

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT

MINUTES

May 28, 2020

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Thursday, May 28, 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 Lynne Ober
Representative Peter Leishman
Representative David Huot (Alternate)
Representative Patricia Lovejoy (Alternate)
Representative Erin Hennessey (Alternate)
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senate President Donna Soucy
Senator Jay Kahn
Senator Cindy Rosenwald
Senator Chuck Morse

The audio conference convened at 10:05 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 2020-09, 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 remote 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, and 4) adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting. In the event that 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 called the Roll of voting members.

Representative Wallner – Present/at home in Concord, alone
Representative Leishman – Present/at home in Milford, alone
Representative Ford – Present/at home in Easton, alone
Representative Weyler – Present/at home in Kingston, alone
Representative Ober – Present/at home, alone
Representative Huot (Alternate) – Present/at home, alone
Representative Lovejoy (Alternate) – Present/at home in Stratham, alone
Representative Hennessey (Alternate) – Present/at home in Littleton with
her two minor children
Senator D’Allesandro – Present/at home in Manchester, alone
Senate President Soucy – Present/at home in Manchester, alone
Senator Kahn – Present/in Stoddard, alone
Senator Rosenwald – Present/at home, alone
Senator Morse – Present/at his office in Atkinson, alone

LBA BRIEFING:

Michael Kane, Legislative Budget Assistant, presented the Committee a briefing on COVID-19 Expenditures. A briefing document, dated May 28, 2020, was emailed to all Members prior to the meeting and was posted on the LBA website at;

http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/lba/COVID_19_Information.aspx

Responding to questions of the Committee were the following;

- 1) Richard Lavers, Deputy Commissioner, New Hampshire Employment Security
- 2) Gerald Little, Director, Governor's Office For Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) and was joined in the GOFERR conference room by; Nancy Smith, General Counsel, Rhonda Hensley, Lisa English, Steven Giovinelli, John Frasier, and Shaun Thomas
- 3) Kerrin Rounds, Chief Financial Officer and Mary Calise, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health and Human Services, and were also joined by Perry Plummer, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Safety

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was previously set for Friday, June 12, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Whereupon the meeting recessed at 11:09 a.m.)

/s/ Ken Weyler

Representative Ken Weyler, Clerk