

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT

MINUTES

November 14, 2006

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Frederick King, Chairman  
Representative Joseph Stone  
Representative Kenneth Weyler  
Representative Elizabeth Hager  
Representative Mary Jane Wallner  
Representative Peter Franklin  
Senator Theodore Gatsas  
Senator Robert Clegg  
Senator Charles Morse  
Senator John Gallus  
Senator Lou D'Allesandro

Chairman King opened the meeting at 9:07 a.m. and thanked the Committee members for their hard work and welcomed Senator Gallus to the meeting. Chairman King also thanked Michael Buckley, Legislative Budget Assistant and his staff for doing the work that enables this Committee to function, and especially wished to thank Cecile Trask, the Court Reporter and Janet Clayman for her hard work with the Finance Committee, as well as all the Commissioners and all their staff who come each month to answer the Committee's difficult questions.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Representative Stone, seconded by Representative Franklin, that the minutes of the October 18, 2006 meeting be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIS 06-239 New Hampshire Retirement System - On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Stone, that this informational item be removed from the table for further discussion.

Robert Leggert, Executive Director was present to respond to questions of the Committee.

FIS 06-260 Department of Resources and Economic Development (RSA 12-A:29-c) Report on Activities of the Cannon Mountain Capital Improvement Fund for FY 2006 **Tabled 9/19/06** - On a motion by Senator Gatsas, seconded by Representative Hager, that this informational item be removed from the table for discussion. MOTION ADOPTED.

George Bald, Commissioner, Allison McLean, Director, Parks and Recreation and Kenneth Plourde, Business Manager, Department of Resources and Economic Development gave an update on the Cannon Mountain Capital Improvement Fund, distributed a handout, and responded to questions of the Committee.

RSA 9:16-a TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED:

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that all the requests listed on the agenda under this section be approved as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. (FIS 06-324 Department of Corrections - transfer \$33,863, FIS 06-342 Department of Corrections - transfer \$37,000, FIS 06-325 Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services - transfer \$14,000, and FIS 06-354 Christa McAuliffe Planetarium - transfer \$17,006)

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$50,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE:

Senator Clegg had questions on request FIS 06-329 from the Office of Energy and Planning. Amy Ignatius, Director and Donna Raymond, Business Director responded to questions of the Committee. Ms. Ignatius and Ms. Raymond requested additional time to get a response to questions of the Committee and this request was tabled until later in this meeting.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Stone, that the remainder of the requests listed on the agenda under this section be approved as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. (FIS 06-317 Department of Environmental Services - accept and expend \$137,515.81, FIS 06-322 Department of Environmental Services - accept and expend \$136,500, FIS 06-318 Department of Education - accept and expend \$313,342.99, FIS 06-330 Department of Education - accept and expend \$208,765, FIS 06-321 Fish and Game Department - accept and expend \$149,093, FIS 06-323 Office of the Adjutant General - accept and expend \$236,038.02, FIS 06-326 Department of Safety, Division of State Police - accept and expend \$74,752.37, FIS 06-359 Department of Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles - extension of termination date from September 30, 2006 to November 30, 2006, FIS 06-331 Office of Energy and Planning - accept and expend \$597,641.94, FIS 06-334 Department of Transportation - accept and expend \$200,000, FIS 06-356 Department of Transportation - accept and expend \$74,228, FIS 06-340 Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands - accept and expend \$542,000, FIS 06-355 Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands - accept and expend \$69,979.12, FIS 06-357 Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Parks and Recreation - accept and expend \$100,000, and FIS 06-352 Department of Justice - accept and expend \$649,881.)

RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

FIS 06-346 Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management-. Wesley Colby, Director of Administration presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Stone, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security to establish a Clerk IV position through June 30, 2007. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$50,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE AND RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve all the requests on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. (FIS 06-327 Department of Safety - accept and expend \$125,790.54 and establish six (6) Word Processor Operator I positions through June 30, 2007 and FIS 06-358 Department of Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles - accept and expend \$493,614 and hire consultants through June 30, 2007)

CHAPTER 177:4, II, LAWS OF 2005 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY; ADDITIONAL REVENUES:

FIS 06-343 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Family Assistance - accept and expend \$4,947,940 and FIS 06-351 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services - accept and expend \$272,406 - John Stephen, Commissioner, presented the requests and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Clegg, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve all the requests listed on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 177:4, III, LAWS OF 2005 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY; ADDITIONAL REVENUES; TRANSFER AMONG ACCOUNTS:

FIS 06-344 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services - accept and expend \$999,808 and FIS 06-349 Department of Health and Human Services, Tobey School - accept and expend \$61,000 - On a motion by Representative Stone, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve all the requests on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 21-P:12-d FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING AND EMS FUND:

FIS 06-353 Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Emergency Medical Services - On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Representative Stone, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Emergency Medical Services to transfer \$428,000. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 21-P:12-d FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING AND EMS FUND AND RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

FIS 06-328 Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Emergency Medical Services - On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request from the Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Emergency Medical Services to transfer \$24,700 and establish a Program Assistant II position through June 30, 2007. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 106-H:9, I FUNDING: FUND ESTABLISHED:

FIS 06-347 Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services, Bureau of Emergency Communications - transfer \$1,378,203 from the E-911 System Fund

RSA 106-H:9,I FUNDING: FUND ESTABLISHED AND CHAPTER 49:2, LAWS OF 2006 REVIEW OF CLAIMS:

FIS 06-350 Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services, Bureau of Emergency Communications - transfer \$2,052,138.75 from the E-911 System Fund and approve the reimbursement of claims for reasonable expenses incurred by Verizon Wireless Corp in the amount of \$462,514.94 and Cingular Wireless Corp. in the amount of \$1,589,623.81

RSA 106-H:9,I FUNDING: FUND ESTABLISHED AND RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

FIS 06-345 Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services, Bureau of Emergency Communications - transfer \$46,944 from the E-911 System Fund and establish a Database Administrator position through June 30, 2007

Earl Sweeney, Assistant Commissioner, Wesley Colby, Director of Administration and Peter Denutte, System Director E-911 presented all three of the above requests and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Stone, seconded by Senator Clegg, that the Committee approve all three requests as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. (FIS 06-347, FIS 06-350 and FIS 06-345)

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON REQUEST FIS 06-329 OFFICE OF ENERGY AND PLANNING:

Amy Ignatius, Director, Office of Energy and Planning responded to questions of the Committee and clarified her previous response to questions regarding the carryover of funds from 2005 to 2006.

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Representative Wallner, that the Committee approve the request from the Office of Energy and Planning to accept and expend \$8,495,921.91. MOTION ADOPTED.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

AUDIT:

State of New Hampshire, Office of Information Technology Financial and Compliance Audit Report For the Nine Months Ended March 31, 2006 - Catherine Provencher, Director of Audits, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Richard Bailey, Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology was also present to respond to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Stone, seconded by Representative Franklin, that the report be accepted, placed on file and released in the usual manner. MOTION ADOPTED.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJORNMENT:

On a motion by Representative Hager, seconded by Representative Franklin, that the Committee adjourn to the call of the Chair. MOTION ADOPTED. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.)

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Representative Joseph Stone, Clerk