



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Executive Council

STATE HOUSE ROOM 207

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

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TO: All District Three Constituents
FROM: Executive Councilor Janet Stevens

DATE: June 20, 2022

I had the honor of hosting the Executive Council Breakfast meeting on Wednesday June 1, 2022. I selected the **New Hampshire Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General** as the host agency.

At the beginning of the year I became aware of a discordance in the decline of elder abuse cases opened and the increase in calls to the Bureau of Elderly Adult Services (BEAS) - Adult Protective Services (APS) during the COVID pandemic. I reached out to the Attorney General's Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation Unit to discuss the alarming increase in elder financial exploitation - exacerbated by the isolation during COVID.

Bryan Townsend, Senior Assistant Attorney General and Attorney Sunny Mulligan-Shea, Victim Witness Advocate for the Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation Unit, discussed the unit's role in investigating and prosecuting financial elder abuse crimes statewide and the need to focus on New Hampshire's forecasted demographic shift. Listed below are some of the critical issues affecting our vulnerable seniors and the state.

- Nationwide - **1 in 10 adults over the age of 65 are victims of elder abuse** each year.
- Approximately **1 in 14 cases of elder abuse is reported in NH**, with only 1 in 24 cases reported nationally.
- Elder abuse crimes include - physical, psychological, sexual, financial exploitation, neglect and abandonment.
- **By 2035 New Hampshire's senior citizen population will reach 479,000** - a 7% increase from 2020.
- With increased life spans, the risk of cognitive impairment and physical decline (hearing, sight, mobility etc.) increases significantly - which will **increase the risk of elder victimization**.
- Referrals to the **Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation Unit are increasing**.

Just recently the Senior Assistant Attorney General and prosecutor for the Unit, were successful in sentencing a caregiver who was employed at a Londonderry long-term care facility and as an in-home caregiver in District Three, to a sentence of 7 – 20 years in the New Hampshire State prison, on charges of felony and misdemeanor counts of identity fraud, forgery, theft, and credit card fraud.

In 2019, while working as a caregiver in the dementia unit, the caregiver financially exploited four elderly residents, ages 87-99. After being fired from the facility, the caregiver worked as an in-home caregiver in Pelham and Salem – where once again – financially exploited two 87-year-old clients. Over the span of six months the caregiver committed 14 crimes against our most vulnerable residents.

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE - “WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON EVERY SCHOOL”

I asked Department of Education Commissioner Frank Edelblut for an update on the Public School Infrastructure Fund, which was established in 2017 to disburse \$30 million to New Hampshire's public and charter schools, to improve safety and address life and safety issues at New Hampshire schools. I also asked how many schools have accessed funding through the Public School Infrastructure program. The program has been successful - with \$3.3

million remaining in the fund- while funding 100% of New Hampshire Schools safety needs, according to Commissioner Edelblut.

Commissioner of Public Safety, Robert Quinn stressed that Public Safety will “focus on every single school in the state” - working with preparation and recommendations of the School Safety Task Force. He stressed that “plans are only as good as those who are familiar with them”. Commissioner Quinn is working with State Police Colonel Nate Noyes to inform Troop Commanders across the state to “ensure they are familiar with these plans”. Colonel Noyes will be working with Police Chiefs throughout the state, County Sheriffs “to ensure they are familiar with the plans”. Additionally, response plans, communications plans etc. are being evaluated. Commissioner Quinn stressed that there is no higher priority than working on identifying/responding to safety gaps/vulnerabilities at our schools. Since the June 1st meeting, Governor Sununu and the Department of Education were successful in getting support from the Joint Legislative Fiscal Committee to allocate another \$10.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Public School Infrastructure Fund. Funds will be available for both public and private schools. The application for these grant dollars is pending. Please visit the NH Department of Education for access to applications or contact Amy.c.clark@doe.nh.gov or NH Department of Safety Homeland Security and Emergency Management at 603 271-2231.

The Executive Council met on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, in the Executive Council Chamber at the New Hampshire State House to review and vote on 131 warrant/agenda items and to approve Civil Commissions, Nominations and Confirmations, as well as Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services Nominations, Confirmations and Appointments.

