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**Hillsborough County Executive Committee
Hillsborough County Complex, Bouchard Building
Goffstown NH
February 22, 2008 9:00 AM**

Present: Representatives D. Essex, M. Pilotte, L. Movsesian, P. Cote, M. Farley, B. Francoeur, P. Hinkle, P. Manney, M. Reuschel, B. Shaw, S. Spratt, S. Stepanek, J. Ulery, S. Vaillancourt. Also present: Comm. Holden, Pappas, J. MacDonald, Registry of Deeds, M. Wageling, County Attorney, Sheriff Hardy, E.A. Robinson, M. Rusch, G. Wenger.

Excused absences: Rep. Kurk, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Jasper, Rep. Villeneuve, Rep. Simon, Rep. Rosenwald,

Unexcused absences: Rep. Shattuck,

Chairman Essex called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM and requested Rep. Cote to lead the pledge to the flag. Chairman Essex welcomed Rep. Cote back after his long illness.

Minutes

Motion by Rep. Ulery, second by Rep. Shaw to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting with one correction, last page, word copying should be copying . On a voice vote motion adopted unanimously.

Appropriation Control Report

Chairman Essex stated that there is a copy of the Appropriation Control report if any member of the Executive Committee would like a copy.

Human Services Update

Ms. Robinson reviewed the monthly Human Services report. At the conclusion of her report there was a discussion regarding the YDC rate and the increase that is being proposed and the effect it would have on Hillsborough County.

Old/New Business

- a. **Performance Auditing Subcommittee** – Chairman Essex requested Rep. Spratt give an update on the subcommittee and should money be budgeted for a Performance Audit in F/Y 09. Rep. Spratt stated the Subcommittee met once and he thanked the members of the subcommittee for a great discussion. He noted he prefaced the subcommittee meeting by stating that he little or no tolerance for creating solutions in search of a problem, he wanted to set the tone of why the Performance Audit was being considered. The subcommittee's next meeting will be on Friday March 14, 2008 at 3:40 PM and will consist of Board of Commissioners, Elected Officials and members of the subcommittee. Rep. Spratt stated that he is not convinced that a performance Audit is necessary noting that we should have an answer by the next meeting and also maybe it should be looked at in a different way, not necessarily a Performance Audit. He also stated that he did not want this perceived as a witch hunt.

Motion by Rep. Manney, second by Rep. Pilotte to defer the final report of the Performance Audit Subcommittee for the April 25, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting. On a voice vote motion adopted.

- b. **Security Subcommittee Update** – Chairman Essex stated that a report was distributed by Rep. Simon and he is asking members of the Executive Committee to read over and review the report. Rep. Manney stated that the report is pretty self explanatory, the subcommittee met and noted that the

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subcommittee came up with three options. It was decided that it was too late to implement any of the options. She stated that Rep. Simon requested a ruling from Legal Counsel and noted that the this request and ruling is contained in the report. Rep. Farley stated that Legal Counsel's response basically states that the funding was not part of the original accounting bid and therefore in some circumstances that this type of thing can be part of the assignment of the account, however, it can not happen in this case and there would be additional costs associated with examining these options. There was a brief discussion regarding the courts security. Rep. Farley stated that he would like to comment that he thinks it is important that a detailed master plan for the County property be established with phases, he stated that he feels if this property had been developed with a single unitary master plan phases the issues that have come up over the last few months would have been addressed by the master plan. Rep. Farley requested to do a motion, however, Rep. Manney stated that there already is a master plan committee headed by Commissioner Holden and the last few meetings have been facilitated by Mr. Dan Reidy from the UNH Cooperative Extension. She noted that the master plan committee is currently dealing with County land. Mr. Wenger stated that approximately 18 months ago the Board of Commissioners appointed a master plan committee and they are in the process of looking at the Goffstown land and it is an ongoing process. He noted that this type of thing is a challenge and it is currently being worked on. Rep. Farley stated that he thinks it is important that an architect be onboard with this type of committee and working with the master plan this would eliminate some of the problems up front. Chairman Essex stated that this seems like a great idea and noted that Commissioner Pappas is here today and will probably pass along the information. Rep. Manney would like Rep. Farley's name added to the email list for the minutes of the Master Plan Committee noting that she thanks Mr. Wenger for the minutes. Chairman Essex asked how the minutes get forwarded and Mr. Wenger responded that the minutes are forwarded to the Delegation Office. Ms. Rusch commented that she has not received minutes from this committee, she receives agendas. A discussion ensued regarding the long range plan.

