

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT  
MINUTES  
July 10, 2020

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, July 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. via audio conference.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman  
Representative Ken Weyler  
Representative Susan Ford  
Representative Patricia Lovejoy (Alternate)  
Representative Lynne Ober  
Representative Erin Hennessey (Alternate)  
Representative David Huot (Alternate)  
Senator Lou D'Allesandro  
Senate President Donna Soucy  
Senator Jay Kahn  
Senator Cindy Rosenwald  
Senator Chuck Morse

The audio conference convened at 10:06 a.m., with the assistance of Fallon Reed at the Department of Safety and Michael Kane, Legislative Budget Assistant.

OFFICIAL AUDIO CONFERENCE MEETING PROCEDURES:

The Chair opened the meeting with the following Right-to-Know checklist;

*“Due to the state of emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12, pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, as extended pursuant to Executive Order 2020-14, a public body is authorized to meet electronically. Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order.”*

*“However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that; 1) we are providing the public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possible by video or other electronic means. We are utilizing VAST Conference for this electronic meeting.”*

*“All Members of the Committee and the staff of State Agencies with agenda items have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through platform and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting by dialing the following number: 1-800-356-8278 and the six digit conference code 125563 followed by the pound (#) sign.”*

*“2) Providing public notice of the necessary information of the meeting, we previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting telephonically. Instructions have also been provided in the House and Senate calendar, the Fiscal Committee agenda, and the website of the Office of the Legislative Budget Assistant at <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/LBA/budget/fiscalcommittee.aspx>.”*

*“3) Providing the mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. If anyone has a problem, please e-mail [NHeoc@dos.nh.gov](mailto:NHeoc@dos.nh.gov).”*

*“4) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting and in the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.”*

#### ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL:

The Chair announced the meeting would start by taking the roll of attendance and that Members state their presence, and state whether there was anyone in the room with them during the meeting as required under the Right-To-Know Law.

Representative Weyler, as clerk, called the Roll of voting members.

Representative Wallner – Present/at home in Concord, alone

Representative Ford – Present/at home in Easton, alone

Representative Lovejoy (Alternate for Representative Leishman) – Present/at home in Stratham, her husband is someplace in the house

Representative Ober – Present/at home in Hudson, currently alone

Representative Weyler – Present/at home in Kingston, alone in room, however others are in the house

Senator D’Allesandro – Present/at home in Manchester, alone in room, however his wife is in the house

Senate President Soucy – Present/at her office in Concord, alone

Senator Kahn – Present/in Stoddard, alone in room, however his wife is someplace nearby

Senator Rosenwald – Present/in Saranac Lake, New York, alone in room, however her husband is in the house

Senator Morse – Present/at his office in Atkinson, alone

Representative Hennessey (Non-voting Alternate) – Present

Representative Huot (Non-voting Alternate) – Present

#### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator D’Allesandro, seconded by Senator Soucy, that the minutes of the June 12, 2020 meeting be accepted as written.

A roll call was taken, and the results were as follows:

Representative Ford – Yes  
Representative Lovejoy (Alternate) – Yes  
Representative Ober – Yes  
Representative Weyler – Yes  
Senator D’Allesandro – Yes  
Senate President Soucy – Yes  
Senator Kahn – Yes  
Senator Rosenwald – Yes  
Senator Morse – Yes  
Representative Wallner – Yes (10-Yes; 0-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the request of Representative Weyler, second by Representative Ober, that the Committee remove from the table FIS 20-029 Department of Education – seeking authorization through June 30, 2021 to; 1) accept and expend \$10,114,548 in federal funds and 2) establish two (2) full time temporary positions consisting of; a Program Specialist III (LG 23) and an Administrator I (LG 27), tabled 2/14/2020.

A roll call was taken, and the results were as follows:

Representative Ford – No  
Representative Lovejoy (Alternate) – No  
Representative Ober – Yes  
Representative Weyler – Yes  
Senator D’Allesandro – No  
Senate President Soucy – No  
Senator Kahn – No  
Senator Rosenwald – No  
Senator Morse – Yes  
Representative Wallner – No (3-Yes; 7-No)  
MOTION FAILED.

The Chair requested that Senator Morse forward to the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant a letter from Senator Bradley pertaining to the tabled Department of Education charter school item and that it be posted on the LBA website.

