

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2015 - 4:30 P.M. -
CARIBOU COURTHOUSE, ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING ROOM - CARIBOU**

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator
Darrell Crandall, Sheriff
Darren Woods, EMA Director
Katie Chapman, EDP Renewables

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ART. 2. Public Comment Period.

There was no public comment.

ART. 3. Approval of agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams advised that five (5) items would be added to Article 10. Sheriff's Department Appointments: C) Promotion of corrections sergeant; D) Approval of part-time deputy sheriff (Transport); E) Approval of part-time corrections officer; F) Approval of two (2) full-time corrections officers; and, G) Approval of Optional Arrest Powers (30-A §405).

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 4. Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2015 County Commissioners' Special Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2015 County Commissioners' Special Meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

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

A) Attendance Record.

- B) Bills and Warrants.
- C) Tax Abatement Discussion and Decision.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu advised that additional information was submitted to the County by the Charlands in reference to their August 5, 2015 tax abatement hearing. The County Administrator advised that the submission would be included in the context of the final decision.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to table the discussion and final decision on the tax abatement hearing due to the recent submission of additional information relative to the August 5th hearing.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- D) Approval of Civil and Criminal Forfeitures.

- 1) State of Maine v. Brian M. Saunders Criminal Forfeiture.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Civil Forfeiture of \$1,556.00 in U.S. Currency, property owned by and seized from Brian M. Saunders.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- 2) State of Maine v. Travis Hewitt Criminal Forfeiture.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Criminal Forfeiture of \$9,949.00 in U.S. Currency, property owned by and seized from Travis Hewitt.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- 3) State of Maine v. Jared D. Thompson.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Criminal Forfeiture of one (1) 2008 Chevrolet Impala, property owned by and seized from Jared D. Thompson.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. EDP Renewables Project update. (Katie Chapman)

Commissioner Paul J. Underwood indicated that he would recuse himself from this agenda item and removed himself from the meeting room to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Katie Chapman, representing EDP Renewables, was then introduced by Chairperson Paul J. Adams and proceeded to provide an update on the Number 9 Wind Project, which is appended to these minutes (Attachment I). She also indicated that an amendment to reimburse legal costs was drafted and would be provided to the County Administrator for the County's consideration and approval.

When the exact nature of the information the County is requested to submit to EDP Renewables is understood, we will endeavor to submit the information in a timely manner. The County Administrator indicated he would consult with our legal counsel in regards to this request.

ART. 7. Contract:

- A) Three (3) year (7/1/2015- 6/30/2018) Snow Removal Contract for Connor Township with the City of Caribou.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the three (3) year (7/1/2015- 6/30/2018) Snow Removal Contract for Connor Township with the City of Caribou.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- B) Three (3) year (7/1/2015- 6/30/2018) Fire Protection Agreement for T17R4 (Baie Creuse – Sinclair) with the Town of Madawaska.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the three (3) year (7/1/2015- 6/30/2018) Fire Protection Agreement for T17R4 (Baie Creuse – Sinclair) with the Town of Madawaska.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Approval of Proposed ATV Access Route by Twin County Wheelers, Inc., ATV Club.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the proposed ATV Access Route as presented.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Approval of Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) Funds.

The County Administrator recommended that the County Commissioners approve the Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) funding for FY 16 in the amount of \$74,248.00, which also includes approximately \$14,412.00 for the Town of Bancroft.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) funding for FY 16 in the amount of \$74,248.00.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Sheriff's Department Appointments:

A) Approval of one (1) part-time corrections officer.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the hiring of Jason Patterson of Westfield as part-time corrections officer.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the hiring of Jason Patterson of Westfield as part-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

B) Recommissioning of one (1) full-time deputy sheriff and one (1) part-time deputy sheriff.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the recommissioning of Robert Thibeault as full-time deputy sheriff and Kenneth Michaud as part-time deputy sheriff.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the recommissioning of Robert Thibeault as full-time deputy sheriff and Kenneth Michaud as part-time deputy sheriff.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

C) Promotion of corrections sergeant.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the promotion of Joshua Boisvert as sergeant in the Corrections Division effective October 3, 2015.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the promotion of Joshua Boisvert as sergeant in the Corrections Division effective October 3, 2015.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Approval of part-time deputy sheriff (Transport).

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the hiring of Alishia Ledger of Hodgdon as part-time deputy sheriff for inmate transport.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the hiring of Alishia Ledger of Hodgdon as part-time deputy sheriff for inmate transport.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

E) Approval of part-time corrections officer.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the hiring of Denise Cummings of Linneus as part-time corrections officer.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the hiring of Denise Cummings of Linneus as part-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

F) Approval of two (2) full-time corrections officers.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the hiring of Richard Michaud of Houlton and Gabriel Montes of Hodgdon as full-time corrections officers.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the hiring of Richard Michaud of Houlton and Gabriel Montes of Hodgdon as full-time corrections officers.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

G) Approval of Optional Arrest Powers (30-A §405).

