177,319 or 12% expended. There were no questions. The total revenues for the period ending June 30, 2022, were \$1,086,326 or 72% received. There were no questions.

A motion was made by Representative Merner, seconded by Representative Tucker to approve the 2022 second quarter financial statements of Coös County and the Unincorporated Places. The motion was approved by roll call 7-0.

Chairman Théberge continued the review of the Coös County financials. The total expenditures for the period ending September 30, 2022, were \$27,092,684 or 59% expended. There were no questions. The

total revenues for the period ending September 30, 2022, were \$26,720,198 or 58% received. There were no questions.

Chairman Théberge continued with the review of the Unincorporated Places expenditures and revenues. The total expenditures for the period ending September 30, 2022, were \$389,980 or 26% expended. There were no questions. The total revenues for the period ending September 30, 2022, were \$1,182,678 or 78% received. There were no questions.

A motion was made by Representative Kelley, seconded by Representative Davis to approve the 2022 third quarter financial statements of Coös County and the Unincorporated Places. The motion was approved by roll call 7-0.

*Old Business:* There was no old business to discuss.

*New Business:*

- a. Discussion of County Land: Chairman Théberge previously distributed a copy of RSA 24:13 for information purposes. He noted that the approval of the bond, pertaining to the Balsams, would be a Delegation function.

The Chair suggested increasing the Delegation's contingency line item to \$10,000. Rep. Tucker countered with \$20,000. She noted that there will be several new members to the Delegation who may request new computers. A motion was made by Rep. Merner, seconded by Rep. Kelley to increase the contingency line item to \$20,000. The motion was approved by roll call 7-0.

*Subcommittee Reports:*

- Nursing Homes: The Berlin Nursing Home hopes to be out of outbreak soon.
- Corrections Department/Representative Craig: Superintendent Champagne reported that there continues to be staffing issues; inmate substance, and mental health issues, and working on fixing maintenance issues at the facility.
- County Sheriff/Representative Laflamme: reported that a meeting is scheduled with Forest & Lands to resolve the ongoing issue.
- UNH Cooperative Extension Advisory Board/Representative Kelley: the new staff was introduced earlier in the meeting.
- Coös County Planning Board/Representative Merner: A meeting was held with members of the Balsams staff to begin the process of reviewing a site plan application for the ski area. The review will continue at the November 16 meeting. The Planning Board made the determination at the meeting that this proposal will have potential for regional impacts due to its location relative to NH Route 26 through Dixville Notch.

*Any other business:* Rep. Merner thanked Representatives Tucker, Laflamme and Craig for their years of service on the Delegation.

The Organization Meeting of the new Delegation is scheduled for Monday, December 12, 2022, at 10 a.m. at the North Country Resource Center, Lancaster; and the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2023 Coös County and Unincorporated Places Budgets is scheduled for Friday, December 16, 2022, at 10 a.m. at the North Country Resource Center, Lancaster.

A motion was made by Representative Tucker, seconded by Representative Laflamme to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Larry Laflamme, Clerk