

Emergency Board Minutes
October 31, 2012, Called for 11:00 a.m.

Pursuant to notice, the Emergency Board met in the 5th Floor Conference Room in the Pavilion Office Building, 109 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 at 11:05 a.m.

Members present: Governor Peter Shumlin, Chair; Senator Ann Cummings, Senator Jane Kitchel, Representative Martha Heath, Representative Janet Ancel.

The item on the agenda was as follows:

Restoration of Low Income Heating Fuel Assistance Program (LIHEAP) fuel assistance in state fiscal year 2013 to the same level as in the state fiscal year 2012.

Governor Shumlin explained the level of federal funding available for the Low Income Heating Assistance program (LIHEAP) and the need to allocate state funds to maintain the average LIHEAP benefit for families this winter.

Secretary of Administration Jeb Spaulding elaborated on details of the proposed motion to allocate a total of \$8.8 million in state funds for LIHEAP.

Representative Heath requested an update on the report and recommendations from the Department for Children and Families outlined in the LIHEAP-related motion passed by the Emergency Board on January 3rd, 2012, and that the update be made to the general assembly by February 1st, 2013.

Following discussion, Representative Ancel made the following motion, seconded by Senator Kitchel:

Motion is made:

a) In accordance with 2011 Act 63 Sec. C.110, amending 2011 Act 3 Sec. 50(c), and 2012 Act 162 Sec. C.202, due to reduced federal funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), \$7 million in general funds appropriated to the Secretary of Administration for federal reductions shall be reduced and transferred to the home heating fuel assistance fund for use in fiscal year 2013 to meet expected heating needs.

b) Under the authority of 33 V.S.A. Sec. 2502(e), the Emergency Board hereby approves transfer of \$0.9 million from the home weatherization assistance trust fund to the home heating fuel assistance fund; and Emergency Board hereby determines that the \$0.9 million transfer does not reduce the fiscal capacity of the state office of economic opportunity to meet the budgeted obligations of the weatherization program.

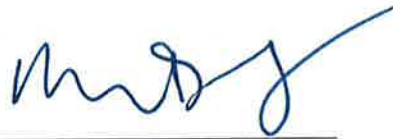
c) Under the authority of 32 V.S.A. Sec. 133, the Emergency Board hereby approves a reduction of \$0.9 million from the general fund appropriation to Corrections – Correctional Services in 2012 Act 162 Sec. B.338, and transfer of that amount of general fund to the home heating fuel assistance fund. The Emergency Board further expresses its intent that the Administration request replenishment of the Corrections appropriation in the fiscal year 2013 Budget adjustment, as needed.

This motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

A true record,

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill Lofy', written over a horizontal line.

Bill Lofy
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

cc: Board Members
State Treasurer
State Auditor of Accounts
Other interested parties