

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2016 - 5:30 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
Paul Bernier, Public Works Director
Darrell Crandall, Sheriff
Shawn Gillen, Chief Deputy

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30 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 Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier 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 April 20, 2016 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2016 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.

C) Carroll Tax Abatement.

A discussion amongst the County Commissioners ensued concerning the rationale for partial approval of the abatement request. The County Commissioners felt that the facts presented by the Applicants supported their contention that their structure(s) are overvalued. The County Commissioners find that the Applicants have met their burden of proof regarding over valuation and concur with the Applicants that their property is most like two (2) other properties included in the Applicants' submission.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Paul J. Adams to approve a partial abatement of \$1,448.70 for the 2015 taxes.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Bids:

A) Unorganized Territory Area One Road Maintenance.

Bids were received from the following contractors:

Michael Elwell
Sherman, Maine

TBC Excavation, Inc.
Sherman, Maine

Frank Landry & Sons, Inc.
Sherman, Maine

Steelstone Industries
Houlton, Maine

Qualey Excavation
Stacyville, Maine

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Approval of promotion of Randolph Schools to corrections sergeant.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall reviewed Mr. Schools' credentials and recommended his promotion to corrections sergeant.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the promotion of Randolph Schools to corrections sergeant.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Discussion on per capita rate change for Ambulance Dispatch. (Sheriff Darrell Crandall)

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu encouraged the County Commissioners to make a decision on this agenda item, so that ample notice could be provided to the impacted community.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall indicated that dispatching for ambulance services has become a very labor intensive process for our dispatch unit. Given the time involved in providing this service, he recommended that the per diem rate be changed to reflect the same rate charged for police dispatch. The current rate structure is inequitable. He also recommended that the per capita rate be changed effective January 1, 2017. This will give the impacted community plenty of lead time for budgeting purposes.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve changing the per capita rate for ambulance dispatch to reflect the same rate charged for police dispatch effective January 1, 2017.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. County Administrator's Report:

A) Stone Garden Payments.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu reported that the delinquent payment of \$28,774.25 for Stone Garden details has been received. This has bolstered our General Fund fund balance by that same amount.

B) Houlton Superior Court Building Roof Replacement Bid.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu advised that the low bid of \$33,480.00 was awarded to Powers Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. of Caribou.

C) LD 1614 Update.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu indicated that LD 1614 is now PL 2015, Chapter 90. A discussion ensued on the distribution of funds. Aroostook County believes that distribution should be based on financial need as articulated in the new law.

D) 2017 Proposed Meeting Schedule Discussion.

A discussion ensued amongst the County Commissioners regarding a 2017 meeting schedule for the County Commissioners.

The consensus moving forward seems to be along the lines of one (1) meeting per month and a meeting time of 1:00 p.m. There also seems to be consensus to modify our meeting schedule for the rest of this year.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu suggested that he consult or review the Charter to ensure compliance with our meeting rules and that he prepare a proposed schedule for the remainder of this year and 2017, which would be presented at the next meeting.

The County Commissioners concurred with his recommendation.

E) Other items of interest.

None.

ART. 10. Other Business.

None.

ART. 11. Executive Session.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to go into executive session.

The following motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood:

MOTION:

"I move we go into executive session pursuant to Title 1, M.R.S.A., §405, sub-section 6, paragraph (F) to discuss a poverty tax abatement, which is confidential under Title 36, M.R.S.A., §841, paragraph (2E)."

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

ART. 12. Adjournment.

MOTION:

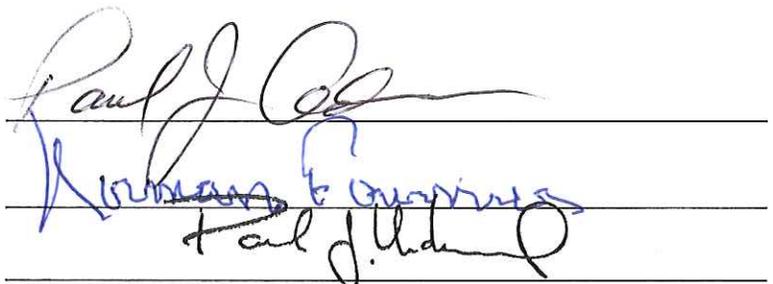
Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: May 4, 2016