

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT

MINUTES

January 30, 2025

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman
Representative Keith Erf, Clerk
Representative Jess Edwards
Representative Mary Jane Wallner
Representative Peter Leishman
Representative Gerald Griffin (Alternate)
Senator James Gray, Vice Chairman
Senate President Sharon Carson
Senator Regina Birdsell
Senator Cindy Rosenwald
Senator David Watters

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE:

On a motion by Senator Carson, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that Senator Gray be nominated as Vice Chairman of the Fiscal Committee.

By unanimous vote Senator Gray was duly elected Vice Chairman of the Fiscal Committee. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

On a motion by Representative Wallner, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that Representative Erf be nominated as Clerk of the Fiscal Committee.

By unanimous vote Representative Erf was duly elected Clerk of the Fiscal Committee. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 14:30 APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION OF LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ASSISTANT:

Representative Weyler made the motion that Michael Kane be appointed as the Legislative Budget Assistant, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30, for a two-year term.

By unanimous vote Michael Kane was duly appointed Legislative Budget Assistant. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

ADOPTION OF FISCAL COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES:

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Carson, that the Committee adopt the Fiscal Committee rules and procedures consistent with past practices as outlined in Appendix A, which will be attached to the minutes as part of the official record. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee **amend the Fiscal Committee Rules and Procedures as outlined in Appendix A by; following rule #4 adding a new rule number 5) pursuant to RSA 14:31-a, II all audits will be accepted, placed on file and released to the public upon inclusion on the Fiscal Committee Agenda, and renumbering any following rules and procedures as required.** MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee adopt the Fiscal Committee Rules and Procedures as amended to include, following rule #4, rule number 5) pursuant to RSA 14:31-a, II all audits will be accepted, placed on file and released to the public upon inclusion on the Fiscal Committee Agenda, and renumbering any following rules and procedures as required, consistent with past practices as outlined in Appendix A, which will be attached to the minutes as part of the official record. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Representative Edwards, that the Committee approve the minutes of the November 15, 2024 meeting as written. MOTION ADOPTED. (7-Yes; 0-No; 3-Abstained)

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Department of Health and Human Services withdrew request FIS 25-001, and the Department of Education withdrew request FIS 25-016.

As announced by the Chair, the following items were removed from the Consent Calendar to be acted on individually;

Tab 6 Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI.
FIS 25-004

Tab 7 Pursuant to RSA 124:15
FIS 25-007

On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve all the remaining requests as submitted under the Consent Calendar, Tabs 4, 5, 6, and 8. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No) [TAB 4 pursuant to RSA 9:16-a., FIS 25-002 Replacement Police Standards and Training Council – authorization to transfer \$204,149 in general funds between various accounting units and classes and create a new expenditure class through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-029 Department of Transportation – authorization to transfer \$305,000 in highway funds within various accounting units and classes through June 30, 2025, and FIS 25-030 New Hampshire Veterans Home – authorization to transfer \$267,826 in general funds between expenditure classes, increase and decrease federal revenues resulting in a net decrease of \$225,893, and increase and decrease other revenues resulting in a net decrease of \$252,395 through June 30, 2025; TAB 5 pursuant to RSA 9:16-c., FIS 25-003 Department of Education – authorization to transfer \$407,509 in federal grant funds in and among classes through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-013 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to transfer \$179,937 in federal funds and establish a new appropriation class through June 30, 2025, and FIS 25-014 Department of Transportation – authorization to transfer \$327,720 in federal funds between classes through June 30, 2025; and TAB 6 pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 25-005 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$1,099,235 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-006 Department of Health and Human Services – authorization to accept and expend \$7,922,683 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-017 Department of Justice – authorization to accept and expend \$1,187,487 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-018 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization through June 30, 2025 to; 1) budget and expend \$594,000 in other funds, and 2) contingent upon approval of Request #1, authorization to accept and expend \$594,000 in other funds, FIS 25-019 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$209,500 in other funds and create new class lines through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-020 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$648,718 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-021 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$4,878,000 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-022 Department of Transportation – authorization to accept and expend \$1,899,093 in federal funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-027 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend an amount not to exceed \$200,808 in other funds through June 30, 2025, FIS 25-031 Department of Safety – authorization to accept and expend \$522,700 in other funds through June 30, 2025, and FIS 25-032 Department of Transportation – authorization to budget and expend \$290,096 in other funds through June 30, 2025; and TAB 8 pursuant to ARPA RSA 14:30-a, VI., FIS 25-015 Department of Education – authorization to retroactively amend the accept and expend of American Rescue Plan, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds by extending the end date from September 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (Originally approved (FIS 21-278) on September 17, 2021, with further approval granted (FIS 23-167) May 19, 2023), and FIS 25-036 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources – authorization to accept and expend \$236,000 in other American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) through June 30, 2025]