Sheriff Darrell Crandall explained and recommended the approval of this request under Title 30-A §405.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve optional arrest powers under Title 30-A §405 as recommended in Sheriff Crandall's memorandum dated August 17, 2015.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11. Approval of amendments to Accounting and Financial Practices and Procedures Manual.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu indicated that most of the changes to the manual were "housekeeping" in nature. Those changes are highlighted in red for ease of reference. He requested permission to implement the amended updates.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the updates as recommended by the County Administrator.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 12. County Administrator's Report:

A) MCCA/Risk Pool Update.

MCCA Meeting – Commissioner Fournier indicated that 90% of the meeting revolved around a discussion of Chapter 335 (LD 186). In that vein, MCCA will be requesting a \$2.4 M Supplemental Budget for FY 16 to properly fund county jails.

Also, there seems to be no consensus amongst the membership to have a statewide policy on the Inmate Fund, which is really under the sheriff's statutory purview.

Risk Pool Update – Commissioner Fournier indicated that more claims had been settled than had come in; a reinsurance audit by Hartford Insurance Company produced no adverse findings; member renewal information is due soon and counties are encouraged to provide that information in a timely fashion; and, overall the Risk Pool is in good financial shape.

B) FY 15 Homeland Security Funding.

EMA Director Darren Woods advised that FY 15 Homeland Security funding will be \$119,940.62, which is down slightly from the past year.

C) North Lakes Fire & Rescue Grant.

EMA Director Darren Woods advised that North Lakes Fire & Rescue was awarded a fire grant in the amount of \$26,200.00. The County's share is \$1,247.00 and the Federal share is \$24,953.00.

D) Unorganized Territory (UT) Undesignated Fund Balance.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu reviewed the spreadsheet on the Fund Balance with the County Commissioners. Our Unorganized Territory Undesignated Fund Balance is increasing and this trend is positive.

E) Other Items of Interest.

None.

ART. 13. Other Business.

Commissioner Paul J. Underwood updated the County Commissioners on a piece of legislation on wind development that passed and had a sidebar discussion with Katie Chapman on the same.

ART. 14. Executive Session.

None.

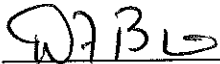
ART. 15 Adjournment.

MOTION:

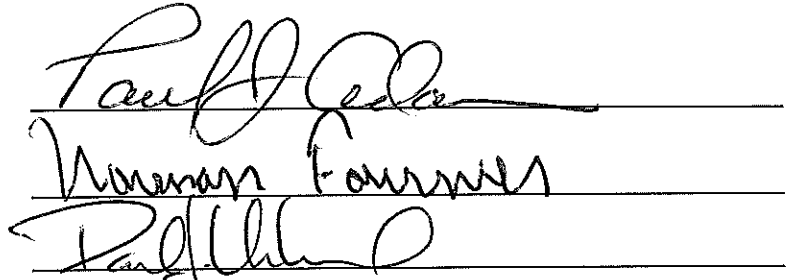
Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting

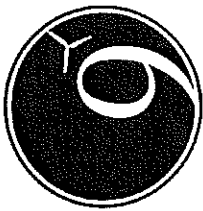


Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

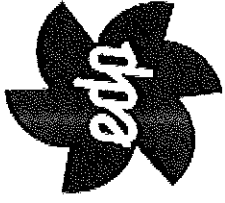


AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: August 20, 2015

(ATTACHMENT I)



NUMBER NINE
WIND FARM



renewables

Number Nine Wind Project

541 Main St, Suite B
Presque Isle, ME 04769
207-760-7019

August 20, 2015

Project update

- Permitting
 - Federal permits submitted to FAA, ACoE
 - State permits submitted
 - Status uncertain
 - Statute states review should take 6 months
 - Local permit submittals underway

Project update continued

- Community Outreach
 - Sponsorships underway
 - Potato Blossom Festival
 - Crown of Maine Balloon Festival
 - Houlton Agricultural Fair
 - Ongoing discussions with community members
- Project preparation for construction
 - Bidding process begins
 - Generator lead line
 - Turbine contract

Aroostook Energy Efficiency Program

- \$2 million donation to energy efficiency projects in the County
- EDPR is working with Efficiency Maine and the Governor's Energy Office to develop program administration

TIF update

- DEP requested final TIF agreements and final community benefits package documents within 60 days of the application being deemed complete for processing
- Although outside statute, Number Nine feels strongly that we should try to meet this requirement



TIF Next Steps

1. Develop a List of Projects for the County's TIF Development Program.
2. Compile TIF Application
3. Hold Public Hearing on adopting a TIF District and Development Program
4. Commissioners vote to adopt TIF District and Development Program
5. Commissioners submit application to DECD for approval