The Executive Council will vote on the nominees at the next meeting of the Council on Wednesday, June 15, 2022. Also - the Salem High School’s Choir performed at the Executive Council meeting at the State House. Salem High School has an exceptional performing arts program which is housed at the Seifert Performing Arts Center. Lauren Peithmann, Director of Salem’s K-12 performing arts and Julia Hoiraj lead the program. Members of the Salem Choir have qualified to participate in the All State Music Festival. The choir along with three other Salem performing arts groups were selected to perform at Disney World’s Imagination Campus in “23. <https://nhexecutivecouncil.com/archive>

CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

#5 MOP 150, I, B (5): Other Items

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#C. Authorized to enter into an amendment to an existing grant agreement with **Aberdeen West Cooperative, Inc., Stratham, NH**, (originally approved by G&C on 2/17/21, item #44), to work with a developer to design and build a community solar project at its resident owned manufactured home community, by extending the completion date from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2023. Effective upon G&C approval. No additional funding. **100% Other Funds (Renewable Energy Fund).**

REGULAR AGENDA

Division of Long Term Supports and Services

#18 Authorized to **accept and expend** Expanding the Public Health Workforce within the Aging Network for States ARP grant funds from the Administration for Community Living, in the amount of \$78,610 and the Public Health Workforce Grant funds from the Administration for Community Living in the amount of \$115,789 for a total of \$194,399. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. **100% Federal Funds.** Fiscal Committee approved. **ARPA**

#20 Authorized to amend existing contracts with the Contractors listed in letter dated May 6, 2022, (originally approved by G&C on 5/20/20, item #18), for Aging and Disability Resource Center ServiceLink Services, by exercising a

renewal option by increasing the total price limitation by \$6,512,983 from \$6,506,928.02 to \$13,019,911.02 and by extending the completion dates from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2024. Effective upon G&C approval. **57.23% Federal and 42.77% General Funds. Behavioral Health & Developmental Services of Strafford County - which covers Rockingham County - received an additional \$1,878,692.**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

#43 Authorized the Bureau of Rail & Transit to enter into a sole source contract amendment with **Jalbert Leasing, Inc. d/b/a C&J Bus Lines, Portsmouth, NH**, (originally presented to G&C on 3/3/21 informational item #E) to increase the contract amount by \$482,000 from \$2,411,281 to \$2,893,281 to support daily commuter bus service between Dover, Portsmouth, and Seabrook, NH and Boston, MA. (2) Further authorize to extend the contract end date from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Effective upon G&C approval or July 1, 2022, whichever is later. **100% Federal Funds. CRRSAA ARPA**

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#45 Authorized to **accept and expend** \$201,828 of American rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to implement a high quality weatherproof portable wireless internet connectivity. (2) Further authorize to establish Class 046 Consultants for the purpose of hiring independent professional services for initial installation, testing and support. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. **100% Federal Funds.** Fiscal Committee approved. **ARPA**

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIQUOR COMMISSION

#65 Authorized to accept the report of closure of NH Liquor and Wine Outlet #28, 186 Ocean Blvd, Seabrook, and approve the Indirect Cost Allocation Plan for State Fiscal year 2021. **Fiscal Committee approved. When the issue came to my attention several months ago, I requested Commissioner Mollica to explain the reason for closure and reconsideration. Unfortunately, part time staffing shortages mandated that the staff at this seasonal store relocate to the year round store in Seabrook.**

PEASE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

#66 Authorized the Division of Ports and Harbors to enter into a License and Operating Agreement with Granite State Minerals, Inc., Lowell, MA, for the purposes of outlining terms and conditions to allow GSM to install a mooring bollard on Division property at **315 Market St., Portsmouth, NH**. Effective upon G&C approval for the period of September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2040.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

