

President
Wendy Piper
Grafton County Commissioner

Vice President
Cathy Stacey
Rockingham County Register of Deeds

Treasurer
Chuck Nickerson
Rockingham County Finance Director

Bylaws Chair
Chris Coates
Cheshire County Administrator



11 S Main St., Ste. 202
Concord, NH 03301

info@nhcounties.org
www.nhcounties.org

Immediate Past President
Chuck Weed
Cheshire County Commissioner

At-Large
Toni Pappas
Hillsborough County Commissioner

At-Large
Ross Cunningham
Merrimack County Administrator

10.18.2024 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

- a. Commissioner Piper calls the meeting to order at 10:04 AM finding a quorum fit to conduct business.
- b. Ms. Horgan calls the roll: Administrator Shelley Richardson (via Administrator Shackett proxy), Administrator Laura Mills (via Administrator Brady proxy), Commissioner George Maglaras (via Commissioner Pappas proxy), Administrator Craig Labore (via Commissioner Piper proxy), Administrator Julie Libby (via Commissioner Piper proxy), Administrator Matt Lagos (via Director Bourque proxy), Commissioner Ben Nelson (via Director Bourque proxy), Director Alison Kivikoski (via Director Nickerson proxy), Commissioner Brian Chirichiello (via Director Nickerson proxy), Administrator Chris Coates (via Director May proxy), Commissioner Robert Englund (via Director May proxy), Administrator Kathryn Kindopp (via Director May proxy), Director Sheryl Trombly (via Director May proxy), Administrator Ross Cunningham (via Superintendent Cushman proxy), Commissioner Terry McCarthy, Administrator Mark Brady, Commissioner Wendy Piper, Commissioner Toni Pappas, Attorney Carolyn Kirby, Administrator David Ross, Director Sara Lewko, Superintendent Travis Cushman, Superintendent Jason Henry, Director Chuck Nickerson, Register Cathy Stacey, Director Mary Bourque, Administrator Derek Ferland, Director Hilary Snide, Administrator Debra Shackett (virtual), Administrator Louise Belanger (virtual), Carrie Conway (virtual) of the NHAC Executive Committee. Danielle Duchesne, Kate Horgan, and Jim Monahan of the Dupont Group. Paul Chiarantona, Mr. Davis Bernstein, Director Kim May, Ms. Ally Priest of the public.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of past meeting minutes (September 13, 2024)

- a. Commissioner Piper presents the minutes from the September 13, 2024, meeting of the Committee. Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** to approve the minutes. Superintendent Cushman **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner

Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

IV. Financial Update – Chuck Nickerson

- a. Director Nickerson explains that after the next Corrections Academy, the Association will exceed the budgeted revenues for the Academies. Director Nickerson also explains that the Conference is running over budget on revenues as well. Register Stacey makes a **MOTION** to accept the financial report. Superintendent Cushman **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

V. Executive Committee appointments

- a. Ms. Duchesne explains that there is one vacancy in Carroll County. No new appointments.

VI. Appointment to Commission to Study the Incidence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in First Responders and Whether Such Disorder Should Be Covered Under Workers' Compensation

- a. Director Nickerson makes a **MOTION** to approve Superintendent Jason Henry to the Commission. Register Stacey **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

VII. Strategic Planning Committee

- a. The membership for the Strategic Planning Committee expires at the end of the year. The last membership is as follows: Deb Shackett, Belknap; vacant, Carroll; Chris Coates, Cheshire; Julie Libby, Grafton; Commissioner Toni Pappas, Hillsborough; Administrator Ross Cunningham, Merrimack; Superintendent Jason Henry, Rockingham; Commissioner George Maglaras, Stafford; Administrator Derek Ferland, Sullivan.
- b. Following Section VIII.7. of the bylaws, the Strategic Planning Committee is to have one representative from each county who is an appointed or elected official from a county in good standing. Membership is a 2-year term.
- c. Nominations are requested by the Association President and confirmed by the Executive Committee.
- d. The Committee will consider a slate for membership at the November or December meeting.

VIII. Ally Priest, Sen Shaheen's Office

- a. Ms. Priest is the new point person for Senator Shaheen's office, as the Special Assistant for Policy and Projects. Ms. Priest provides her contact information to members of the Executive Committee.

IX. Annual Conference

- a. Administrator Brady explains that Coos County is excited to present the full schedule of events at the Conference and promotes the New Hampshire Icons plenary, as well as the Veterans Day observances with plenary speaker Tony Eafrazi.
- b. Ms. Horgan explains that she has extended an invitation to the gubernatorial candidates to the Annual Conference should they be the governor-elect.

X. County-State Finance Committee update – David Ross

- a. The Committee is to meet next week, October 31, 2024.

XI. Coos Easement Issue – Administrator Brady

- a. Administrator Brady explains use of a private piece of land (largest in the State) that, 20 years ago, the state negotiated an easement on the property to keep the property as-is, a working, productive forest (hunt, fish, recreate, forestry operations). In 2014, the property was used for carbon credits, though the access to the land was largely not impacted. However, in 2021, the property was sold and the new owner wants to maximize carbon credits of the property that severely limits timber harvests. Coos County now has to ask the State to enforce the easement. Superintendent Henry makes a **MOTION** for the Association to write a support letter on the matter. Register Stacey **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent, and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**. Ms. Horgan to investigate possible legislation for this as well.

XII. State Government updates

- a. Ms. Horgan explains that legislators are campaigning so there is not much to report. The next bill filing period for the House opens on October 26. Ms. Horgan asks that any folks looking to draft legislation reach out for assistance regarding language and/or sponsors. New Member Orientation is November 20. Ms. Horgan has reached out to Affiliates to present at the event.
- b. Mr. Monahan explains that the next budget event is coming up in November where the agencies present their budgets to the Governor. Mr. Monahan expects that on October 31 the Department of Health and Human Services will provide the counties with a preview of the Department's budget.
- c. Ms. Horgan invites members of the Association to attend the Post-Election Brief, presented by the Dupont Group, coming up on November 8.

XIII. Affiliate updates

- a. Corrections: Superintendent Cushman explains that the 124th Academy will graduate on October 25. Superintendent Henry explains that Officers elections are to be held as well.
- b. Commissioners Council: Commissioner Pappas reports that the Commissioners Council will meet at the Annual Conference.
- c. County Attorneys: No report.
- d. Deeds: Register Stacey explains that the Affiliate has not met but will meet during the Annual Conference.
- e. Sheriffs: No report.
- f. Human Resources: Director May explains that the HR Affiliate will meet today with two guest speakers.
- g. Administrators: Administrator Ferland explains the Affiliate has discussed the Coos easement issue, legislative issues.
- h. Nursing Home: Administrator Ross explains that Affiliate continues to meet and has recently focused on survey response and federal oversight.

XIV. Other business

- a. No other business.

XV. Next meeting

- a. The next meetings of the Executive Committee will be at Primex on:
 - i. Nov. 12, 2024 (at the Annual Conference)
 - ii. Dec. 20, 2024
 - iii. January 3, 2025
 - iv. February 7, 2025
 - v. March 7, 2025
 - vi. April 4, 2025
 - vii. May 2, 2025
 - viii. June 6, 2025
 - ix. September 5, 2025
 - x. October 3, 2025
 - xi. November 11, 2025
 - xii. December 5, 2025

XVI. Adjournment

- a. Register Stacey makes a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Henry **SECONDS** the **MOTION**. Commissioner Piper invokes unanimous consent and hearing no objection, the **MOTION PASSES**.

Minutes prepared by Danielle Duchesne on October 18, 2024.

Minutes approved on November 12, 2024.