RSA 9:16-c, I, TRANSFER OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS AND RSA 124:15 POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

Prior to the meeting, the Committee requested, thru the LBA, information not supplied in the Department of Safety's request and asked why they no longer included answers to the standard list of Committee questions.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request under this section as submitted. [FIS 20-139 Department of Safety – authorization through June 30, 2021 to; 1) reallocate \$171,624 in federal funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, establish class 046 consultant positions]

A roll call was taken, and the results were as follows:

Representative Ford – Yes  
Representative Lovejoy (Alternate) – Yes  
Representative Ober – Yes  
Representative Weyler – Yes  
Senator D'Allesandro – Yes  
Senate President Soucy – Yes  
Senator Kahn – Yes  
Senator Rosenwald – Yes  
Senator Morse – Yes  
Representative Wallner – Yes (10-Yes; 0-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED.

Robert Quinn, Commissioner, Department of Safety, was present to address the Committee and respond to questions.

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE:  
CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Representative Ober, seconded by Representative Ford, that the Committee approve the requests under this section as submitted. [FIS 20-128 Department of Administrative Services – authorization to retroactively accept and expend \$128,000 in other funds for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, FIS 20-138 Department of Safety – authorization to accept additional funds in the amount of \$393,587 in federal funds through June 30, 2021, and FIS 20-141 NH Fish and Game Department – authorization to accept and expend \$165,019 in federal funds through June 30, 2021]

A roll call was taken, and the results were as follows:

Representative Ford – Yes  
Representative Lovejoy (Alternate) – Yes  
Representative Ober – Yes  
Representative Weyler – Yes  
Senator D'Allesandro – Yes

Senate President Soucy – Yes  
Senator Kahn – Yes  
Senator Rosenwald – Yes  
Senator Morse – Yes  
Representative Wallner – Yes (10-Yes; 0-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 346:380, LAWS OF 2019, NEW HAMPSHIRE VETERANS' HOME; TRANSFER AMONG ACCOUNTS AND CLASSES:

FIS 20-145 New Hampshire Veterans Home – Margaret LaBrecque, Commandant, New Hampshire Veterans Home, responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Senator D’Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Veterans Home to retroactively transfer \$45,000 in general/federal/other funds between expenditure classes through June 30, 2020.

A roll call was taken, and the results were as follows:

Representative Ford – Yes  
Representative Lovejoy (Alternate) – Yes  
Representative Ober – Yes  
Representative Weyler – Yes  
Senator D’Allesandro – Yes  
Senate President Soucy – Yes  
Senator Kahn – Yes  
Senator Rosenwald – Yes  
Senator Morse – Yes  
Representative Wallner – Yes (10-Yes; 0-No)  
MOTION ADOPTED.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, and Mary Calise, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services, responded to questions of the Committee regarding FIS 20-129 Department of Health and Human Services – Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47 and Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, and 2020-10, Governor Sununu has authorized the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend additional federal funds from the United State Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the amount of \$308,085 effective through June 30, 2021 and FIS 20-130 Department of Health and Human Services – Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47 and Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Order 2020-05 and further extended by Executive Orders 2020-08, 2020-

09, and 2020-10, Governor Sununu has authorized the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth and Families to accept and expend Child Welfare Services, title IV, Part B, Subpart 1 Grant Program funds under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act in the amount of \$137,578 through June 30, 2021.

Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services, responded to questions of the Committee regarding FIS 20-133 Department of Health and Human Services – Operating Statistics Dashboard SFY20 report through May 31, 2020. The Committee requested that the July Dashboard be forwarded to the Committee members as there would be no meeting scheduled for August.

Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services, responded to questions of the Committee regarding FIS 20-136 Department of Health and Human Services – Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47 and Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, and 2020-10, Governor Sununu has authorized the Department of Health and Human Services to; 1) accept and expend \$46,875,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in support of the COVID-19 response efforts, which represent an anticipated 75% reimbursement from FEMA effective through June 30, 2021, and 2) transfer general fund appropriations of \$15,625,000 to cover the required FEMA 25% state share match between accounts and into new accounts effective through June 30, 2021. Fallon Reed, Department of Safety, was also available to speak to the local FEMA match.

Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services, responded to questions of the Committee regarding FIS 20-144 Department of Health and Human Services – Chapter 346:221, Laws of 2019 – Update on the Development of a 10-Year Plan for Mental Health Services relative to the statewide expansion of transitional housing beds for forensic patients and/or patients with complex behavioral health conditions including those transitioning from the New Hampshire Hospital.

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The Chair scheduled the next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee for Friday, September 18, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.)

/s/ Ken Weyler

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Representative Ken Weyler, Clerk