

New Hampshire City and Town Clerk's Association
Executive Board Minutes
April 20, 2011

PRESENT: Sue McKinnon, Tricia Piecuch, Linda Hardy, Diane Trippett, Patricia Waterman, Debra Cornett, Sandra Allard, Jeanette Vinton, Jean Oleson, Rita Eigenbrode, and Debra Clark

ABSENT: Kathleen Valliere, Stephanie Glidden, Marjorie Roy, Kimberly Johnson, Lori Holmes, Phyllis Thompson, and Wendy Drouin

GUESTS: Lori Radke - Bedford, Denise Gonyer – Gilford, and Nancy K. Johnson, Association lobbyist

President McKinnon called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Diane Trippett and seconded by Debra Clark to accept the March 16, 2011 minutes. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Eigenbrode reported that finances are good, but there was no formal written report available for the month. The paperwork for the Association's non profit application is very involved; there is a small amount of work left before filing the application. The books are to be audited after this meeting adjourns.

Legislative Update: Nancy Johnson updated the Board regarding HB156. Motor Vehicle Commissioner Bailey testified that there is widespread support for the bill, including several Town Managers. The Commissioner cited a good relationship with clerks, past and going forward. There is concern about additional verification being necessary for residency. The Commissioner stated that moving forward with the Dealer Registrations will not affect any current MV projects, including updating the Boat Agent program.

Peter McNamara from the Automobile Dealers Association stated at the hearing that he had gotten calls from Town Clerks who want to participate in a pilot program for Dealer Registration but don't want to come forward. When polled, he was told that the clerks either stayed neutral or opposed HB156, as they were afraid of repercussions that would follow.

The official results of the poll regarding HB156 were as follows:

Clerks Oppose:	180
Clerks Support:	3
Neutral:	10
No Response:	40

A big thank you is in order for all the Clerks who attended the hearing for HB156, and especially to President McKinnon, Denise Gonyer, and Becki Benvenuti.

Emails are to be sent April 20, and prior to the April 27 full vote, to all Representatives. The Committee Vote will be April 17. The concentration will be on the financial ramifications of the State implementing the program, namely personnel costs and mailing costs.

Secretary of State's Office: Dave Scanlan spoke regarding HB129, requiring Voter Photo ID. He talked about the pros and cons of taking photos at the polling place vs. provisional ballots, which would be brand new procedure for the State of NH. He agreed that there is a lot of work to be done if this bill passes. It cannot be immediately implemented; Voters would be "warned" about the requirement for picture ID at any upcoming elections after the law is in effect, then the law would be fully implemented in October 2012.

The House took \$500,000 from the Vital Records Improvement Fund for the general fund (HB 36), leaving a balance of \$3,000,000 for upgrading the software. \$400,000 in revenue will be added in the next 2 years.

Steve Wurtz reported that HB36 would roll back certain fees, if passed. The bill has been tabled in the Senate, but could be brought back up with HB2, the Budget Bill. If necessary, implementation of new fees could be immediate because of the way NHVRIN is programmed.

SB176, cleaning up wording in several Vital Records RSAs, has been passed.

Steve reported that the Division has received RFP responses from 6 vendors. There will be presentations and demonstrations by the 6 vendors on May 2, 3, and 4. It is expected that a contract will be finalized by the scheduled date of May 27, followed by the Notice to Proceed on June 1, 2011.

There will be a reduction in equipment replacement for NHVRIN towns, and no new towns will receive State equipment.

Old Business: The New Clerk's workshops held earlier in April were very successful. Fifteen clerks attended Day 1, and 13 clerks attended Day 2. All involved agreed that the Elections presentation was excellent. Jeanette Vinton has offered to take over the Dog Licensing portion of the workshop.

The Nominating Committee for Executive Board members consists of Kathy Seaver, Debra Clark, Barbara Wakefield, and Jeanette Vinton. Rita Eigenbrode, current Treasurer, will not be returning to that office for another term.

Work on the Standard Residency Form, which has been an ongoing project since 1999, is "on the back burner."

A tentative agenda was discussed for the Combined Town Clerk and Tax Collector's Conference being held October 17 – 21, at the Red Jacket Resort in N. Conway, NH. The Clerks' theme will be My Ride, Our Journey. Clerks are encouraged to submit a picture of themselves and their favorite wheels for the opening ceremony slide show. The Thursday, October 20, Special Session will be an explanation of the Legislative process with Nancy Johnson.

Municipal Clerks Week is May 1 – May 7, 2011. Perhaps some self-promotion would be in order.

Paul Bergeron, City Clerk of Nashua, will be attending IIMC, representing New Hampshire. President McKinnon made a motion to give \$1,000 to Mr. Bergeron from the Association to defray his expenses. The motion was seconded by Patricia Waterman, and was approved unanimously.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be June 22, 2011, at 9:30 AM at DMV. The Conference and Nominating Committees will meet following the June Board meeting. There will be no Board meeting in May due to Regional Meetings.

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved by Patricia Waterman, seconded by Jeanette Vinton, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hardy
Secretary