

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Executive Council

**CHRISTOPHER C. PAPPAS**  
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR  
DISTRICT FOUR



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**TO:** All Fourth District Cities and Towns  
**FROM:** Executive Councilor Christopher C. Pappas  
**DATE:** April 6, 2016

The Governor and Executive Council met on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House, Concord, NH and considered an agenda of approximately 79 items.

The next scheduled Governor and Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House Concord, NH.

### **Meeting Notes – 4/4/16**

The Executive Council convened today at 10 am at the State House. Here's an overview of the Council meeting, focusing on issues with both statewide and District 4 significance:

### **Nominations**

The Governor nominated Charles Greenhalgh, Henrietta Luneau, and Edward Tenney as Justices of the Circuit Court; Amy Messer as Justice of the Superior Court; and Dan Will of Loudon to the Judicial Council.

### **Confirmations**

The Council confirmed Senator Jerry Little on a 3-2 vote to become the next Commissioner of Banking, and I was one of the votes against the confirmation. His term begins June 2. The Council also confirmed Dr. David Coursin of Northwood to the Medical Review Subcommittee.

### **Mount Sunapee Lease Agreement**

The Council approved a new lease agreement with the operators of Mount Sunapee ski area. The agreement protects the land in the East Bowl area, incorporates new tracts of land into the state park, and allows the ski area to build four new trails and a chairlift. The agreement was modified after a robust public comment period to try and lessen the impact on an important hiking trail and create a buffer for any future local development.

### **Governor's Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health**

The Council approved a memorandum of understanding between the Governor's Office and Health and Human Services to fund the Governor's Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health, a critical position that helps coordinate the state's response to the substance abuse epidemic. Governor Hassan has tapped James Vara to fill the role.

## **New HEIGHTS Contract Extension**

The Council approved an \$11.6 million amendment to a contract with Deloitte Consulting which operates the New HEIGHTS system that is the backbone of the Department of Health and Human Services. The program serves as the department's eligibility and enrollment system and performs more than 750,000 transactions every day. Commissioner Jeff Meyers separated out two sections of this sole source contract that will be competitively bid.

## **New Buses**

The Council voted to accept and expend \$3 million in federal funds to purchase five new commuter buses that will soon go into service with C&J Trailways and Boston Express.

## **State Employees' Prescription Drug Contract**

The Council approved an amendment to an existing contract with Express Scripts which manages the prescription drug benefit for state employees and retirees. The Department of Administrative Services says \$6.5 million over the course of the contract will be saved, and the department continues to look at ways to reduce escalating costs associated with prescription drugs.

Today's complete agenda is available [here](#), along with the minutes and audio recording. The next G&C meeting will be held Wednesday, April 20, at 10 am at the State House. Stay tuned for future updates, and please don't hesitate to contact me with your thoughts or concerns.

***The Executive Council welcomes public input on nominations  
that are brought forward by the Governor for consideration and confirmation.***

If you have interest in serving on any of the 300+ State Boards or Commissions please send a letter of interest along with a resume, to Catherine George in care of the Governor's office and a copy to Executive Councilor Pappas.

Please feel free to contact me with concerns or support for any of the above individuals or any other issues you might have.

A listing of the Boards and Commissions, along with the qualifications required, can be found at <http://www.sos.nh.gov/redbook/index.htm>.

Allenstown, Auburn, Barrington, Bedford, Bow, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee,  
Londonderry, Loudon, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield and the City of Manchester