#66A Authorized to finalize the grant agreement using the signed terms and conditions as detailed in letter dated May 25, 2022, in the amount totaling \$787,132 from the approved accept and expend of \$12,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Funds, previously approved on October 22, 2021, to grant funds for the safety and emergency equipment program for town and municipalities, which will be allowed for reimbursement of such investments incurred by December 31, 2022, that are allowable expenses under ARPA SFRF. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. **100% Federal Funds. Atkinson received \$36,508, Newington received \$18,363, and Sandown was awarded \$50,000.**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

#72 Authorized to **accept and expend** \$1,616,127 in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to provide support for the Air Permit program. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. 100% Federal Funds. Fiscal Committee approved. **ARPA**

#73 Authorized to **accept and expend** \$283,500 in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to

provide support for the Land Resource Management Program. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. **100% Federal Funds. Fiscal Committee approved.**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

#76 Authorized to enter into a contract with **Weston & Sampson, Inc., Portsmouth, NH**, in the amount of \$691,087 to provide vulnerability assessments for DES-selected publicly owned wastewater and drinking water systems within NH. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2024. **72% American Rescue Plan Act, 14% Drinking Water Revolving Loan Management, and 14% Clean Water Revolving Loan Management Funds.**

#77 Authorized to enter into a contract with Tighe & Bond, Inc., Westfield, MA, in the amount of \$133,975 in order to complete water audits at 25 NH Community water systems. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. 100% Federal Funds. **Raymond, Rye and Salem were approved for audits.**

#81 Authorized to amend a contract with Carollo Engineers, Inc., Walnut Creek, CA, (originally approved by G&C on 2/5/20, item #42), by increasing the contract amount by \$73,092 from \$120,000 to \$193,092 and extending the contract end date from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2024 for the purpose of providing expert technical assistance consulting services for a water reuse demonstration project on **Star Island, Isles of Shoals**. Effective upon G&C approval. 100% Clean Water Revolving Loan Management Fund.

#89 Authorized to award a grant to the **Southeast Land Trust of NH, Epping, NH**, in the amount of \$300,000 to protect approximately 154 acres of wellhead protection lands for the Portsmouth Pease Tradeport community water supply. Effective upon G&C approval through March 31, 2024. **100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.**

#90 Authorized a grant to the **Southeast Land Trust of NH, Exeter, NH**, in the amount of \$185,000 to protect approximately 32 acres of high priority water supply lands designated as wellhead protection areas for the Town of Newmarket community water supply. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2023. **100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.**

#91 Authorized to award a grant to the **Southeast Land Trust of NH, Exeter, NH**, in the amount of \$87,606 to protect approximately 37.4 acres of high priority water supply lands for the Town of Durham and UNH campus drinking water supply. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2023. **100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.**

#95 Authorized approval of the **Town of Seabrook's** request for Grant of Right for fill placed in public waters forming 1,540 square feet of land contiguous to the Petitioner's frontage along Seabrook Harbor, Blackwater River, in Seabrook.

#96 Authorized the **Town of Seabrook's** request to perform work on Hampton Harbor Inlet in Seabrook.

#108 Authorized the Division of Learner Support to enter into a contract with the **NH Learning Initiative, Inc., Hampton, NH**, in an amount of \$228,150 to provide professional development in the Ongoing Assessment Program. Effective upon G&C approval for the period of July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022. **100% Federal Funds.**

#113 Authorized the Division of Education Analytics & Resources to amend an existing contract with **Community & School Partners, LLC, Stratham, NH**, (originally approved by G&C on 12/22/21, item #97), to design, document, and employ NH assessment and accountability business rules by increasing the price limitation by \$186,000 from \$186,000 to \$372,000 and by extending the completion date from June 30, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Effective upon G&C approval. **20% Federal, 80% General Funds.**

[#114](#) Authorized the Division of Education Analytics & Resources to exercise the first of four renewal options to an existing contract with **Community & School Partners, LLC, Stratham, NH**, (originally approved by G&C on 7/14/21, item #47), to assist the NHED with the oversight of the accountability system implementation and related data collections by increasing the price limitation by \$100,000 from \$140,000 to \$240,000 and extending the completion date from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Effective upon G&C approval. **30% General, 70% Federal Funds.**

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

[#121B](#) Authorized an annual salary step increase for Justin Cutting of Hampton, Director of the Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services, in the amount of \$5,616 from Grade HH, Step 5 to Grade HH, Step 6 with a new annual salary of \$113,568. Effective June 3, 2022.

