

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016 – 1:00 P.M. –
SINCLAIR FIRE STATION - SINCLAIR**

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator
Sheriff Darrell Crandall
Chief Deputy Shawn Gillen
Darren Woods, EMA Director

Before the County Commissioners' Meeting, an election was held to choose Trustees for the Sinclair Sanitary District.

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 1:24 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 September 21, 2016 County Commissioners' Meeting and the minutes of the October 4, 2016 Special Tax Abatement Hearing.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve both the minutes of the September 21, 2016 County Commissioners' Meeting and the October 4, 2016 Special Tax Abatement Hearing.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

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

A) Attendance Record.

B) Bills and Warrants.

None.

C) Approval of Aroostook County Action Program (ACAP) Public Sector Board of Director Appointments.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu, on behalf of Jason Parent, ACAP Executive Director, presented the following slate of names for approval: Denise Duperre, Selectperson, Town of Madawaska; David Keaton, Director/Superintendent, Region Two School of Applied Technology; Dan MacDonald, Director, RSU39 Adult Education; Rosa McNally, Town Counselor, Town of Houlton; Ryan E. Pelletier, Town Manager, Town of Frenchville; Gary Sanfacon, Juvenile Community Corrections Officer, Department of Corrections; and, Patricia Sutherland, Selectperson, Town of Chapman.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the slate of ACAP appointments as recommended by the County Administrator.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Approval of the County of Aroostook /North Lakes Fire and Rescue agreement with the Town of Westmanland.

Fire Chief Darren Woods provided an overview of this agreement and reaffirmed to the County Commissioners that the County of Aroostook did not solicit this contract.

MOTION:

Motion made by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve an agreement to provide fire protection and rescue services for the Town of Westmanland.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

E) Ashland Ambulance Service Buy-out.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu advised the Commissioners that this item was discussed September, 2015 and it was decided at that time to make a one-time payment for a new ambulance for Ashland Ambulance Service. An amount of \$26,351.20 represents our pro rata share per our ambulance service contract with the Town of Ashland.

MOTION:

Motion made by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to ratify payment of \$26,351.20 to the Town of Ashland.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

F) Hines v. Town of Hammond Tax Abatement Decision.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu advised the Commissioners that they had their discussion and deliberation on this abatement decision on the date of the hearing. Therefore, he indicated that a motion was in order.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to grant a partial abatement in accordance with the discussion on October 4, 2016 and the written decision dated October 26, 2016.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

G) Approval of Snow Removal Contract for T9R5 Township.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu indicated that this is a one (1) year contract with a new vendor and the contract price of \$19,045.00 for FY 2017 represents a 21.8% decrease from the previous contract.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the contract between Homestead Lodge and the County of Aroostook for snow removal services in T9R5 (Oxbow Plantation).

ART. 6. Sheriff's Appointments.

A) Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended approval of Mark King of Littleton and Ryan Johnston of Hampden for Deputy Sheriff Commissions.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Commissions as presented by Sheriff Crandall.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

B) Sheriff Darrell Crandall presented the following slate for part-time Corrections Officers: Isaiah Eastham, New Limerick; Charles Ivey, Houlton; Caleb Dube, Houlton; Kari Hovey, Houlton; Emily Dumond, Presque Isle; Ashley Gray, Houlton; Matthew Morrison, Mars Hill; and Ryan Dubois, Winslow (and Presque Isle).

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the part-time Corrections Officers as presented by Sheriff Crandall.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed

C) Approval of part-time Dispatchers.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall presented Gilad Epstein of Oakfield and Erin Wardwell of Dyer Brook for part-time Dispatchers.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the recommendation of Sheriff Crandall on the part-time Dispatchers.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. County Commissioners' Report.

A) MCCA/Risk Pool Update.

Commissioner Norman L. Fournier provided an update as follows:

Concerning the Risk Pool, 3 new claims were opened; 5 claims were closed; 92% of the claims in the Pool have been opened for 4 years or less; and Cumberland County is threatening to leave the pool. (It is unclear at this time how that would impact members' costs.)

Concerning the MCCA, Commissioner Fournier reported that the bulk of the meeting revolved around a discussion of legislation. The most important piece of legislation has to do with removing the artificial jail cap that is in existence and replacing it with the LD 1 formula. Rep. Danny Martin, who was in attendance at the meeting, indicated a willingness to sponsor that bill in the Maine House of Representatives.

B) Other Items of Interest.

None.

ART. 8. County Administrator's Report.

A) County Administrator Douglas Beaulieu indicated the County Commissioners have formulated their budget recommendations for the 2017 Budget Process and the Finance Committee will deliberate those recommendations when they meet on November 1, 2016. The tax component of the 2017 General Fund Budget is up a modest 3.6% and the tax component of the 2017-18 Unorganized Territory Budget is tentatively set 3.0%. The impact of the Jail Budget to the General Fund continues to have a deleterious impact on our overall financial shape. The artificial jail cap statute needs to be repealed.

B) Other items of interest.

None.

ART 9. Adjournment.

MOTION:

Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting

DFB

Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

Paul J. Coda
William F. ...
Paul ...

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: October 26, 2016