



**NORTH COUNTRY COUNCIL ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

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**AHEAD Conference Room Mt Eustis Commons | 262 Cottage Street Littleton  
Thursday, January 18, 2023 | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**Representatives Present:** Carl Martland, Vicki DeLalla, Charles Goulet, Tim Sappington, Sandra Butson, Jon Swan, Mark Decoteau, Michele Cormier, Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, Mark Dindorf, Paul Robitaille, Ray Gorman, James Gleason, Robert Theberge

**Staff Present:** Michelle Moren-Grey; Kaela Tavares

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**Welcome & Call to Order**

Michelle Moren-Grey called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

**Minutes from July 28, 2022**

**MOTION Representative DeLalla moved to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Representative Vice Chair Gaetjens-Oleson. No discussion. All in favor. Motion Carried**

**Review Personal Policy | Section 9. d) Vacation Time**

Ms. Moren-Grey provided the Representatives with an overview of the current vacation time accrual in the adopted November 2015 Personal Policy. She explained that as it is, the vacation time starts at 12 days per year for 1 and 2 years of service and then jumps to 15 days and stays at 15 for years 3 to 8 of service. Jumping again in year 8 to 20 days and staying there through 16 years of service. Currently, the accrual does not align with what other entities are providing, nor does it fit with the length of time individuals stay with one employer. Ms. Moren-Grey reviewed the average time individuals stay with an employer (4 years). The proposed revision includes gradually earning increased vacation days early in the years of service. The proposed revisions, as presented, were approved by the BOD for a recommendation of adoption by the full Commission.

Ms. Moren-Grey asked questions regarding the tenure of employees – 20, 15, and 2 to 5 years.

**MOTION Representative Gaetjens-Oleson moved to approve the proposed change to vacation accrual. It was seconded by Representative Dindorf. No discussion. All in favor. Motion Carried**

**Board of Directors | Presentation of the Slate**

Representative Martland nominated Paul Robitaille Chair, Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, Vice Chair, Jennifer Fish, Treasurer, Mark Decoteau Secretary, Mark Dindorf Member, Carl Martland Member

**MOTION Representative DeLalla moved to approve the slate of nominated officers. It was seconded by Representative Gorman No discussion. All in favor. Motion Carried**

## **Our Homes - North Country Regional Housing Needs Assessment Presentation**

Ms. Tavares presented the core data and analysis from the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). Ms. Tavares commented that in the spring, we anticipate a full adoption of the RHNA. Ms. Moren-Grey recognized and thanked Ms. Tavares and Council staff for their hard work and incredible effort in coordinating this revision with state partners and other RPC's. Ms. Moren-Grey commented that the draft is on the website.

Ms. Moren-Grey asked for questions – how were short-term vs. long-term rentals defined for the analysis? The short-term rental data is from a company that follows vacation rentals. Those that are listed on Airbnb and Vrbo. Long-term includes 6 to 12-month leases.

### **HB1661**

Ms. Tavares provided a brief overview and resources for more information regarding HB1661.

### **Other Business**

#### North Country Scenic Byway Enhancement Awards – Carl Martland

Representative Martland presented information on the North Country Scenic Byways, highlighting that almost every community in the region is on a scenic byway, and they are an important part of the regional economy and NH history marked with historical markers. Representative Martland noted that some marker locations are difficult to pull over and read due to location, but you can do things to enhance these spaces. Enhanced sites can apply for a By-ways Enhancement award. Representative Martland presented his observations at sites with enhancements that have increased the use/visitation of these locations from travelers in and out of state.

Representative Martland briefly provided an update on the Scenic Byways Enhancement awards and referred the group to meeting materials and the NCSBC website.

### **Public Comment**

Mention of HB44

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION Representative Decoteau moved to adjourn. Representative Dindorf seconded it. No discussion. All in favor. Motion Carried**

The meeting Adjourned 6:01 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Michell Moren-Grey, Executive Director

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