

Breakfast Meeting Minutes Approved 5/17/2017
Wednesday, May 3, 2017
Child & Family Services
103 N. State St., Concord, NH

The Executive Council convened at 9:15 a.m. with Governor Sununu and all Executive Councilors present.

Governor Sununu reviewed the pre-meeting ceremonial items for the 10:00 a.m. meeting.

- Pledge of Allegiance led by Executive Councilor Volinsky
- Music: Mr. Peter Mathieu & Ms. Elizabeth Goguet of Somersworth.
- Citation(s): 3rd Annual “What’s so Cool About Manufacturing” video contest Winners, Students from Londonderry Middle School.
Proclamation: Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week

The Executive Council voted to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2017 Breakfast Meeting.

Executive Councilor Prescott will host the next meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at a location to be determined.

Councilor Prescott noted he had received public comments on the nomination of Fish & Game Commissioner David Patch and questioned if there should be a public hearing. Discussion ensued between the Governor and Council with Councilor Volinsky and Councilor Pappas noting they do not see a need for a public hearing and Councilor Kenney suggesting they table the nomination at the regular meeting as the required Newspaper notice had just been published only the day before, allowing for more time to decide if any changes on how these nominations were handled should be made.

Director Normandeau of the Fish & Game Department commented on the position of the Department on recent legislation and the role the Commissioners have in those decisions. Discussion between Director Normandeau and Councilor Wheeler noting the Departments position on recent legislation continued with Director Normandeau responding to Councilor Wheelers comments and questions. The Governor reiterated the Council could table Mr. Patch’s confirmation at the regular meeting.

A prior tabled item from the Office of the Attorney General regarding continuing employment of a member of the Attorney General’s Office was brought forward by the Governor. Attorney General MacDonald noted that he supported the continuation of employment having reviewed the paperwork. The Governor noted that before the start of the 10:00 meeting he and the Council as well as Commissioner Meyers would be holding a non-meeting with regard to previously tabled item (14A-Contract for Services) for the Department of Health and Human Services given confidentiality requirements.

Councilor Wheeler addressed concerns regarding the Board of Land Surveyors and requested to continue to hold on confirmation. The Governor and remaining Council members shared his concerns regarding conflict of interest.

At the inquiry of Councilor Kenney discussion took place between the Governor and Council regarding pardon requests and the process moving forward. They noted there were pardon requests on the agenda and would like to look into having a specific set up guidelines written out going forward to aid with familiarity of the process, legal guidelines and decision making.

Lastly the Governor with the assistance of Commissioner Meyers brought to light a non-compliance issue regarding contracted services between Dartmouth Hitchcock and the New Hampshire Hospital. Prompted by a prior question from Councilor Pappas, a review completed by Commissioner Meyers revealed the non-compliance with contract issue with regard to staffing requirements. Dialogue

continued noting that discussions with clinical staff had taken place and there was no belief by the clinical staff that patient care was compromised. Commissioner Meyers presented to the Governor and Council a copy of the letter of non-compliance that was sent to Dartmouth Hitchcock. The Governor and Commissioner Meyers both expressed their deep and significant disappointment regarding the situation noting that the CEO at NH Hospital stepped down this morning and Donald Shumway would be stepping in.

Further discussion between the Governor and Council took place, agreeing that further and continuous updates were needed as the situation is addressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.