- c. Hillsborough County Superior Courthouse North – Chairman Essex noted that everyone is aware of the asbestos problem in the Courthouse and noted that he visited the County Attorneys Office last week and took a walk around. He stated that there have been a number of meetings to try and address the issues at that location. He noted that he attended a meeting that was called by Justice Broderick, but because of illness he sent Justice Lynn instead and Senator D'Allesandro was present. This was basically a general update on the conditions today at the Courthouse. Chairman Essex stated that this is developing into a serious problem and that the Administration Office of the Courts and some individuals are looking at this as possibly a very expensive real estate issue that could cost millions of dollars. He also noted that an article from the Union Leader was mailed in the packets and gives a description of what is happening right now. Ms. Rusch stated that Senator D'Allesandro asked her a few questions regarding some of the space in Goffstown and she referred him to Mr. Wenger the County Administrator. There could be interest in moving some of the folks to Goffstown. She also noted that Justice Lynn and Stephen Lorentzen spoke regarding the testing that has been done and there is no immediate emergency, and they will be doing these tests four times a year. She stated that there was a meeting on February 19, 2008 at the Senate Offices in the State House with the key players, which are the Chief Justices, Senator D'Allesandro, and members of the Legislature noting that another meeting is scheduled for two weeks from now and Chairman Essex will be attending that meeting along with the Sheriff's Office. Ms. Rusch stated that there is an operations and maintenance plan put together with policies to follow, currently there is no one set up to facilitate this plan. Attorney Wageling stated that they are looking at outside vendors to oversee the plan. Brief discussion.
- d. Board of Commissioners draft budget schedule - Chairman Essex stated that in the packet today is a draft schedule for the Board of Commissioners budget schedule and he noted that this is a very tight turnaround in the meeting the May 9th deadlines, this is very tight for the subcommittees and

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Executive Committee meetings. Chairman Essex noted that the Board of Commissioners has requested that the Officers be present at the next Board Meeting. Ms. Rusch reviewed the timeline for the budget noting that if the budget is turned over by the Commissioners on May 9, 2008 it cuts the subcommittees and the Executive Committee's time short because the deadlines are governed by statute, she also noted that some years in the past the Commissioners have turned it over to the Delegation Office a little earlier in order to give the subcommittees ample time to work on the budget. She briefly reviewed the schedule. Chairman Essex added that this is the year to set the salaries for the Elected Officials, this is done every two years before the filing period and this too is governed by statute. He noted that the Blue Ribbon Salary Committee is made up of the three officers of the Delegation along with four other individuals from the Executive Committee. They are as follows:

- Rep. Essex
- Rep. Movsesian
- Rep. Pilotte
- Rep. Spratt
- Rep. Vaillancourt
- Rep. Francoeur
- Rep. Stepanek

Ms. Rusch stated that these meetings will start in March or April.

Rep. Vaillancourt brought up an issue regarding the County Attorney's Office setting up and Alcohol/Drug Program pilot program at no cost to the County, this is a similar program that Merrimack County is running. He stated that a bill is coming through the Ways and Means Committee and he is hoping that Hillsborough County could look at Merrimack County's program and bring this forward through the F/Y 09 budget cycle without being mandated by the State. There was a brief discussion regarding this program and Attorney Wageling stated that she is very interested in the program.

Motion by Rep. Cote, second by Rep. Pilotte to adjourn at 10:25 AM.

Rep. Lori Movsesian, Clerk
Hillsborough County Executive Committee

Date _____