RSA 14:30-a, VI FISCAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS OVER \$100,000 FROM ANY NON-STATE SOURCE:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 25-004 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Iain Watt, Director of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Edwards, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to accept and expend \$266,084 in federal funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 124:15, I. POSITIONS AUTHORIZED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FIS 25-007 Department of Health and Human Services – Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Iain Watt, Director of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Representative Erf, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Health and Human Services to retroactively amend FIS 21-242, approved August 20, 2021, with subsequent approval on (FIS 22-068) February 18, 2022, (FIS 22-252) July 22, 2022, (FIS 23-024) January 27, 2023, (FIS 23-167) May 19, 2023, (FIS 23-296) October 19, 2023, and (FIS 24-343) October 18, 2024, by extending Position #9T3108, 11-9110 MED-HLTH SVS MGRS-2, SOC11 wage schedule, pay band 3, effective retroactive to June 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 21-I:8, II. (a). DIVISION OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 25-028 Department of Administrative Services – On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Rosenwald, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Administrative Services for an extension of the public release of the Fiscal Year 2024 State of New Hampshire Annual Comprehensive Financial Report “ACFR” from January 31, 2025 to March 31, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 206:33-b. TRANSFERS FROM FISH AND GAME FUND:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 25-008 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department – On a motion by Representative Leishman, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to transfer \$339,000 from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Fund Reserve to the Fish and Game FY 2025 Operating Budget through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 228:12 TRANSFERS FROM HIGHWAY SURPLUS ACCOUNT:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 25-033 Department of Transportation – Danielle Chandonnet, Director of Finance, and Alan Hanscom, State Maintenance Engineer, Department of Transportation responded to questions of the Committee.

On a motion by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Gray, that the Committee approve the request of the Department of Transportation to transfer \$5,706,710 in highway funds from the Highway Surplus Account to fund winter maintenance activities through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

RSA 604-A:1-b ADDITIONAL FUNDING:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 25-023 Judicial Council – On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Judicial Council to receive an additional appropriation from funds not otherwise appropriated in the total amount of \$1,000,000 in general funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

FIS 25-024 Judicial Council – On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Carson, that the Committee approve the request of the Judicial Council to receive an additional appropriation from funds not otherwise appropriated in the total amount of \$2,500,000 in general funds through June 30, 2025. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

CHAPTER 224:217, III, Laws of 2011 AS AMENDED BY 2017, 156:130, JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FACILITIES; FUNDS:

REGULAR CALENDAR

FIS 25-009 Office of Legislative Budget Assistant – On a motion by Senator Gray, seconded by Senator Birdsell, that the Committee approve the request of the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant to transfer \$900,000 from the Office of Legislative Budget Assitant's subaccount to cover cost associated with migrating Legislative Office Building (LOB) operations to One Granite Place in Concord, NH during the LOB HVAC upgrade closure. MOTION ADOPTED. (10-Yes; 0-No)

MISCELLANEOUS:

None

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS:

Nathan White, Chief Financial Officer, and Patricia Tilley, Associate Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services responded to questions of the Committee pertaining to; FIS 25-011 Department of Health and Human Services – Operating Statistics Dashboard SFY25 report through November 30, 2024, with the exception of data for the Division for Children, Youth and Families staffing data and Shelters and Institutions (BHS only), which is through October 31, 2024, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Caseloads are not yet available for the month of October 2024, and further data for the Developmental Disabilities, Acquired Brain Disorders, and In-Home Supports waitlist through June 30, 2023.

