

Grafton County Delegation Vote on FY13 Budget
Grafton County ~ UNH Conference Room
North Haverhill, NH
Monday June 25, 2012

PRESENT: Representatives Aguiar, Almy, Bradley, Brosseau, Bulis, Cooney, Eaton, Gionet, Gould, Harding, Ingbretson, Ladd, Mirski, Nordgren, Pastor-Bodmer, Pierce, Reilly, Simard, Smith, Sorg, Sova, Taylor, Townsend and White. Commissioners Cryans, Burton and Ahern, Executive Director Julie Clough and Sec. Martino

EXCUSED: Representatives Benn and Shackett.

OTHERS: See attached list

10:13 AM ~ Rep. Bulis called the meeting to order and Rep. Sova (Clerk) called the roll. 24 members were present when the roll was called and a quorum was declared. The meeting then began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rep. Bulis stated that this will be the last meeting of this Delegation's session and recognized the Executive Committee for their service for the last two years. He said that in that time the accomplishments made included the Rules & Bylaws, the follow through on the Performance Audit and a sub-committee to study staffing for the new Jail. He also recognized members who would not be running for office again this year which included Charles Brosseau, Frank Gould, Stephanie Eaton, Kathy Taylor and David Pierce, who would be running for State Senator. Rep. Bulis thanked them all for their service to New Hampshire.

Rep. Bulis stated that although this was a public meeting, it was not for public participation and that they needed to settle on a budget for the operations of the County for fiscal year 2013. He said that the original budget presented by the Commissioners had an increase of \$1.7M, to which there was \$885K in debt service for the Jail. He noted there were two main drivers of the Grafton County budget and that Corrections covered 23% and the Nursing Home covered 56%, which left a small portion for remaining County resources. He said that through the work of Director Clough the County was able to come up with a plan for health insurance that reduced last year's cost by \$84K and she was to be congratulated. Director Clough said that had been a group effort.

Rep. Bulis also credited Corrections Superintendent Libby for keeping the Jail staffing level at the same number as last year for the opening of the Jail.

Rep. Bulis said that the Executive Committee had spent about forty hours at meetings in which there were conversations, discussion and eventually a compromise on the budget. He then walked the delegates through the budget going over what some of the changes were and what had been agreed upon by the Executive Committee. He noted that allocations for maintenance which had always been expensed to the Departments had

been removed and placed in the Maintenance budget per recommendation of the performance audit.

When Rep. Bulis came to the cuts that were made to the Social Service budget he noted that had been a difficult conclusion for the Committee. He said there was never any doubt about the quality of services that were provided but they needed to give consideration to the County as a whole.

Once the review was completed and it was noted that there would be no other changes, a motion was made.

Rep. White moved to appropriate \$37,317,300 for fiscal year 2013 of which \$20,834,031 is to be raised by taxes, which was seconded by Rep. Aguiar.

DISCUSSION:

Rep. Pierce said he wanted to note that the Executive Committee had been open with their meetings and public input was heard and considered and that was appreciated. Rep. Bulis said that they kept the meetings open but each meeting had a goal. He said that all the Departments presented their budgets to the Committee and Administration presented the Social Service budget.

Rep. Mirski asked for the spending and tax percentages. Rep. Bulis said the expenses were up 3.99% and the tax increase 7.34%.

With no further discussion a roll call vote was taken by Clerk Sova. Reps. Aguiar, Almy, Bradley, Brosseau, Bulis, Cooney, Eaton, Gionet, Gould, Harding, Ladd, Nordgren, Pastor-Bodmer, Pierce, Reilly, Simard, Smith, Sova, Taylor, Townsend and White were in favor and Reps. Mirski, Sorg and Ingbretson were opposed. Motion passes 21 to 3

Rep. Harding congratulated the Committee for their cooperative work but did note concern for the minimal staffing at the Jail, for the fact that the Financial Director position was not approved and that the Social Services were reduced. She added that she appreciated the Republican colleagues and their affirmative vote.

Rep. Aguiar moved to pass over item #4 on the Agenda which was for a continuing resolution, which was seconded by Rep. Sova. All members were in favor.

Rep. Almy moved to authorize Tax Anticipation Loans in the amount of up to \$5,000,000 which was seconded by Rep. White.

