

Executive Council Meeting Report

Meetings of August 22 and September 5, 2018

A. Further Update—Sale/Transfer of Mt. Sunapee

There will be another public informational session at the Mt. Sunapee Lodge on September 26th at 6 p.m. The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources has continued its examination and negotiation of the terms of the sale of the Sunapee State Park operating agreement and lease transfer to Vail Resorts and will provide an update to the public.

B. Breakfast at Canobie Lake Park on August 22nd and at the Mountain View Grand Hotel in Whitefield on September 5th.

Councilor Prescott hosted the meeting on August 22nd. Our breakfast was held at the old, historic dance hall at the back of the park. We may have seen the ghost of Frank Sinatra. Canobie Lake is also soon to open a large water park and we were treated to a pre-opening tour of the water park in the rain.

Our August 22nd Council meeting was held at the Tuscan Village Restaurant in Salem. The meeting was followed by a lunch at which the owner of the restaurant provided the Governor and Council with a private update of his firm's redevelopment of Rockingham Park which he deemed well situated to take advantage of New Hampshire's approach to taxation. I had to leave a short time after the lunch briefing began.

Councilor Kenney hosted the breakfast meeting on September 5th at the Mountain View Grand Hotel in Whitefield. The hotel is truly grand. We were updated on economic development efforts by Ben Olson, the vice president of the Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce. Ben informed us that Lancaster has been doing well and now has a bit of a parking problem in town.

The purpose of Councilor Kenney taking us north was to join in the celebration of the Weeks Act and Weeks State Park. The Weeks Act was created in 1911 to protect watersheds by providing for the creation of the national forests. John W. Weeks was a Congressman, then representing Massachusetts. Congressman Weeks was originally from New Hampshire and retired to the Lancaster area where he built a beautiful lodge on 1000 acres in Lancaster. Heirs of Congressman Weeks donated the property to the state and Weeks state park was created 100 years ago in 1918.

New Hampshire's park system is the only state park system in the nation that is completely self-funded. New Hampshire's parks are funded entirely from park use fees and the proceeds of Moose Plate sales. Historically, the two sources of

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funding produce a total of \$333,000 each year in revenues for the entire state park system to operate.

C. Agenda Items of Interest

DRA Extension of Temporary Help Contract with Robert Half International

The Council approved, 4-1 with me dissenting, a \$70,000, one year, retroactive extension of its existing contract with Robert Half, through June 30, 2019. The hiring of temporary workers is an annual occurrence at the Department of Revenue Administration to help with data input during tax season. I do not necessarily object to the use of temporary workers, but the State, through Robert Half, pays these workers \$10.00/hour, which is less than a living wage. (8/22nd)

Pharmacy Benefits Contract

The Council approved a \$212.5 million contract with Express Scripts to provide pharmacy benefits to state employees and retirees. The contract runs from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021. During this time, the Department of Administrative Services says it expects to rebid the contract in hopefully a very different environment for the provision of healthcare benefits. (8/22nd)

Tariffs and the Umbagog Bath House

The Council approved a \$1.3 million contract for the reconstruction of the bathhouse at Lake Umbagog. The Governor and Council were concerned at the cost, but felt, reluctantly, that the project needed to move forward to protect the integrity of the park facility. The Governor pointed out that some of the materials that are to be used in the construction are much more expensive because of recently imposed tariffs and expressed the hope that the ongoing trade disputes would subside quickly. (8/22nd)

Educational Tuition Assistance for State Employee

The Council authorized up to \$1,500 for an insurance department employee to earn credits towards an associates degree at Southern New Hampshire University. Councilors Wheeler and Kenney voted against the agenda item because the courses were in a general studies curriculum. (9/5th)

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Worksite Lactation Pilot Project Development

The Council approved by a vote of 4-1, Councilor Wheeler dissenting, a two year extension valued at \$145,000 for Keene State College to develop lactation locations at worksites throughout the state. The project is completely federally funded. (9/5th)

Pardon Request of Gary Place

The Council received a partially completed pardon package from the Office of the Attorney General concerning Gary Place, who was convicted of murder in 1982. Mr. Place has been a model prisoner in the New Hampshire state prison system. His defense was the first in the nation based upon PTSD as the result of war time trauma suffered in Viet Nam. The Council tabled Mr. Place's request for a hearing on my motion because one of the former prosecutors submitted a letter in support of Mr. Place on the day before the Council meeting and portions of the letter raised questions for some of the members of the Council. Two attorneys general prosecuted Mr. Place at trial. One of the prosecutors is now a superior court judge and he took no position with respect to a conditional pardon. The other prosecutor is in a private law practice and he supports a conditional pardon. The Office of the Attorney General opposes the pardon based on the nature of the crime.

