

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Executive Council

**CHRISTOPHER C. PAPPAS**  
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR  
DISTRICT FOUR



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**TO:** All Fourth District Cities and Towns  
**FROM:** Executive Councilor Christopher C. Pappas  
**DATE:** January 14, 2015

The Governor and Executive Council met on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House, Concord, NH and considered an agenda of approximately 37 items.

The next scheduled Governor and Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House Concord, NH.

Executive Council Meeting Notes  
January 14, 2015

The Executive Council met this morning at 10:00AM at the State Capitol. Here are my notes from the meeting, focusing on both statewide issues and issues that affect the 4th District.

We started with a prayer from Councilor Wheeler, who read a portion of a letter George Washington wrote to every Governor when the Continental Army was disbanded on June 14, 1783. Washington called for his new countrymen to conduct themselves with "charity, humility and pacific temper of mind," and I hope and trust that my colleagues and I will follow Washington's wisdom.

### **Nominations**

The Governor nominated Catherine Hackett of Manchester to the Human Rights Commission; Jeffrey Duval of Manchester to the Appellate Board; and Bobby D. Broneske of Londonderry to the Veterans Council. Governor Hassan also nominated Robert Duval of Manchester to the Air Resources Council, along with Carmela C. Amato-Wierda of Durham and Deborah Chabot of Hancock, and she nominated Robert Beurivage of Auburn to the Water Council, along with John Joseph Boisvert of Stratham, and John A. Gilbert of Exeter.

### **Confirmations**

The Council voted to approve the promotion of NH Air National Guard Major Nelson E. Perron of Nottingham to Lieutenant Colonel. We also voted to approve the promotion of NH Army National Guard Captain Eric B. Barricklow of Bedford to Major. Congratulations, and our thanks to everybody who serves in the NH National Guard.

### **Public Health**

The Council amended a contract with the Health Services Advisory Group to include an external quality review process for New Hampshire's Medicaid Management Program beneficiaries. This will increase the price from \$1.69M to \$1.83M, and 75% of the cost will be covered with federal funding.

The Council also approved an agreement with the United Way of Massachusetts Bay to provide community health and substance abuse treatment planning, using federal funds, and agreed to a

\$38K contract with the Research Group Inc. to create a clean data set for the NY Youth Risk Behavior survey.

### **Transportation**

We authorized a plan to create a new aerial survey of NH, a project that the NHDOT performs every five years. We authorized the Bureau of Planning and Community to pay not more than \$609,041 to the US Geological survey, the agency which oversees aerial surveys. \$459,041 of the funds will come from the federal Department of Transportation, and the rest will come from other federal funding sources. Several Councilors asked the Commissioner if the Bureau had considered privatized vendors, and the Commissioner assured us that the US Geological Survey would get the best results for the least amount of money.

We also authorized the Bureau of Bridge Design to enter into an agreement with CLD Consulting Engineers from Manchester to design a bridge carrying US 153 over the Cocheco River in Farmington, using federal funds.

### **Department of Agriculture**

We authorized the Division of Animal Industry to accept retroactive grand funds from the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The contract is retroactive because it is attached to an existing grant the NHDAMF receives from the USDA to monitor and respond to animal-based pathogens. The new grant will allow the NHDAMF to accept \$40,605 from the USDA to purchase radio-frequency identification equipment.

### **Department of Resources and Economic Development**

The Council approved several new lease agreements the Division of Forests has made with several telecommunications agencies for equipment and antenna space in designated areas at Cannon Mountain, Kearsage Mountain, Franconia Notch State Park, Mount Washington in Sargents Purchase, Prospect Mountain, and Mount Sunapee. These agreements will preserve the natural beauty of our state, increase interconnectivity, and bring in tens of thousands of dollars in rental revenue for our state government.

### **Fish and Game**

We were asked approve the use of \$234,000 of Federal funds to acquire conservation easements from the Nature Conservancy, and were asked to approve the deposit of \$22,000 into the Land Conservation Endowment. Several Councilors raised concerns about the completeness of the conservation easement documentation, and we voted to table the question until our next meeting.

### **Public Safety**

We authorized the Division of State Police to accept \$95,825 in federal funding to enhance cyberterrorism and cyber security response capabilities. We also approved several projects with the Merrimack County Sheriff's Office, including \$30,000 from the Regional Drug Task Force general fund appropriation to support Drug Task force program operations, and a \$12,000 grant from the federal Department of Justice to increase enforcement, education and training for New Hampshire's underage drinking laws.

### **Department of Administrative Services**

We were asked to approve the contract to build a new Marine Patrol Headquarters in Gilford for a total of \$8.46M, including a \$225,000 contingency fund, and a \$234,000 payment to the Bureau of Public Works Design and Construction for engineering work. Several Councilors expressed

disappointment that the contract did not include a design, which we determined was for public safety reasons. But we were also concerned about the additional contingency funding and the payment to the BPWDC, and we voted to continue discussing the issue at our next meeting.

The next meeting of the Executive Council is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28th at 10AM at the State House. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Allenstown, Auburn, Barrington, Bedford, Bow, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee, Londonderry, Loudon, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield and the City of Manchester