DISCUSSION:

Rep. Simard asked if the reserve account could be used to supplement the amount to be borrowed and Rep. Sova stated that money was not actually in an account but is

calculated for accounting purposes. Director Clough said that the money is used before borrowing.

A show of hands was accepted on this motion and all were in favor.

Rep. Ladd moved to expend \$52,849 from the Register of Deeds Surcharge Account for equipment in the Registry which was seconded by Rep. Almy.

DISCUSSION:

Rep. Ladd asked Chairman Bulis to read the list of items for which the funds would be used, which read: hardware- \$33,849, new equipment- \$4,000 and lease contract on software - \$15,000 totaling \$52,849.

A show of hands was accepted on this motion and Reps. Aguiar, Almy, Bradley, Brosseau, Bulis, Cooney, Eaton, Gionet, Gould, Harding, Ingbretson, Ladd, Nordgren, Pastor-Bodmer, Pierce, Reilly, Simard, Smith, Sorg, Sova, Taylor, Townsend and White were in favor and Rep. Mirski was opposed. Motion passes.

Rep. Pastor-Bodmer moved to contribute \$58,215 from the Dispatch Fees for fiscal year 2013 to the Dispatch Capital Reserve Fund which was seconded by Rep. Brosseau. A show of hands was accepted on this motion and Reps. Aguiar, Almy, Bradley, Brosseau, Bulis, Cooney, Eaton, Gionet, Gould, Harding, Ingbretson, Ladd, Nordgren, Pastor-Bodmer, Pierce, Reilly, Simard, Smith, Sorg, Sova, Taylor, Townsend and White were in favor and Rep. Mirski was opposed. Motion passes.

Rep. Taylor moved to expend \$57,000 from the dispatch Capital Reserve account for equipment for the Dispatch Center which was seconded by Rep. White.

DISCUSSION:

Director Clough read the items for which this money was intended which included: \$30,000 for MDT, \$20,000 for UHF upgrade and \$7,000 for coverage improvement which totals \$57,000.

A show of hands vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passes.

Rep. Pierce moved to expend \$18,630 from the Nursing Home Capital Reserve account for equipment for the Nursing Home which was seconded by Rep. Aguiar. A show of hands vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passes

Rep. Nordgren moved to contribute \$25,000 to the Nursing Home Capital Reserve account from the Medicaid Pro-Share funds which was seconded by Rep. Brosseau. A show of hands vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passes

10:53 AM Chairman Bulis declared a short recess.

11:06 AM Meeting was called back to order by Chairman Bulis

Rep. Ladd moved to adopt the following policy regarding the acceptance of grants: The Delegation authorized the County Commissioners to apply for, accept and expend federal and/or state grants. The Commissioners will provide a report quarterly to the Executive Committee that details all grants applied for and/or awarded and amount expended to date. A list of all grants received during the fiscal year will be given to Delegation for review at the annual budget meeting. Motion was seconded by Rep. Townsend.

DISCUSSION:

Rep. Ladd said that he had planned to suggest adopting a process regarding the receipt of grants that was more in line with RSA 24:14 where the Delegation has responsibility for setting the policy by which grants are approved by the Executive Committee and which would be more aligned with the policy of the towns. He said that right now the Commissioners have the final approval and there may be language in the grants that could leave the County responsible for certain funds. He said that he had now thought that the altering of the language of this motion could be done after revisiting the by-laws again for approval next year.

Rep. Ingretson asked why Rep. Ladd had changed his minds from what was presented to them in caucus and he said that maybe it would be better if he were to read the motion he had considered.

“In accordance with RSA24:14, the Grafton County Delegation adopts the following policy regarding the acceptance of grants: The Delegation authorized the County Commissioners to apply for federal and/or state grants. Prior to acceptance and expenditure of any federal and/or state grant, County Commissioner s must receive approval from the Executive Committee. The Commissioners will provide a detailed quarterly report, to include expenditures and revenues, to the Executive Committee for each grant applied for and/or awarded. A list of all grants received during the fiscal year will be given to the Delegation at the annual budget meeting.”

Rep. Ladd said that the difference is that prior to the acceptance of the grant it would be approved by the Executive Committee. Rep. Ingretson asked why they were being asked to vote on this today and Director Clough said it will allow the County to continue to receive grants and is done each year at this time.