Jennifer Foley, General Counsel for Youth Development Center Claims Administration Settlement Fund, John Formella, Attorney General, and Laura Raymond, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice responded to questions of the Committee pertaining to; FIS 25-038 New Hampshire Youth Development Center Claims Administration and Settlement Fund – pursuant RSA 21-M:11-a, XVI – Administrator’s Quarterly Report for the YDC Claims Administration and Settlement Fund 2024 Quarter Four Report.

AUDITS:

As adopted January 30, 2025 under the Fiscal Committee Rules and Procedures (#5) and pursuant to RSA 14:31-a, II, the following audit reports have been accepted, placed on file and released to the public.

State of New Hampshire, Department of Transportation, Turnpike System, Annual Financial Report, For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 – Christine Young, Director of Audits, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, and Bob Mahoney, Audit Partner, KPMG, presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Danielle Chandonnet, Director of Finance, Department of Transportation was present to respond to questions of the Committee.

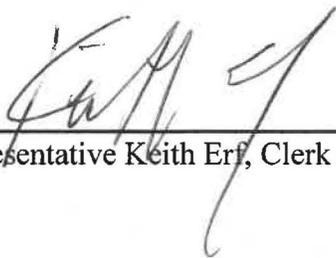
Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, New Hampshire Lottery Commission, A Department of the State of New Hampshire – Christine Young, Director of Audits, and Jean Mitchell, Audit Supervisor, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Charles McIntyre, Executive Director, and James Duris, Chief Financial Officer, New Hampshire Lottery Commission, were present to respond to questions of the Committee.

State of New Hampshire, Department of Information Technology, Internal Control Review, Revenues and Expenditures, January 2025 – Christine Young, Director of Audits, and Kimberly Bisson, Senior Audit Manager, Audit Division, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, presented the report and responded to questions of the Committee. Denis Goulet, Commissioner, Department of Information Technology was present to respond to questions of the Committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Fiscal Committee was scheduled for Friday, February 21, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. to be held in Room 210-211 of the Legislative Office Building.

The Chair moved that the meeting adjourn. (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.)



Representative Keith Erf, Clerk

FISCAL COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES

2025-2026

(Adopted 1/30/25)

As it relates to items submitted to the Committee for action:

- 1) The Committee requires that any requested action made pursuant to RSA 124:15, establishing any new position or continuation of an existing position, either full-time or part-time, or the hiring of consultants be for the current biennium only.
- 2) The Committee requires that any requested action made pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, the Acceptance and Expenditure of Funds Over \$100,000 from any Non-State Source be for the current biennium only. Any subsequent transfer of said funds shall be made in accordance with RSA 9:16-a and c.
- 3) That any request made to the Committee under the following statutes, either individually or a combination thereof will be placed on a consent calendar and voted on as a block.
*******Any member may request that any item be removed from the consent calendar for further discussion and/or clarification prior to or during the Fiscal Committee meeting.*******
 - RSA 9:16-a - Transfers Authorized,
 - RSA 9:16-c - Transfer of Federal Grant Funds,
 - RSA 9:17-d - Transfer of Appropriations, Judicial Branch,
 - RSA 14:30-a, VI - Acceptance and Expenditure of Funds Over \$100,000 from any Non-State Source and
 - RSA 124:15 - Positions Restricted
- 4) Acceptance of a late item requires approval of the Chairman.
- 5) Pursuant to RSA 14:31-a, II all audits will be accepted, placed on file and released to the public upon inclusion on the Fiscal Committee Agenda.

As it relates to the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant:

- 6) Authorize the Legislative Budget Assistant to;
 - Grant step increases for employees of the LBA Office on the employee's anniversary dates, and at such other times for exceptional service, as determined by the Legislative Budget Assistant. The Legislative Budget Assistant will inform the Fiscal Committee in writing, when these step increases have been granted;

- Promote an LBA employee or reclassify a position, with prior approval of the Chairman of the Fiscal Committee;
- Fill a vacancy in the LBA Office with the prior approval of the full Fiscal Committee.