D. Nominations and Confirmations

The following persons were confirmed on August 22, 2018

Assessing Standards Board Sherman L. Hallock, Dorchester, NH
Board of Medical Imaging and Radiation Tammy A. Newell, Bedford, NH
Enhanced 911 Commission Paul A. Szoc, Keene, NH
New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Authority John J. Colony, Harrisville, NH
New Hampshire Transportation Council, James M. Jalbert, Rollinsford, NH
State Committee on Aging, Kristi St. Laurent, Windham, NH
Acting Director, Division of Personnel, DAS Carol Jerry, Sanbornton, NH was both nominated and confirmed.

The following persons were confirmed on September 5, 2018

Acting Interim Warden, Northern NH Correctional Facility, Jeffrey R. Smith
Ballot Law Commission, Robert J. Letourneau, Derry, NH
Enhanced 911 Commission, Thomas E. Andross, Lisbon, NH
New Hampshire Retirement System Board of Trustees, Christopher C. Coates, Keene, NH
New Hampshire Water Well Board, Peter W. Caswell, Temple, NH

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Pharmacy Board, John Genovese, Swanzey, NH and Nicole J. Harrington, Nashua, NH
Police Commission- Nashua, Nicholas Dahl, Nashua, NH

E. Spotlight

\$15 an Hour

At my request, the state's agencies began reporting the lowest rates of compensation paid by state vendors to their employees on the contracts in question. The following contractors were approved with the pay scales noted:

The request for wage information is pending.

#28 Authorized the Division of Parks and Recreation to make a retroactive sole source payment to Lee T. Corrigan LLC, Gorham, NH, in the amount of \$49,375 for emergency repairs to 3 concrete stairwells damaged by coastal storms at North Beach in Hampton, NH. This damage was recently declared under FEMA Disaster DR-4370-NH. 100% Agency Income. VOTE: UNANIMOUS

F. Next Meeting

Our next regularly scheduled Executive Council meeting will occur on September 20, 2018, a Thursday, to accommodate the Yom Kippur holiday on September 19, 2018. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at the Castle in the Clouds Carriage House Restaurant, 586 Ossipee Park Road, Moultonborough. Governor Sununu selected the location and will host this last meeting of our on-the-road series. The agenda for the meeting will be posted by the Secretary of State on the Executive Council web page late on the preceding Friday afternoon.
<http://sos.nh.gov/GC2.aspx>

The Council breakfast, which the public may attend, will be held at the Moulton Farm, 18 Quarry Road, Meredith, beginning at 8:00 a.m.

G. Items of Interest to District Two, by Region

Region 1-Monadnock Region

August 22, 2018

#21B Authorized, under the Community Development Block Grant program, to award a grant to the County of Cheshire, Keene, NH, in the amount of \$417,365 for the purpose of assisting three organizations provide microenterprise training and technical assistance activities. Effective August 22, 2018 through June 30, 2019. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

#24 Authorized to enter into a **retroactive** amendment with Robert Half International, Manchester, NH (originally approved by G&C on 8-23-17, item #59),

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for temporary data entry services, by increasing the amount by \$70,000 from \$70,000 to \$140,000, and by extending the completion date from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2019. **100% General Funds. Vote:** 4-1 (Volinsky voted No)

September 5, 2018

#9 Authorized to exercise a renewal option to an existing agreement with Keene State College of the University System of NH, Keene, NH (originally approved by G&C on 5-2-18, item #22), for the provision of services for the development of a worksite lactation pilot project, by increasing the price by \$145,264 from \$72,632 to \$217,896 and extending the contract completion date from September 30, 2018 to September 30, 2020. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: 4-1** (Wheeler)

Region 2-Merrimack County

August 22, 2018

#9 Authorized to enter into a **sole source** agreement with Riverbend Community Mental Health, Concord, NH, to provide Peer Recovery Support Services, in an amount not to exceed \$108,450. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2019. **100% General Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

