

Breakfast Meeting Minutes for Approval 6/7/2017
Wednesday, May 17, 2017
Department of Justice
33 Capitol St., Concord, NH

The Executive Council convened at 9:28 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 Prescott
- Music: Doug Farrell of Antrim NH, Steven Dionne of Concord, NH & Jack Carlton of Amherst, members of the band Decatur Creek.
- Award: Inaugural Governors Award, Trooper Christopher Prenaveau
- Precept-Office of Secretary of State: Grafton County State Rep District 9

The Executive Council voted to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2017 Breakfast Meeting.

Executive Councilor Pappas will host the next meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at the Department of Employment Security.

Councilor Prescott brought up the tabled confirmation of Fish & Game Commissioner David Patch. He noted he had spoken with Mr. Patch, that he has concerns and is not ready to vote. Councilor Prescott further explains that it seems the duties of Fish & Game Commissioners are to comment on legislation that pertains to their Department. Councilor Prescott would like an answer to this so as to give guidance to Mr. Patch and resolve concerns. Councilor Kenney comments regarding clarifying what they should or shouldn't speak to. Councilor Wheeler spoke to the concern of interpretation of law and concerns of conflicts, where there are agencies saying different things. Councilor Kenney questions whether this goes back to Mr. Patch, to which Councilor Wheeler responds it allows Mr. Patch to find out if he was given incorrect information and speak to it. Councilor Kenney brought up concerns of giving litmus tests to each individual, noting the qualification of Mr. Patch. Discussion ensued between the Governor and Council with Councilor Prescott noting he wants to know if Mr. Patch went outside of his duties. Further discussion ensued resulting in Councilor Pappas raising concerns in putting off the confirmation for too long, the Governor noted the confirmation could stay on the table and the Council asked the Attorney General's Office for an opinion on the scope of the duties of the Fish & Game Commissioners to help resolve concerns.

Councilor Prescott asked to have the tabled pardon request remain on the table given the review of information and guidelines for the Council.

Councilor Pappas questioned the nomination of Ms. Christine Tappan to step in as a Division Director for the Department of Health & Human Services, DCYF and given pending changes to the job title, questions the necessity of reappointment upon those changes. Governor Sununu States that they can bring her back for reappointment at that time.

Councilor Volinsky disclosed that his spouse was up for nomination to serve on a State board, so he was recusing himself from voting on that nomination/confirmation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45