

Rep. Lang called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. Trottier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Reps Lang, Harvey-Bolia, O'Hara, Bordes, Bordes, Littlefield, Trottier, Mackie, Hough, Plosjaz, Terry, Silber, Johnson, Comtois

Absent: Bean (excused), Sylvia, Aldrich, Varney

Rep. Lang acted as chairman in Rep. Bean's absence.

Approve minutes of the Sept. 1, 2022 Meeting:

Motion: O'Hara

Second: Littlefield

Discussion: Comtois suggested adding roll call names to recorded votes and clarifying references to nominations

Vote: with suggested changes- **PASSED** by voice vote

Consider cost items:

Comm. Spanos addressed the cost items and stated that the wage increases were essential for employee retention. The wage increases include several vacant positions in addition to currently-filled positions. Shackett stated that the state had given \$10,000 bonuses to employees and that Belknap County should be competitive. Adam Cunningham, Jail Superintendent, stated that applicants for corrections jobs have been scarce. The state prison starts their employees at \$22/hour, which is more than the Belknap County rate. Cunningham referred to correction department employees which were in attendance at the meeting and discussed the difficulties of retention in a competitive workplace and the extra overtime that is needed to staff the jail which results in the denial of breaks to the staff. Comtois questioned the negative impact the raises will have. The raises may result in the taking of staff from other facilities. Cunningham stated that the inmate level is at a historic low, in part due to inmates being sent to state facilities and concert season has ended. Shackett noted that the 3.6 % merit increase is an all-or-nothing increase per employee. Cunningham spoke of the "war on law enforcement" as a cultural reality that is having a negative impact on recruitment.

Lang opened the item up for public comment.

Melissa Brace, a jail employee, spoke in favor of the wage increases citing the high cost of living and wage offers from other facilities.

Ben Dow, an employee from Laconia, spoke in favor of the wage increases.

Motion: Trottier to adopt and approve the cost items as proposed

Second: Bordes

Discussion: Comtois stated she was torn due to harsh economic factors.

Vote:

Yes- Bordes, Comtois, Harvey-Bolia, Littlefield, Mackie, O'Hara, Ploszaj, Terry, Trottier, Hough, Johnson, Lang

Belknap County Delegation Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Belknap County Complex

No-Silber. Motion **PASSED**

Gunstock Commissioner vacancies- schedule timeline for advertising:
Lang motioned to advertise the position starting on the second week in November for 4 weeks, without objection. None noted.

Other business: None

Adjournment: Approximately 8 pm.



A true copy, I attest.
Rep. Juliet Harvey-Bolia, Secretary

Supplemental Cost of CBA

	2022		2023	
	Wage Increase	Status Quo	Wage Increase	
Wages				
5% cola		1,211,205	1,479,879	
3.6% merit		45,709	55,849	
New wage scale	46,935	22,599	27,627	
Payroll Taxes	681	990	1,210	
Retirement	15,902	22,255	27,196	
TOTAL COST	63,517	1,302,758	1,591,762	
SAVINGS/(COST)=	(63,517)		(289,004)	

2022	(63,517)
2023	(289,004)
TOTAL COST	(352,521)