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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

4.21.2023 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

- a. Commissioner Piper calls the meeting to order at 10:07 AM finding a quorum fit to conduct business.
- b. Ms. Horgan calls the roll: Commissioner Omer Ahern, Jr. (via Commissioner Piper proxy), Director Mary Bourque (via Director Snide proxy), Administrator Ray Bower (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Commissioner Brian Chirichiello, Administrator Derek Ferland, Superintendent Jason Henry (via Director Nickerson proxy), Dr. Tory Jennison (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Attorney Carolyn Kirby (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Director Alison Kivikoski (via Director Nickerson proxy), Administrator Craig Labore (via Commissioner Piper proxy), Administrator Matt Lagos (via Administrator Ferland proxy), Director Sara Lewko, Commissioner George Maglaras (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Director Linda Matchett, Commissioner Martha McLeod (via Commissioner Piper proxy), Administrator Laura Mills (via Ms. Kate Horgan proxy), Administrator Chad Monier (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Commissioner Ben Nelson (via Administrator Ferland proxy), Director Chuck Nickerson, Commissioner Toni Pappas, Commissioner Wendy Piper, Commissioner Deanna Rollo (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Administrator David Ross (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Director Hilary Snide, Register Cathy Stacey, Commissioner Stuart Trachy, Commissioner Robert Watson (via Commissioner Pappas proxy) of the NHAC (New Hampshire Association of Counties) Executive Committee. Danielle Duchesne, Kate Horgan, and Jim Monahan of the Dupont Group.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Administrator Cunningham leads the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Presentation from HealthTrust

- a. David Salois provides a presentation on the work of HealthTrust.

IV. Approval of past meeting minutes (March 17, 2023)

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

V. Financial Update – Chuck Nickerson

- a. Director Nickerson provides a financial update and explains that over half of the revenues for the year have been received. Director Nickerson explains that expenses are a bit under a quarter of the year's budget, though he expects more expenses will be processed from the Correction Academies and Annual Conference. Director Nickerson explains that the RFP (Request for Proposal) for the audit has not yet gone out as he is working to move the books to an accrual basis and will include a balance sheet with the RFP so interested parties do not overbid. Commissioner Trachy makes a **MOTION** to accept the financial report. Director Lewko **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

VI. Executive Committee appointments

- a. Ms. Horgan explains there are no new appointments to announce at this meeting; however, new appointments are expected by the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

VII. Awards Committee

- a. Commissioner Piper explains that the Awards Committee was formed at last month's meeting and nine members were nominated and approved. All counties are represented except for Belknap County. After the meeting, Belknap County nominated Mike MacFadzen, Restorative Justice Director, to represent Belknap County on the Awards Committee. Commissioner Pappas makes a **MOTION** to approve the nomination of Mike MacFadzen to the Awards Committee. Administrator Cunningham **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.
- b. Ms. Duchesne explains that the Awards Committee last met on March 27 and agreed to continue the same awards process as 2022. Award nominations are now accepted per an announcement that went out on April 14. Awards will be accepted through Friday, June 16. See all information at nhcounties.org/awards.

VIII. Annual Conference

- a. Ms. Duchesne explains that the hotel information and sponsorship information is now posted to the website. Past sponsors, as well as other target sponsors, have been contacted over the last couple of weeks. Ms. Duchesne explains that counties are welcome to reach out to sponsor targets with the information provided at nhcounties.org/sponsors.
- b. Administrator Coates explains that the draft schedule is nearly complete.
- c. Ms. Duchesne explains that the registration rates for the full conference have remained flat, whereas the single-day options have increased.

IX. County-State Finance Committee update

- a. Ms. Horgan reports that the Committee will meet next on May 31.

X. Opioid Update

- a. Commissioner Pappas explains that the Opioid Abatement Trust has dispersed money to the counties.

XI. MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) Funding

- a. Administrator Ferland explains that the administrators, with the corrections superintendents, want to standardize expense reporting for MAT funding. The Governor and Executive Council will disperse the first distribution of funds in May. Administrator Ferland would like to bring a proposal on standardized expenses before the next meeting of the Executive Committee. Upon request, Administrator Ferland will share his expense template. Superintendent Champagne explains that he will also share his expense form.

XII. State Government updates

- a. Ms. Horgan reports that the House and the Senate did not meet in session this week and will not meet next week. Superintendent Henry testified on SB 58, regarding warrantless arrests, as it has been amended in an unfavorable way. Ms. Horgan explains that HB 284, regarding competitive bidding, is on the consent calendar and will be on the floor. Ms. Horgan explains that HB 308, regarding a quorum for public bodies, is on the calendar for a hearing. SB 149, regarding nursing agencies, will have another subcommittee work session before getting voted out.
- b. Ms. Horgan explains that there will be a deliberative session on HB 2 on April 26. Mr. Monahan explains that the Senate has possession of the budget, and that HB 2 contains the county cap freeze as presented by the House, though there is potential for a 2% increase. Mr. Monahan explains that the Senate will have a public meeting on May 2 on the budget. Mr. Monahan explains that many controversial bills have been retained, so he anticipates a larger volume of bills next session.
- c. Commissioner Trachy asks about bail reform. Ms. Horgan explains that courts will not be forced to do something different for now, but Chairman Roy has an unknown plan.

XIII. Affiliate updates

- a. Corrections: Superintendent Cushman explains that the 119th Academy graduation is on April 28, and that will be the date of the next meeting of the Affiliate.
- b. Nursing Homes: No report.
- c. Commissioners Council: Commissioner Chirichiello explains there has been no meeting of the Commissioners Council, so there is nothing to report.
- d. County Attorneys: No report.
- e. Deeds: Register Stacey explains there is nothing to report.
- f. Sheriffs: No report.
- g. Human Resources: Director Lewko explains that the HR affiliate held a seminar on March 31, supporting the LGBTQ workforce, and reports that it was well attended. The next meeting of the Affiliate is on April 28.
- h. Administrators: Director Nickerson explains that at the last call, there was discussion of using premium pay and that it cannot be used to pay for services after April 10 because of the end of the public health emergency.

XIV. Other business

- a. Administrator Ferland asks if the Nursing Home Affiliate has met regarding the minimum staffing levels. Ms. Horgan explains that this CMS rule would be detrimental to the nursing homes as the minimum is higher than the current workforce.
- b. Administrator Ferland asks if any county is using the energy efficiency block grants for strategic planning or feasibility study. He has learned that it is necessary to work with a central consultant. Ms. Horgan will investigate and provide clarification on this process.

XV. Next meeting

- a. The next meetings of the Executive Committee will be at Primex on:
 - i. Friday, May 19
 - ii. Friday, June 16
 - iii. Friday, September 22
 - iv. Friday, October 20
 - v. Friday, November 17
 - vi. Friday, December 15

XVI. Adjournment

- a. Director Matchet makes a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Chirichiello **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

Minutes prepared by Danielle Duchesne on April 21, 2023.

Minutes approved on May 19, 2023.