

Meeting Minutes for the Delegation – December 9, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

Rep. Sylvia reconvened the Belknap County Delegation meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH.

In attendance: Rep. Bean, Rep. Bordes, Rep. Comtois, Rep. Hough, Rep. Howard, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Lang, Rep. Littlefield, Rep. Mackie, Rep. O'Hara, Rep. Ploszaj, Rep. Silber, Rep. Sylvia, Rep. Terry, Rep. Trottier,

Absent: Rep. Aldrich, Rep. Harvey-Bolia, Rep. Varney

Pledge: Rep. Bordes

M/Rep Howard S/Rep Silber – to approve the minutes of Nov 16, 2021, as amended – unanimous

Adjust minutes to remove Rep. O'Hara from absent

Open Public Hearing for Commissioners 2022 Budget

Commissioners have completed budget – presented a slide show

Presentation by County Attorney Livernois – asking for an additional two full-time employees

What type of felonies are you prosecuting?

Large number of arrests due to substance abuse

Presentation by Register of Deeds – Judy McGrath

Presentation by Sheriff Wright

Cruisers could be covered by ARPA

Presentation by Facilities Manager – Dustin Muzzey

When was the last time the cleaning services contract went out to bid? - a few years ago

Any insurance coverage due to sewage issue? Denied, but working on

Can ARPA funds be used to further investigate and prevent future sewage issues

Presentation by Restorative Justice Director Mike McFadzen

Presentation by Corrections Superintendent Adam Cunningham

Current population is 65 full capacity is 84

Revenue – Grant Revenue this year is projected at \$0 – have you applied for any grants

Also not separated out is 3 County Nursing Home employees under full-time wages and one per diem nurse under part-time wages

Overtime – if fully staffed – due to fluctuations in the staffing and must staff more during the concert season and bike week

What is the recidivism rate –

Why such an employee turnover – moving into private industries

Presentation by Nursing Home Administrator Shelley Richardson

92 employees – currently have 23 openings

Put in stop gap measure for LNA's – increased pay from \$12.79 to \$15.00 per hour plus the additional \$5.00 per hour through ARPA – all nursing staff received increases

Strike teams – downshifting from the State of NH

Presentation by County Administrator Debra Shackett

% are reflective of budget of 2022 and 2021 budget

ARPA funds – 4 million still undecided as to how to spend

Fund Balance – 5.6 million expecting deficit in revenue of 1.2 million – surplus of 1.2 million in expenses – currently at 2.6 million

What is the cost to participate in Counties of Association – think \$15K

Open for Public Comments

Mr. Irving – speaking to BCCD budget \$50K – would like to keep it the same as last year – spoke to stream restoration work they have done

David Osman – speaking to Nursing Home – facing a lot of demographic changes – staffing issues – keep in mind what the future might look like

Suzanne Demers – Community Action – Meals on Wheels, Mid-State Transit – Companion Program – food increased 20% and fuel increased

Close Public Comment – 9:00 p.m.

M/Rep Silber S/Rep Littlefield – to refer the budget to the executive committee – motion passes

M/Rep Lang S/Rep Bordes – add Rep O'Hara and Rep Ploszaj to budget committee plus the executive committee – motion fails

M/Rep Comtois S/Rep Johnson motion to adjourn

9:10 p.m.