

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015 - 4:30 P.M. - SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUILDING - CONFERENCE ROOM - HOULTON

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner (by teleconference)
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator
Paul Bernier, Public Works Director
Darrell Crandall, Sheriff
Shawn Gillen, Chief Deputy
Craig Clossey, Captain/Jail Administrator
Sgt. Kris Miller
Lt. Ross McQuade

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

ART. 2. Public Comment Period.

There was no public comment.

ART. 3. Approval of agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the agenda.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 4. Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2015 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2015 County Commissioners' Meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. The Commissioners approved and signed the following:

A) Attendance Record.

B) Bills and Warrants.

ART. 6. Bids:

A) All wheel drive side-by-side UTV.

The following bids were received:

Tidd's Sports Shop Houlton, Maine.	\$13,185.00
Corriveau's Artic Cat Fort Kent, Maine	\$10,761.00
Gary's Yamaha Caribou, Maine	\$12,599.00
Theriault Equipment Presque Isle, Maine	\$13,236.07 (Option #1) \$14,031.85 (Option #2) \$14,791.64 (Option #3)

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to table the bids pending review by the County Administrator with authorization to award the bid to the apparent low bidder that adheres to the bid specifications.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Approval of one (1) full-time dispatcher.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the hiring of Bobbie McAtee of Linneus as full-time dispatcher.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the hiring of Bobbie McAtee of Linneus as full-time dispatcher.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Deputy Sheriff of the Year nominee to the Maine Sheriffs' Association (MSA).

Sheriff Darrell Crandall provided some background on various Maine Sheriffs' Association Awards that are presented on an annual basis. This year, he nominated Sgt. Kris Miller for both Deputy of the Year and Manager of the Year. Unfortunately, the Awards' Committee did not approve her nomination. However, Sheriff Crandall indicated that Sgt. Miller is our Deputy of the Year and articulated why in Attachment I, which is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

It is evident that the Sheriff's nomination is universally supported by command staff and rank-and-file staff of the Aroostook County Sheriff's Department, which is demonstrated by various letters of reference in the nomination packet.

The County Commissioners joined Sheriff Crandall in commending Sgt. Miller for her competency, positive attitude and the "can do" spirit she brings to her profession. Kudos to Sgt. Miller!

ART. 9. Approval of 2015 appropriation request for Northern Aroostook Solid Waste Association (N.A.S.W.A.).

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu indicated that this item should have been included in the County Administrator's report, in that it is informational, only.

No action is required by the County Commissioners.

ART. 10. Budget Review:

A) Final year-end 2014 County Budget:

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu was pleased to report and review the year-end 2014 County Budget to the County Commissioners. Overall, he is pleased with the way the departments ended the year with their expenditure budgets. 2014 was a good year both revenue and expense-wise and it will help us improve our overall financial picture. The end-of-year balance will be most helpful if the financial responsibility of the jails is returned to the counties next fiscal year. The County Administrator indicated he would report on the 2014 unaudited, undesignated fund balance at the next meeting.

B) YTD FY 15 Unorganized Territory (UT) Budget:

The January 2015 YTD Unorganized Territory Budget report was presented and reviewed with the County Commissioners. The excise tax line on the revenue page is encouraging because it represents three (3) quarters of income. As such, we should easily meet our goal of \$240,000.00 for the year. Aside from that, the expenses and revenues are in line for the reporting period.

C) YTD FY 15 Jail Budget.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu and Sheriff Darrell Crandall reported on the status of the FY 2015 Supplemental budget request relative to our county jail. The amount earmarked for Aroostook is \$782,000.00. We believe that, at the current rate of spending, our need should be between \$836,000.00 and \$853,000.00 for the current year. This is contingent on avoiding any doomsday scenarios with respect to inmate medical expenses or other unanticipated contingencies.

ART. 11 County Administrator's report:

A) Community Development Block Grant Application.

Public Works Director Paul Bernier explained the letter of intent process regarding this grant for three (3) businesses in the Unorganized Territory. We received notice from the Office of Community Development on February 17, 2015, advising that we are eligible to submit a Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grant Program application by March 27, 2015. We will be moving forward with this grant application.

Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

ART. 14. Adjournment.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting

DAB

Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

Paul J. Underwood
Norman L. Fournier
Paul J. Underwood

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: February 18, 2015

Sgt. Kris Miller is a US Air Force Veteran who joined the Aroostook County Sheriff's Office in 1989 as a corrections officer. After four years in the jail, Kris was transferred to the transportation unit, where she was sworn as a Deputy Sheriff and sent to the academy. In 1996 Kris was transferred to the patrol division where she worked in Southern Aroostook County for five years. In 2001, Kris was promoted to sergeant, in the training and recruitment unit. In 2013, Kris was placed in charge of communications as well as retaining her training and recruitment duties.

Kris's duties are very diverse in her current position. She is responsible for overseeing dispatch operations for the Sheriff's Office, which includes our patrol, transport and corrections unit; as well as seventeen local fire, police and ambulance agencies.

Kris is also tasked with making sure all seventy Sheriff's Office employees complete their annual, mandatory training requirements and maintains and certifies those records. Her organizational skills and ability to motivate staff to complete these sometimes tedious tasks are commendable.

Kris runs several basic corrections schools each year, after coordinating the recruitment, testing and interviews of those employees. She also recruits, tests and coordinates initial training for the law enforcement unit, as well as BLETP placement and in-service training.

In addition to all of that, and supervising nine (9) dispatch employees, she also regularly covers open patrol shifts, helps with prisoner security at the courthouse, transports prisoners, assists the drug unit, and she reviews, updates and schedules training on policies and procedures.

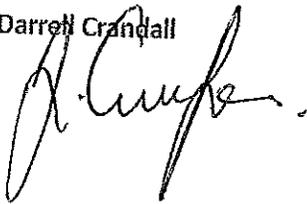
Honestly, whatever Kris can do to help the team succeed, she is there.

What sets Sgt. Miller apart is that she has had the very same "can do" attitude since the day she started and her passion for her profession has not diminished one bit over time. If Kris is covering for a dispatcher who is on break, transporting a female inmate to the hospital, getting called out at midnight to cover a traffic accident, covering complaints while a patrol deputy is in court, chasing officers to complete their training or helping revise policies, she has a smile on her face and an attitude of commitment to the task at hand. Kris has been a dedicated employee of the Sheriff's Office for twenty five years, and can still regularly be heard saying, "I love my job." As leaders we are never blessed with too many people like Sgt. Kris Miller.

I am very hopeful that the selection committee will select Sgt. Miller as Deputy of the Year, or in the alternative, as manager of the year.

Thank you,

Darrell Crandall

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Crandall", written over the printed name "Darrell Crandall".