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Rockingham County Finance Director

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At-Large
Toni Pappas
Hillsborough County Commissioner

At-Large
Ross Cunningham
Merrimack County Administrator

6.21.2024 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

- a. Commissioner Piper calls the meeting to order at 10:00 AM finding a quorum fit to conduct business.
- b. Ms. Horgan calls the roll: Administrator Shelley Richardson (virtual), Commissioner George Maglaras (via Administrator Bower proxy), Commissioner Deanna Rollo (via Administrator Bower proxy), Commissioner Robert Watson (via Administrator Bower proxy), Administrator Kathryn Kindopp (via Administrator Coates proxy), Director Sheryl Trombly (via Administrator Coates proxy), Treasurer Chuck Weed (via Administrator Coates), Commissioner Martha McLeod (via Commissioner Piper proxy), Administrator Derek Ferland (via Director Bourque proxy), Commissioner Ben Nelson (via Director Bourque proxy), Director Chuck Nickerson (via Register Stacey proxy), Administrator Ross Cunningham (via Superintendent Cushman proxy), Director Linda Matchett (via Superintendent Eldridge proxy), Superintendent Ben Champagne (via Treasurer Collins proxy), Administrator Chris Coates (virtual), Administrator Louise Belanger (virtual), Administrator Laura Mills (virtual), Administrator David Ross (virtual), Commissioner Brian Chirichiello (virtual), Administrator Ray Bower (virtual), Carrie Conway (virtual), Administrator Debra Shackett, Superintendent Sean Eldridge, Commissioner Robert Englund, Treasurer Suzanne Collins, Administrator Craig Labore, Commissioner Wendy Piper, Commissioner Toni Pappas, Attorney Carolyn Kirby, Director Sara Lewko, Commissioner Stuart Trachy, Superintendent Travis Cushman, Superintendent Jason Henry, Director Alison Kivikoski, Register Cathy Stacey, Director Mary Bourque, Administrator Matt Lagos, Director Hilary Snide of the NHAC Executive Committee. Danielle Duchesne, Kate Horgan, and Jim Monahan of the Dupont Group.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Commissioner Piper leads the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of past meeting minutes (May 17, 2024)

- a. Commissioner Piper presents the minutes from the May 17 meeting of the Committee. Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** to approve the minutes. Register Stacey **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

IV. Financial Update – Chuck Nickerson

- a. Ms. Horgan provides a financial update and explains that the Association is on track for the year and in good shape. Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** to accept the financial report. Superintendent Eldridge **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

V. Overwatch Foundation – Jason Sgro

- a. Commissioner Piper introduces Jason Sgro of Overwatch Foundation. Sgro explains the role of Overwatch. The organization’s main project is to put all counties on .gov web addresses. Mr. Sgro explains that there is a ten-year mission to strengthen the cyber security workforce with grant opportunities available to counties. Countries interested can sign up by contacting Corey Casey at Primex.

VI. Executive Committee appointments

- a. Ms. Horgan explains that Carroll County has one vacancy.

VII. General Liability Renewal

- a. Ms. Horgan presents the contract for Mesa Underwriters Specialty Insurance Company for general liability and terrorism insurance renewal. Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** to approve the contract, as recommended by the Officers. Register Stacey **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

VIII. Annual Conference

- a. Treasurer Collins explains that Coos is excited to host and network with the new members of the Association.
- b. Ms. Horgan presents the Fred King contract, a speaker for two breakout sessions at the Annual Conference, as recommended by the Officers. Administrator Shackett makes a **MOTION** to approve the contract. Attorney Kirby **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.
- c. Ms. Horgan explains that there is only one week left to submit awards nominations. The submissions portal will close on June 28. Because the awards program has been open since March 20, late submissions will not be accepted – counties can recognize any employees on their own that were not submitted in time, or, wait until the next NHAC awards program in 2025.