[#128](#) Authorized the Division of Public Works Design and Construction to enter into a contract amendment with **RTH Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Brentwood, NH**, (originally approved by G&C on 11/25/19, item #110), for additional work required to modify the sprinkler system for Cannon Mountain Ski Area Tramway Summit Building, Franconia Notch, NH. This request would increase the contract amount by \$15,668 from \$1,392,250 to \$1,407,918 in agreement with Alteration Order No. 5, dated January 7, 2022. (2) Further authorize the amount of \$1,600 be approved for payment to the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Public Works Design and Construction for engineering services provided bringing the total to \$17,268. Effective upon G&C approval through August 31, 2022. **100% Capital – Other Funds.**

[#129](#) Authorized the Division of Public Works Design and Construction to enter into a contract with **William P. Davis Excavation LLC, Hampton, NH**, for a total price not to exceed \$1,289,597 for the REBID Hillsborough RC Site Improvements and MOV Canopy, Hillsborough, NH. (2) Further authorize that a contingency in the amount of \$70,000 be approved for unanticipated site expenses for the Hillsborough RC Site Improvements, Hillsborough, NH bringing the total to \$1,359,597. (3) Further authorize the amount of \$40,000 be approved for payment to the Department of Administrative services, Division of Public Works Design and Construction for engineering services provided, bringing the total to \$1,399,597. Effective upon G&C approval through November 25, 2022. **100% Federal Funds.**

CONFIRMATIONS

Board of Licensure of Interpreters for the Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing	Katherine Lawrence, Hooksett
Board of Licensure of Interpreters for the Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing	Susan Wolf-Downes, Manchester
Board of Licensed Dietitians	Ashley Mayo, Plainfield
Deputy Adjutant General	Warren M. Perry, Bow
Director of the Division of Water, Department of Environmental Services	Rene Pelletier, Wolfeboro
Electricians' Board	Dexter Robblee, Portsmouth
Fire Standards and Training Commission	Kerry LeBlanc, Bedford
Lottery Commission	Debra M. Douglas, Bow
Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board	James L. Baird, Claremont
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, Housing Finance Board	Evelyn M. Whelton, (i), Madison
Respiratory Care Practitioners Governing Board	Christy Baker-Eble, Bow
University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees	James P. Burnett III, Concord
Volunteer New Hampshire Board of Directors	Joanne Randall, Epsom
Volunteer New Hampshire Board of Directors	Nadine M. Lamontagne, Litchfield
Wetlands Council	Kenneth Rhodes, Auburn

NOMINATIONS

Air Resources Council	Elizabeth H. Tillotson, Bow
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Air Resources Council
Community College System Of New Hampshire, Board of Trustees
Community College System Of New Hampshire, Board of Trustees
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Services
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Compensation Appeals Board
Director of Administration, Department of Justice
Director of Agricultural Development, Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food
Electricians' Board
Electricians' Board
Enhanced 911 Commission
Personnel Appeals Board
Water Council

Rudolph A. Cartier, Jr, Candia
Richard Ackerman, Lebanon
Donnalee M. Lozeau, Nashua
Robert R. Scott, Bow
Benjamin C. Baroody, Manchester
Daniel Manning, Manchester
Edward F. Patch, Bow
James D. Casey, Dover
Maureen E. Dwyer-Heinrichs, Kingston
Richard A. Mitchell, Candia
S. David Siff, Concord
Susan A. Jeffery, Manchester
William J. Schubert, Manchester
Kathleen B. Carr, Chichester
Joshua K. Marshall, Canterbury
Matthew C. Connors, Bedford
William J. Infantine, Manchester
Henry E. Thomas Jr., Newbury
Marilee Nihan, (i), Bow
John Joseph Boisvert, Stratham