#20 Authorized the Bureau of Construction to enter into a contract with Weaver Bros. Construction Co., Inc., Bow, NH, for widening NH 106 from 800' south of Mudgett Hill Road to 1,400' north of the NH Motor Speedway South Entrance, on the basis of a low bid of \$2,631,812.60. (2)Further Authorized a contingency in the amount of \$184,266.88 for payment of latent conditions which may appear during the construction of the project. Effective upon G&C approval through November 22, 2019. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

#37 Authorized the Division of Parks and Recreation to enter into a contract with I Roof LLC, Hudson, NH, to perform roof replacement on multiple buildings at Bear Brook State Park, Allenstown, NH, in the amount of \$85,175. Effective upon G&C approval through October 26, 2018. **100% Capital Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

#59 Authorized the Division of Public Works Design and Construction to enter into a contract with D. L. King & Associates Inc., Nashua, NH, for the NH Veterans Home Equipment Upgrades, Tilton, NH, for a total price not to exceed \$1,284,012. (2)Further Authorized a contingency in the amount of \$69,779 for unanticipated mechanical expenses for the NH Veterans Home Equipment Upgrades, bringing the total to \$1,353,791. (3) Further Authorized the amount of \$60,000 for payment to the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Public Works Design and Construction, for engineering services provided, bringing the total to \$1,413,791. Effective upon G&C approval through October 1, 2019.

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September 5, 2018

[#20](#) Authorized the Bureau of Construction to enter into a contract with R. S. Audley Inc., Bow, NH, for bridge preservation efforts for the bridges carrying I-293 EB & WB over the Merrimack River, on the basis of a low bid of \$4,648,329.50. (2)Further Authorized a contingency in the amount of \$464,832.96 for payment of latent conditions which may appear during the construction of the project. Effective upon G&C approval through October 18, 2019. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

Region 3-Strafford County

August 22, 2018

5 #B. Authorized the Division of Economic Development to amend a contract with Granite State District Export Council, Dover, NH (originally approved by G&C on 11-8-17, item #48), to provide financial administration, oversight and reporting services in compliance with the State Trade Expansion Program Grant VI, by extending the end date from September 29, 2018 to September 29, 2019. No Additional Funds. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

[#6](#) Authorized to enter into a **sole source** amendment to the existing lease with the City of Rochester, NH (originally approved by G&C on 6-22-05, item #317A), for continued occupation of the Rochester District Office, by increasing the price in the amount of \$477,400 to \$4,068,387.50 from \$3,590,987.50, and by extending the term from August 31, 2018 to April 30, 2020. **66.73% General, 33.27% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

[#41](#) Authorized to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the University of NH, Sponsored Programs Administration, Durham, NH, to support implementation of the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership management plan and monitoring plan, in the amount of \$220,000. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2019. **100% Other Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

[#43](#) Authorized to enter into an agreement with A.J. Cameron Sod Farms Inc., Farmington, NH, to provide on-demand hydroseeding services at certain state-owned dams, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2019. **67% Dam Maintenance, 33% General Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

[#44](#) Authorized to enter into an agreement with the Town of Durham, NH, to complete the *Littlehale Pond-Dam and Stream Restoration Project*, in the amount of \$75,000. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2020. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

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[#46](#) Authorized a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan agreement with the Town of Durham, in an amount not to exceed \$214,400 to finance the Dover Road Pump Station Forcemain Upgrade. Effective upon G&C approval. **100% CWSRF Repayment Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

September 5, 2018

[#6](#) Authorized to enter into a **sole source** agreement with Turning Point Counseling & Consultation LLC, Rochester, NH, to provide Disaster Behavioral Health Technical Assistance, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2019. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

[#10](#) Authorized to enter into a **sole source** agreement with Jessica L. Greenlow, Belmont, NH, for the facilitation of the Family Assessment and Inclusive Reunification Program, in an amount not to exceed \$83,241.60. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2020. **100% Federal Funds. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

[#28](#) Authorized the Division of Parks and Recreation to make a **retroactive sole source** payment to Lee T. Corrigan LLC, Gorham, NH, in the amount of \$49,375 for emergency repairs to 3 concrete stairwells damaged by coastal storms at North Beach in Hampton, NH. This damage was recently declared under FEMA Disaster DR-4370-NH. **100% Agency Income. VOTE: UNANIMOUS**