IX. 50th Anniversary Planning Committee

- a. Director Kivikoski explains that during the May 17 meeting of the Committee, the Committee agreed to ask the Executive Committee to push Grafton County to host the 2026 Annual Conference and that, to best utilize funds and avoid overshadowing the host county, that the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee host the 2025 Annual Conference. This change would also push Hillsborough County to Host the 2027 Conference, which is not a part of the current contract with the Mt. Washington Hotel Administrator Libby reports that both Grafton County and Hillsborough County are okay with the change.
- b. Superintendent Eldridge makes a **MOTION** to approve the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee to host the 2025 Conference, Grafton to host the 2026

Conference, and Hillsborough to host the 2027 Conference. Superintendent Henry **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

X. County-State Finance Committee update – David Ross

- a. The Committee has not met since the last meeting of the Executive Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27th. Administrator Ross explains that the meeting will focus on the Medicaid rate and county cap.
- b. Administrator Bower asks about touching base on atypical rate increases with Director Lipman.

XI. State Government updates

- a. Ms. Horgan explains that the session has finally wrapped and the Association had a successful session. The Association will advocate for a veto for SB 462 regarding wrongful death. Bill filing will open in early September. Executive Committee members who are working on legislation should alert Ms. Horgan so she can assist with sponsors and language.

XII. Affiliate updates

- a. Corrections: Superintendent Cushman explained the next Academy begins on August 20th. The Superintendents will review the Certification Bylaws and expect to make some updates.
- b. Commissioners Council: Administrator Bower explains the Strafford County Commissioner lawsuit is still pending and that the motion for a stay was denied. Rep. Turcotte and Sen. Gray forgot to change the commissioner qualifications under a different RSA so Strafford County was left out and Commissioner Rollo will be allowed to run in District 3 (confirmed by the Attorney General's office). Strafford County has a strong candidate running to replace Commissioner Watson.
- c. County Attorneys: No report.
- d. Deeds: Register Stacey explains that the Affiliate just met and will be firming up speakers for the Conference. Strafford County has won a lawsuit from a town regarding the release of documents that are not available under 91-A, but expects an appeal from the town's lawyer.
- e. Sheriffs: No report.
- f. Human Resources: Director May explains that the Affiliate is meeting regularly but will not meet today. The Affiliate has selected a speaker for the conference and is working to fit the speaker within the Conference schedule.
- g. Administrators: Administrator Coates explains that some counties are in budget season. The group has had discussions about opioid funds with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The group will meet with a representative from the New Hampshire Retirement System to discuss some issues.
- h. Nursing Home Administrators: Administrator Ross explains that the Affiliate continues to meet and has had discussions with Senator Shaheen's office on the staffing mandate. Rate management continues to be an issue with the State.

XIII. Other business

- a. Ms. Horgan reminded the Association the Rumford contract expires at the end of 2024 and will need to be addressed.

- b. At 10:47 AM, Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** to recess the meeting. Register Stacey **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**. At 11:06 AM, Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** to reconvene the meeting. Superintendent Eldridge **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.
- c. Ms. Horgan explains that the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee is meeting after the conclusion of this meeting.

XIV. Next meeting

- a. The next meetings of the Executive Committee will be on:
 - i. Friday, Sept. 6, 2024 (Primex)
 - ii. Friday, Oct. 18, 2024 (Primex)
 - iii. Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024 (Mt. Washington Hotel)
 - iv. Friday, Dec. 20, 2024 (primex)

XV. Henry Lipman – Nursing Home Utilization/Medicaid update (coming at 11:00 AM)

- a. Director Lipman provides an overview of the community re-entry waiver for Medicaid with the State Plan Amendment and Corrections. The waiver offers Medicaid benefits for 45 days before release. Medicaid has some different ages, for different programs vs corrections at 18 for minority and Medicaid at 21 and 26, so this can help with additional costs. Director Lipman explains that there are some difficulties with rates and ways that DHHS can work better together with Long Term Care. Director Lipman explains that DHHS is working on a pilot program for Medicaid pending with Merrimack and Hillsborough counties.

XVI. Adjournment

- a. Attorney Kirby makes a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Cushman **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

Minutes prepared by Danielle Duchesne on June 21, 2024.

Minutes approved on September 6, 2024.