A show of hands was accepted on this motion and Reps. Aguiar, Almy, Bradley, Brosseau, Bulis, Cooney, Eaton, Gionet, Gould, Harding, Ladd, Nordgren, Pastor-Bodmer, Pierce, Reilly, Simard, Smith, Sorg, Sova, Taylor, Townsend and White were in favor and Reps. Mirski and Ingretson were opposed. Motion passes

Rep. Bulis asked if there were any Delegation comments or concerns.

Rep. Cooney spoke out against the cuts to the Social Service budget and said that funding of the agencies had originally begun in an effort to keep people out of the Nursing Home and Jail and that she felt the new goal was to cut money from the budget not matter who

it hurts. She spoke out in favor of CADY as she sits on their Board of Directors. She said loss of funding is a loss to the community and added that the financial support of these agencies is the role of government. She called the reductions short sighted.

Rep. Mirski said that those opposed to the cuts in the budget should realize it is because of the new Jail and that money spent there has taken away help in other area such as social services.

Rep. Gionet said that in his opinion it is not the responsibility of the County taxpayer to support payments to social services.

Rep. Ladd thanked both political parties for working together to conclude this budget. He than referred to the By-laws and said that they had not followed them in regard to the budget resolutions for what goals, objectives and priorities were and thought next year they could be better at that.

Rep. White thanked everyone for the non-partisan way that the Committee members came together to reach a goal for the betterment of the County.

Director Clough informed everyone that as of 4:30AM on the 22nd of June, all the inmates had been moved to the new Correctional Facility and it was now up and running.

Rep. Bulis asked what was to happen with the old Jail and Commissioner Burton stated that there would be a meeting on the 10th of August for public discussion on that topic.

11:30 AM ~ With no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Charles Sova, Clerk

DELEGATION VOTE ON FY13 BUDGET

JUNE 25, 2012



Sign In Sheet ~ **PLEASE PRINT**

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Robert Blechl Caledonian-Record | 31 | CAROL ELLIOTT-GRAFTON Co TREASURER |
| 2 | Alex NISI-DE BRASI Journalist Opinions | 32 | Rep Lester Bradley |
| 3 | Khle McGinn Littleton Courier | 33 | Rep Mary Conroy |
| 4 | Deb Maes UNH Coop Ext | 34 | Rep Franklin F. Houder |
| 5 | Nancy Bishop GC Human Svc | 35 | Rep. Beatriz Pastor-Bodmer |
| 6 | Steph Eaten Littleton | 36 | Rep. Kathleen Taylor |
| 7 | Sarah Bruback - Valley News | 37 | Rep David Pierce |
| 8 | Tammy Robbins - GCNH | 38 | Rep Suzanne Smith |
| 9 | Craig Labore - GCNH | 39 | REP PAUL SIMARD |
| 10 | Bryan Patanovich - GCNH | 40 | Rep Louise Hardin |
| 11 | Will Langlois - GENIT | 41 | REP HAROLD SKIP REILLY |
| 12 | Mike Simpson - Grafton Co. HR | 42 | REP PAUL MIKSIKI |
| 13 | Maggie Pritchard GBIT | 43 | REP. VIVIAN INGALLSTON |
| 14 | BRIANT RUGGERS - GC DOIT MGR. | 44 | EDMOND GIONET |
| 15 | Mark Scarano Grafton County Economic Development Council | 45 | Rep Charles Brosseau |
| 16 | Pam Gilbert Conservation District | 46 | Rep Rick Ladd |
| 17 | Michael Crynes - Commissioner | 47 | Rep Susan Almy |
| 18 | Ray Puntolo | 48 | Rep Charles L Townsend |
| 19 | Rep. Greg Saly - Graf #3 | 49 | Rep Andrew White |
| 20 | Omer C. Ahern, Jr. Commissioner District 3 | 50 | |
| 21 | Jim Oakes in Maint Super. | 51 | |
| 22 | Lara Saffo, County Attorney | 52 | |
| 23 | Aison Farina, off Admin C.A.D. | 53 | |
| 24 | Tom Anross | 54 | |
| 25 | Douglas R. DuTibe, Sheriff | 55 | |
| 26 | Kelley J. Monahan Register of Deeds | 56 | |
| 27 | Beth Wyman, Dep. Reg. of Deeds | 57 | |
| 28 | Wanda Hillard, Human Resources | 58 | |
| 29 | Rep. Sharon Nardgrom | 59 | |
| 30 | Cathenne Mulholland | 60 | |