

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Administration Building
North Haverhill, NH 03774
September 12, 2022

PRESENT: Commissioners Piper, Lauer and Ahern, County Administrator Libby and Administrative Assistant Norcross

OTHERS PRESENT: HR Director Clough

Commissioner Piper called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Ahern participated electronically according to RSA 91-A: 2 with the reason being he was unable to attend the meeting in person. Electronic participation was at his request. It was noted that all votes must be taken by a roll call.

HR Director Clough arrived and requested to go into nonpublic session.

MOTION: * 8:11 AM Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of (I) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present according to RSA 91-A: 3, II (I) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote. Commissioner Piper called the roll. Commissioner Ahern "yes" Commissioner Piper "yes" Commissioner Piper stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

* 8:53 AM Commissioner Piper declared the meeting back in public session.

MOTION: Commissioner Ahern moved to permanently seal the minutes from the just completed non-public session because they could affect the reputation of someone other than those of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. Commissioner Piper called the roll. Commissioner Ahern "yes" Commissioner Piper "yes". Commissioner Piper stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and the motion passes.

ARPA Bonus – CA Libby stated that they have reached out to all other nine (9) counties regarding ARPA bonuses being paid to other elected officials and no other county has paid a bonus other than Coos County. The Coos County Register of Deeds received a Covid bonus that was not ARPA money. There was no consultation and no mention of the RSA 23:7 while the Delegation met to discuss the bonuses. CA Libby stated that the RSA states that any other payments made to its officials must be set prior to the filing deadline and is in effect for the entire term and therefore the Delegation cannot give a bonus to an elected official in the middle of a term.

MOTION: Commissioner Lauer moved to not recommend approval of the requested ARPA Back Hazard pay for the Register of Deeds based on the RSA 23:7. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion. Commissioner Piper called the roll. Commissioner Lauer “yes”, Commissioner Ahern “yes” Commissioner Piper “yes”. With the vote being three (3) in favor and none in opposition the motion carries.

8:54 AM with no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Omer C. Ahern Jr., Clerk