

Commissioners Council's dues and Special Assessments Committee Meeting

6.23.2020

Via Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Pappas calls the meeting to order at 11:06 AM finding a quorum fit to conduct business.
 - b. Roll call of those present: Deb Shackett (Belknap County Chair designee), Commissioner Amanda Bevard (Carroll County Chair), Commissioner Chuck Weed (Cheshire County Chair), Jennifer Fish (Coos County Chair designee), Commissioner Linda Lauer (Grafton County Chair), Commissioner Toni Pappas (Hillsborough County Chair), Commissioner Stuart Trachy (Merrimack County Chair), Commissioner Kevin St. James (Rockingham County Chair), Commissioner George Maglaras (Strafford County Chair). Danielle Duchesne and Kate Horgan of the Dupont Group.

- II. Approval of past meeting minutes
 - a. Pappas presents the meeting minutes from December 6, 2019. St. James makes a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as presented. Maglaras **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Roll call vote: Shackett, absent; Bevard, absent; Weed, aye; Fish, abstain; Lauer, absent; Pappas, aye; Trachy, abstain; St. James, abstain; Maglaras, aye. The **MOTION PASSES**.

- III. Dues structure discussion
 - a. Horgan provides background information regarding change of bylaws of the Commissioners Council and creation of Dues and Special Assessments Committee. Rockingham county letter received in March regarding disagreement with approved dues structure for 2020. The Officers met with the Rockingham county commissioner signatories. The Officers suggested the Commissioners Council's Dues and Special Assessments Committee meet to discuss a new structure.
 - b. St. James describes a discrepancy in dues paid versus benefits received.
 - c. *(Commissioner Bevard has joined the meeting.)*
 - d. Maglaras explains the flat rate portions of the dues, history of other dues structure debates, and weighted voting. Maglaras explains that the taxpayers (via property tax) support most of the Association. Suggests a new revenue source/sources may be a way to level disproportional dues payments.
 - e. Pappas discusses that the weighted vote might not work well – better to keep the voting process simple.
 - f. Trachy explains that each county paying the same amount is not the best option.
 - g. St. James explains that benefits are the same no matter the amount paid in dues. Asks for proportionate vote by adding people to the Executive Committee via change to the bylaws.
 - h. Maglaras explains flat segments of the dues, i.e. Corrections Academy flat assessment v how many cadets per county are sent to the Academy. Maglaras asks that Rockingham propose what they want out of their dues to the Association. Discussion of group purchases where the savings go back to the Association.
 - i. Weed discusses principles of solidarity.
 - j. Trachy suggests that Rockingham propose changes to the Committee and Trachy is not interested in making changes without input from those counties that are seeking changes.

- k. Shackett suggests that services purchased by each county are the same (i.e. association and lobbying services) so the price should be the same.
 - l. St. James asks for a better formula.
 - m. Maglaras suggest moving to a flat rate system over a course of a number of years.
- IV. Other business
- a. No other business.
 - b. *(Linda Lauer has joined the call.)*
- V. Next meeting
- a. At the call of the Chair following Chuck Nickerson and St. James discussion of dues structure options.
- VI. Adjournment
- a. Maglaras makes a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. St. James **SECONDS** the **MOTION**.
Roll call vote: Shackett, aye; Bevard, aye; Weed, aye; Fish, aye; Lauer, aye; Pappas, aye; Trachy, aye; St. James, aye; Maglaras, nay. The **MOTION PASSES**.

Meeting minutes prepared by Danielle Duchesne on June 23, 2020.

Meeting minutes approved on September 14, 2020.