

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT

MINUTES

February 17, 2012

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, February 17, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman  
Representative Beverly Rodeschin  
Representative Daniel McGuire  
Representative Stephen Stepanek  
Representative Robert Foose  
Representative John Reagan (Alternate)  
Senator Chuck Morse  
Senate President Peter Bragdon  
Senator Bob Odell  
Senator Sylvia Larsen  
Senator John Gallus

Chairman Weyler opened the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Representative Foose, seconded by Representative Rodeschin, that the minutes of the January 20, 2012 meeting be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

Office of Legislative Budget Assistant – Administrative Procedures. Tabled 12/29/10.  
No Action Taken.

FIS 11-274 Department of Information Technology – request for an extension to the October 1, 2011 requirement to present the consultant’s report on the MMIS system to the Fiscal Committee to December 31, 2011. Tabled 09/23/11 and FIS 11-274 Additional Information – Department of Justice handout presented at the October 28, 2011 meeting, and FIS 11-274 Additional Information #2 – Department of Information Technology update presented at the January 20, 2012 meeting. No Action Taken.

FIS 11-322 House of Representatives – request on behalf of the House Speaker that the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant conduct a complete financial audit of the New Hampshire Disaster Relief Fund (“NHDRF”) from inception to the present and a complete report on how NHDRF operated itself, determined distributions and followed-up on distributions. Tabled 10/28/11. No Action Taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

At the request of Representative McGuire, FIS 12-054 Office of Energy and Planning and FIS 12-059 Department of Safety were removed from the Consent Calendar, and FIS 12-056 Department of Information Technology was removed at the request of Representative Stepanek.

On a motion by Representative Stepanek, seconded by Senator Morse, that the Committee approve the remaining requests under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 12-055 Department of Environmental Services – authorization to amend FIS 09-312, approved September 29, 2009, by reallocating \$38,000 in federal ARRA funds through September 30, 2014, FIS 12-057 Public Utilities Commission – authorization to amend FIS 10-112, approved April 12, 2010, by reallocating \$7,000 in other ARRA funds through March 20, 2012, and FIS 12-058 Department of Resources and Economic Development – authorization to 1) budget and expend \$168,413 in unexpended Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) other funds through June 30, 2012 and to 2) accept and expend \$322,373 in other funds through June 30, 2012]

FIS 12-054 Office of Energy and Planning – Joanne Morin, Director, and Donna Raymond, Business Director, Office of Energy and Planning presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative McGuire, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Energy and Planning to amend FIS 11-113, approved March 25, 2011, by reallocating \$49,681 in federal ARRA funds and extend the end date from March 31, 2012 to September 30, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 12-056 Department of Information Technology – S. William Rogers, Commissioner, and Rose Curry, Director of Finance, Department of Information Technology, presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Stepanek, seconded by Senator Morse, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Information Technology to accept and expend \$880,922. MOTION ADOPTED.

On a further motion by Senator Larsen, seconded by Senator Bragdon for discussion, that the Committee allow the Department of Information Technology to transfer \$4,400 to the newly created organization dues line, with the understanding that the funds are for the organization of State Chiefs of Information Officers. After discussion, Senator Larsen withdrew the motion.

FIS 12-059 Department of Safety – Wesley Colby, Director of Administration, Department of Safety, and Peter Thomson, Coordinator, New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency, presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Stepanek, seconded by Senator Bragdon, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety to accept and expend \$26,000. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes, 1-No)

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:

FIS 12-068 Department of Education – On a motion by Senator Bragdon, seconded by Representative Foose, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Education to 1) amend FIS 10-004, approved January 8, 2010, to transfer \$15,472.72 in federal ARRA funds and retroactively extend the grant period from December 31, 2011 through June 30, 2012 and 2) retroactively extend one (1) part-time temporary Intern position and one (1) full-time temporary Program Specialist III position from December 31, 2011 through June 30, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 12-074 Department of Education – Susan Folsom, Acting Business Administrator, and Cheri White, Administrator, Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services, Department of Education, presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Bragdon, seconded by Representative Foose, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Education to 1) accept and expend \$1,201,771 in federal funds through June 30, 2013 and 2) establish one (1) full-time temporary Grants Program Coordinator position through June 30, 2013. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes, 1-No)

RSA 21-P:12-d FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FUND:

FIS 12-072 Department of Safety – On a motion by Senator Bragdon, seconded by Senator Gallus, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety to 1) transfer \$25,000 in other funds through June 30, 2012 and 2) transfer \$18,000 in other funds through June 30, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 228:12 TRANSFERS FROM HIGHWAY SURPLUS ACCOUNT:

FIS 12-070 Department of Transportation – On a motion by Senator Bragdon, seconded by Senator Gallus, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Transportation to transfer \$1,200,000 from Highway Surplus to fund the state match of Tropical Storm Irene FEMA and FHWA reimbursements. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 224:14, II AND III, LAWS OF 2011, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY; ADDITIONAL REVENUES; TRANSFER AMONG ACCOUNTS:

FIS 12-073 Department of Health and Human Services – On a motion by Senator Larsen, seconded by Senator Bragdon, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$10,544,746.91 in additional federal revenue and transfer \$2,694,256.15 in general funds retroactive to July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 224:14, II, LAWS OF 2011, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY; ADDITIONAL REVENUES; TRANSFER AMONG ACCOUNTS AND RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

FIS 12-069 Department of Health and Human Services – On a motion by Senator Bragdon, seconded by Senator Gallus, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to 1) accept and expend \$2,131,176 in federal funds through June 30, 2013 and 2) establish one (1) part-time temporary Program Planner II position through June 30, 2013. MOTION ADOPTED.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

FIS 12-063 Department of Health and Human Services – Chapters 223:6 and 224:14, Laws of 2011 – Nicholas Toumpas, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee regarding the December 2011 Budget status report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. The Department requested to provide an informational item in response to Committee questions.

FIS 12-075 Department of Administrative Services – Chapter 224:80, Laws of 2011 – report regarding the progress of the sale of the Lakes Region Facility property in Laconia. Nicholas Toumpas, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee and will provide an informational item in terms of where the Department of Health and Human Services stands with respect to the movement of the facility.

FIS 12-076 Judicial Council – Chapter 224:73, Laws of 2011 – There was Committee discussion regarding the Judicial Council update, provided at the Committee's request from the January 20, 2012 meeting, as to outstanding invoices for which payment cannot be made due to a lack of funds in the Judicial Council Supplemental Appropriation; Counsel for Indigent Parent in Abuse and Neglect Cases.

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

AUDITS:

State of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services, New Hampshire Hospital, Financial Audit Report For the Nine Months Ended March 31, 2011 – Richard Mahoney, Director of Audits, and James LaRiviere, Senior Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Also present to respond to questions of the Committee were Nicholas Toumpas, Commissioner, Dr. Robert MacLeod, Chief Executive Officer, New Hampshire Hospital, and Mary Castelli, Senior Division Director, Department of Health and Human Services.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was set for Friday, March 9, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

On a motion by Representative Rodeschin, seconded by Senator Morse, that the meeting adjourn. MOTION ADOPTED. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.)

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Representative Beverly Rodeschin, Clerk