

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT

MINUTES

October 20, 2009

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Marjorie Smith, Chairman
Representative Neal Kurk
Representative Daniel Eaton, Alternate
Representative Douglas Scamman
Representative Benjamin Barood, Alternate
Representative Fran Wendelboe, Alternate
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senator Sylvia Larsen
Senator Kathleen Sgambati
Senator John Gallus
Senator Peter Bragdon

Chairman Smith opened the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

LATE ITEM:

Orville B. Fitch, Director, Office of Economic Stimulus presented a progress report and handout to the Committee regarding New Hampshire's involvement with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds as of September 30, 2009.

FIS 09-353 Office of Economic Stimulus – Orville B. Fitch, Director, Office of Economic Stimulus presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee. Linda Hodgdon, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services was also present to respond to questions.

On a motion by Senator Larsen, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Economic Stimulus to retroactively amend FIS 09-240, approved June 30, 2009, to accept and expend an additional \$18,366,514 of State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) in FY 2009, and decrease previously accepted SFSF funds by \$8,855,523 in FY 2010 and \$9,510,991 in FY 2011 and further approve the request to adjust the effective date from February 18, 2009 to February 17, 2009 through September 30, 2011. MOTION ADOPTED. (7-Yes, 3-No)

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the minutes of the September 29, 2009 meeting be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

NEW BUSINESS:

RSA 9:16-a, TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Representative Scamman, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the request on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 09-343 Department of Safety – transfer \$68,706]

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 the Committee, FIS 09-328 Department of Environmental Services, FIS 09-329 Department of Resources and Economic Development, FIS 09-344 Department of Safety, and FIS 09-350 Department of Agriculture were removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the remaining requests on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 09-338 Department of Justice – accept and expend \$50,174, FIS 09-339 Department of Justice – accept and expend \$400,000, FIS 09-340 Department of Safety – accept and expend \$337,993]

FIS 09-344 Department of Safety – Wesley Colby, Director of Administration, Department of Safety presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety to accept and expend \$1,500,000. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 09-328 Department of Environmental Services – Susan Carlson, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Environmental Services handed out a replacement page 2, presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Scamman, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Environmental Services to accept and expend \$113,071. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 09-329 Department of Resources and Economic Development and FIS 09-350 Department of Agriculture – Brad Simpkins, Interim Director, Division of Parks and Lands, Department of Resources and Economic Development and Thomas Durkis, State Entomologist, Department of Agriculture presented the request and responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Resources and Economic Development to

accept and expend \$86,752 and the request of the Department of Agriculture to accept and expend \$75,000 retroactive from May 18, 2009 through December 31, 2009. MOTION ADOPTED. (9-Yes, 1-No)

RSA 124:15 POSITIONS RESTRICTED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Representative Scamman, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 09-348 Department of Justice – establish one (1) consultant position through June 30, 2011]

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

ARRA FUNDS CONSENT CALENDAR

At the request of Representative Kurk, FIS 09-345 Office of Energy and Planning was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the remaining request on the agenda under this section as submitted. MOTION ADOPTED. [FIS 09-330 Department of Education – accept and expend \$1,923,884 in federal ARRA funds through September 30, 2011]

FIS 09-345 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 Senator Larsen, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Energy and Planning to accept and expend \$9,593,500 in federal ARRA funds retroactive from September 10, 2009 through September 9, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

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:

ARRA FUNDS

FIS 09-342 Department of Safety – Wesley Colby, Director of Administration, Department of Safety 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 Safety to accept and expend \$685,926 in ARRA pass-

through funds through June 30, 2012 and further establish two (2) full-time temporary Trooper I positions through June 30, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 09-346 Office of Energy and Planning – On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Energy and Planning to accept and expend \$320,729 in federal ARRA funds through August 14, 2012 and further authorization to establish one (1) full-time temporary ARRA Energy Assurance Assistant position through August 14, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 09-347 Department of Safety – On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Safety to accept and expend \$276,700 in ARRA pass-through funds through June 30, 2012 and further establish one (1) full-time temporary Pharmacist/Compliance Investigator position through June 30, 2012. MOTION ADOPTED.

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 09-341 Department of Justice – On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Justice to accept and expend \$54,600 in FY 2010 and \$68,250 in FY 2011 in other funds through June 30, 2011 and further establish one (1) consultant position through June 30, 2011. MOTION ADOPTED.

RSA 215-A:23, IX AND RSA 215-C:39, X REGISTRATION FEES:

FIS 09-331 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – On a motion by Representative Eaton, seconded by Senator Larsen, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to transfer \$230,000. MOTION ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 144:39, II, LAWS OF 2009, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY; ADDITIONAL REVENUES; TRANSFER AMONG ACCOUNTS:

FIS 09-332 Department of Health and Human Services – On a motion by Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$175,000. MOTION ADOPTED.

FIS 09-334 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 Senator D'Allesandro, seconded by Representative Eaton, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and

expend \$5,240 in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) high performance bonus funds and \$4,765 in federal matching funds through June 30, 2010. MOTION ADOPTED.

The Committee requested the Department provide additional information regarding the penalty assessed by the federal government in Fiscal Year 2002.

LATE ITEM:

FIS 09-354 Department of Resources and Economic Development – On a motion by Senator Larsen, seconded by Senator D'Allesandro, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Resources and Economic Development to accept and expend \$70,874 in ARRA funds from the Office of Economic Stimulus through September 30, 2010 and further establish one (1) full-time temporary Administrator II position through September 30, 2010. MOTION ADOPTED.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

Linda Hodgdon, Commissioner, and Monica Ciolfi, Administrator, Risk Management Unit, Department of Administrative Services, responded to questions of the Committee regarding item FIS 09-351 Department of Administrative Services – Chapter 319:32, Laws of 2003 – State Employee Health Insurance - report regarding the self-funded health benefits program from July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009.

LATE INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

FIS 09-352 Department of Administrative Services – summary of exceptions to Executive Order 2008-01 granted through the Office of the Governor from July 1, 2009 through October 6, 2009.

The informational items were accepted and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was set for Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned)

Representative Neal Kurk, Clerk