

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES
July 25, 2014

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Friday, July 25, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Mary Jane Wallner, Chair
Representative Daniel Eaton
Representative Bernard Benn (Alternate)
Representative Katherine Rogers (Alternate)
Representative Richard Barry (Alternate)
Senator Jeanie Forrester, Vice Chair
Senate President Chuck Morse
Senator John Reagan (Alternate)
Senator Sylvia Larsen
Senator Andy Sanborn

Chairman Wallner opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Forrester, that the minutes of the June 9, 2014 meeting be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIS 13-081 Additional Information – request from the Members of the Joint Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee, dated December 6, 2013, requesting that the proposed Police Standards and Training Council audit be removed from the table and voted on. (FIS 13-081 Letter from Representative Lucy McVitty Weber, Chairman of the Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee relative to the recommendation of the performance audit topics for 5) Police Standards and Training Council, The Council in Performance of its Charter. Tabled 03/08/13) No Action Taken.

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

At the request of Senator Sanborn, FIS 14-126 Department of Environmental Services was removed from the Consent Calendar.

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Reagan, that the Committee approve the remaining requests under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 14-119 Department of Administrative Services – accept and expend \$105,670]

FIS 14-126 Department of Environmental Services – Susan Carlson, Chief Operations Officer, Department of Environmental Services presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Environmental Services to amend FIS 13-246, approved November 22, 2013, by reallocating \$80,900 in MTBE Settlement funds through June 30, 2015. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

At the request of Senator Sanborn, FIS 14-120 Department of Education, was removed from the consent calendar.

FIS 14-120 Department of Education – Susan Folsom, Business Administrator, Division of Business Finance, and Patricia Edes, Administrative Assistant, Division of Higher Education, Department of Education presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Morse, seconded by Senator Sanborn, that the Committee table the request of the Department of Education to establish one (1) full-time temporary Program Assistant II position for the period of August 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015. MOTION FAILED. (5-Yes, 5-No)

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Representative Benn, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Education to establish one (1) full-time temporary Program Assistant II position for the period of August 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015. MOTION FAILED. (5-Yes, 5-No)

On a motion by Senator Sanborn, seconded by Senator Forrester, that the Committee table the request of the Department of Education to establish one (1) full-time temporary Program Assistant II position for the period of August 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015. MOTION FAILED. (5-Yes, 5-No)

On a motion by Senator Sanborn, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee special order to the next meeting the request of the Department of Education to establish one (1) full-time temporary Program Assistant II position for the period of August 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 21-I:56, II, RECLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS OR INCREASES:

FIS 14-121 Department of Health and Human Services – On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to reclassify Position #40399 from Data Processing Project Manager, labor grade 31, to Executive Project Manager, labor grade 35. MOTION ADOPTED. (8-Yes, 2-No)

RSA 162-H:21, III, FUND ESTABLISHED; FUNDING PLAN:

FIS 14-128 Public Utilities Commission – On a motion by Senator Sanborn, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the request of the Public Utilities Commission, pursuant to RSA 162-H:21, III, as amended by and contingent upon passage of SB 245-FN, Laws of 2014, for approval on behalf of the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) of the expenditure of \$373,534 by the SEC to be used to fund the operating costs of the SEC through June 30, 2015. MOTION ADOPTED.

LATE ITEM:

FIS 14-130 Department of Health and Human Services – Nicholas Toumpas, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee divide the question and adopt item #2 only of the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to add coverage for hearing aids for the new adult group for those over age 21 to the Alternative Benefit Plan under the New Hampshire Health Protection Program. MOTION FAILED. (5-Yes, 5-No)

On a motion by Senator Sanborn, seconded by Senator Forrester, that the Committee table the entire request of the Department of Health and Human Services to 1) remove non-emergency services from coverage under the Alternative Benefit Plan for the new adult group, and 2) add coverage for hearing aids for the new adult group for those over age 21 to the Alternative Benefit Plan under the New Hampshire Health Protection Program. MOTION ADOPTED.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

FIS 14-118 Department of Administrative Services – Chapter 319:32, Laws of 2003 – Joseph Bouchard, Assistant Commissioner, and Catherine Keane, Director of Risk Management, Department of Administrative Services responded to questions of the Committee regarding the State Employee Health Insurance - report regarding the self-funded health benefits program from July 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

10:30 A.M.

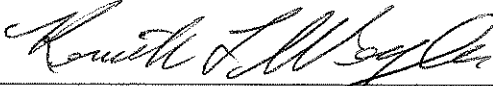
AUDITS:

State of New Hampshire, Department of Education, Chartered Public School Approval Process, Performance Audit Report, July 2014 – Dr. Stephen Fox, Performance Audit Supervisor, and John Clinch, Senior Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Paul Leather, Deputy Commissioner, and Caitlin Davis, Internal Auditor, Department of Education were present to respond to questions of the Committee.

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

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was set for Friday, September 26, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.)



Representative Ken Weyler, Clerk