

Coös County Delegation  
Quarterly Meeting  
October 30, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.  
North Country Resource Center  
Lancaster, NH

Present: Representatives Arnold Davis, Chair; Corinne Cascadden, Clerk; Seth King; Henry Noël; and James Tierney. Also Present: Commissioners Raymond Gorman and Robert Théberge; County Administrator Mark Brady; Director of Finance Carrie Klebe; Nursing Hospital Administrator Laura Mills; Superintendent Ben Champagne, Sheriff Brian Valerino; Captain Keith Roberge; County Treasurer Sue Collins; Administrative Assistant Linda Harris; and, Steve Ellis, Pittsburg Selectboard member.

1. Vice Chair Davis opened the Delegation Meeting at 10:37 a.m. Representative Cascadden led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The roll was called by the Clerk, Representative Cascadden. There were five members present. Representatives Kelley and Ouellet were not present.
3. Election of Chair to fill vacancy per RSA 24:2-b:

Representative Tierney asked for a point of order. He noted that the Vice Chair should automatically move to the Chair vacancy and nominations for Vice Chair should be accepted. There was no objection from the Delegation. A motion was made by Representative Cascadden, seconded by Representative Tierney to nominate Mike Ouellet as Vice Chair. The motion passed by roll call 5-0.

Representative Tierney also noted that according to RSA 24:2, members of the executive committee do not have the authority to vote. If any decision must be voted upon, the remaining members of the Delegation must vote.

County Treasurer Sue Collins noted that many years ago the Delegation voted that all members of the Delegation were part of the Executive Committee. Commissioner Théberge noted that Coös County has few Delegation members as compared to other counties. The entire Delegation has been the executive committee.

4. *Review & Approval of the Minutes of the July 31, 2023, quarterly meeting, as distributed.* A motion was made by Representative Cascadden, seconded by Representative Tierney to approve the minutes of the July 31, 2023, quarterly meeting, as distributed. The minutes were approved in the affirmative by voice vote.
5. *Hearing of the Public:*
  - a. Steve Ellis, Selectboard member from the Town of Pittsburg provided an update relating to Blue Source Sustainable Forest Company intention to generate carbon credits on the Connecticut Headwaters Conservation tract in Pittsburg it recently purchased. A plan will be released this week. He inquired if the Delegation had taken a stand on the issue. Chairman Davis replied that it is a bi-partisan issue in Coös and everyone is working together. Representative Tierney noted that a bill has been submitted asking for a two-year

moratorium on future sales of carbon credits; however, the bill cannot stop what is already in progress. All of the Delegation members are co-sponsors of the bill. He also noted that Representative Kelley has filed two other bills.

6. *Review & Approval of the Financial Statements of Coös County and of the Unincorporated Places for the period ended September 30, 2023:* Chairman Davis began the review of the Coös County financials. The total expenditures for the period ending September 30, 2023, were \$29,754,723 or 60% expended. A motion was made by Representative Noël, seconded by Representative Tierney to approve the third quarter expenditures. The motion was approved by roll call 5-0.

The total revenues for the period ending September 30, 2023, were \$23,068,560 or 47% received. A motion was made by Representative Tierney, seconded by Representative Noël to approve the third quarter revenues. The motion was approved by roll call 5-0.

The Chair continued with the Unincorporated Places financials. Total expenditures were \$420,809 or 25% expended. There were no questions. A motion was made by Representative Tierney, seconded by Representative Noël to approve the Unincorporated Places third quarter expenditures. The motion was approved by roll call 5-0.

Total revenues were \$771,051 or 45% received. There were no questions. A motion was made by Representative Tierney, seconded by Representative Noël to approve the Unincorporated Places second quarter revenues. The motion was approved by roll call 5-0.

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

8. *New Business:*

- a. *Treasurer's Resolution for Borrowing Funds in Anticipation of 2024 Taxes:* County Treasurer Sue Collins explained that this request is typically part of the December meeting. However, she will not be available on December 11. The following resolution was read:

Resolution #1

Be it resolved by the Coös County Delegation duly convened on this thirtieth day of October, 2023, that since the monies in the treasury of the County of Coös are insufficient to meet the demands upon the same and the sum of Eleven Million Dollars (\$11,000,000) being the projected amount necessary for the purpose of operating the county for the Fiscal Year 2024, the Coös County Treasurer is hereby authorized to borrow up to \$11,000,000 upon order of the County Commissioners pursuant to RSA 29:8.

A motion was made by Representative Tierney, seconded by Representative Noël to approve Resolution #1. The motion was approved by roll call 5-0.

- b. *Appointment of Delegation Member to the Coös County Planning Board:* Chairman Tierney announced that a Delegation member needed to be appointed as Ex-officio to the Coös County Planning Board. A motion was made by Representative King, seconded by Representative Noël to appoint Representative Tierney as Ex-officio to the Coös County Planning Board. The motion was approved by roll call 4-0-1. (Representative Tierney abstained)

- c. Update on the District 1 and District 6 vacancies: Chairman Davis stated that primaries for both districts are being held on December 5, 2023. The general election will be held on January 23, 2024.

9. *Subcommittee Reports:* There were no reports.

10. *Any other business:* County Administrator Mark Brady announced that Coös County will be hosting the New Hampshire Association of Counties Conference in 2024. The conference is being held at the Omni Mount Washington Hotel & Resort beginning November 11, 2024.

11. *Dates of upcoming meetings:*

- Monday, December 11, 2023, Public Hearing on the 2024 Proposed Budgets @ 10:00 a.m. North Country Resource Center, Lancaster, NH

12. A motion was made by Representative King, seconded by Representative Tierney to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The motion was approved in the affirmative by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Corinne Cascadden, Clerk