

**MINUTES**

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 – 1:00 P.M.  
– REGISTRY OF DEEDS BUILDING - CONFERENCE ROOM (FIRST FLOOR) - FORT KENT**

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners  
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner  
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner (participated by teleconference)  
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator  
Paul Bernier, Public Works Director  
Sheriff Darrell Crandall  
Chief Deputy Shawn Gillen

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

ART. 2. Public Comment Period.

There was no public comment.

ART. 3. Approval of agenda.

County Administrator Douglas Beaulieu indicated to the County Commissioners that the Budget Work Sessions referenced at the end of the agenda would be held in the Law Library.

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 August 17, 2016, August 25, 2016, and September 13, 2016 County Commissioners' Meetings.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the minutes of August 17, 2016, August 25, 2016, and September 13, 2016 County Commissioners' Meetings.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

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

A) Attendance Record.

B) Bills and Warrants.

C) Renewal of Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Liquor License for Neal Martin, D/B/A Long Lake Sporting Club.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the renewal of Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Liquor License for Neal Martin, D/B/A Long Lake Sporting Club.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Poverty Tax Abatement Decision

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

**MOTION:**

"I move to grant an abatement pursuant to 36 M.R.S., Section 841(2) in the sum of \$813.56 for 2015 and \$750.06 for 2014 as outlined in a written decision to the parties on September 21, 2016".

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Approval of Deputy Sheriff Commissions.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve the recommissioning of Sgt. Erica Pelletier of Fort Fairfield as full-time Deputy Sheriff and Deputies Galen White and Dennis Appleton of Houlton as part-time Deputy Sheriffs.

**MOTION:**

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

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

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

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that Denise Cummings of Linneus be appointed as a full-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 full-time Corrections Officer.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Approval of paid-call Volunteer Firefighters.

County Administrator Douglas Beaulieu, on behalf of Chief Darren Woods, recommended Joey Levesque and Amy Oakes to be appointed as paid-call Volunteer Firefighters for North Lakes Fire and Rescue.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the hiring of Joey Levesque and Amy Oakes as paid-call Volunteer Firefighters.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Approval of Aroostook County Emergency Operations Plan.

County Administrator Douglas Beaulieu recommended slight modifications to the Aroostook County Emergency Operations Plan. These amendments are done on an annual basis to fine tune and continuously improve our emergency response capabilities.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman F. Fournier to approve the modifications to the Aroostook County Emergency Operations Plan as recommended by the County Administrator.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Request for Funding for Veterans' Memorial in Benedicta, Maine.

County Administrator Douglas Beaulieu reviewed a request from Lloyd Bryant regarding a Veterans' Memorial in Benedicta. After a brief discussion, the County Commissioners decided to review this request during the upcoming 2017 Budget Process.

ART 11. Contract:

A) Town of New Sweden snow removal agreement for Connor Township.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the snow removal contract with the Town of New Sweden for Connor Township and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 12. County Commissioners' Report.

A) Other items of interest.

- 1) The County Commissioners scheduled a tax abatement hearing concerning Ryan Hines and Diane Hines vs. Town of Hammond on October 4, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in Houlton.
- 2) The County Commissioners scheduled a tax abatement hearing concerning Robert and Nancy Shampang vs. Winterville Plantation on October 25, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in Caribou.

ART. 13. County Administrator's Report.

A) Health Claims Experience Report.

The loss ratio for the first two (2) quarters of this year is 85%. This continues to be good news!

B) Workers' Compensation claims.

The workers' compensation claims within our agency are high. The experience modification factor is 1.44. The Sheriff indicates that most of the claims in his department are attributable to looming mental health issues encountered in the jail and in law enforcement.

C) Jail recreation yard fence repairs.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu recommended that fencing repairs for the jail recreation yard be expensed to the Contingent Account.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to authorize \$2,400 to be expensed out of the Contingent Account for fencing repairs as recommended by the County Administrator.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

D) MDOT Transportation Improvement Project, Houlton.

The MDOT will be taking, by eminent domain, 70 square feet of land from the County of Aroostook for a transportation project in Houlton.

E) Assistance to Firefighters' Grant Program Application.

We did not receive a grant award for a fire truck this year, but we will continue to apply for this grant in the future.

F) Snow removal bid results.

The snow removal bids were awarded as follows: RLW Management, Option 2F; Babin Construction, Options 2B, 2D, and 2E; Gerry Beaulieu, Options 2A and 2C; JMQ, Inc., Benedicta Roads Region; C.D. Elwell Trucking, County Roads Region; and, Barry G. Gillis, Bancroft Roads Region.

G) Other items of interest.

None.

ART. 14. Other Business.

Chairman Paul J. Adams mentioned that Commissioner Paul J. Underwood has decided not to continue his service on the ACAP Board. He indicated that there would be more discussion on this at the next meeting.

ART. 15. Executive session.

None.

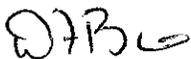
ART. 16. Adjournment.

**MOTION:**

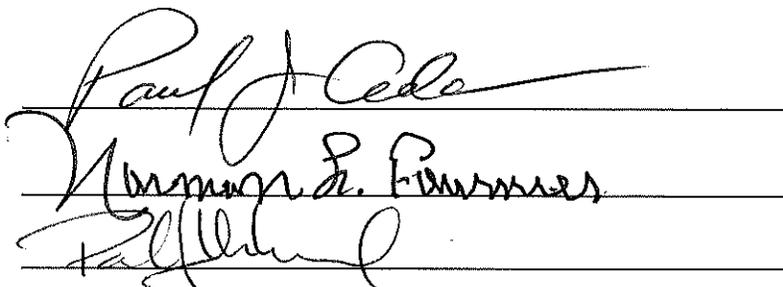
Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy  
of Commissioners' Meeting



Douglas F. Beaulieu  
County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DATE: September 21, 2016