

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019 – 1:00 P.M. – REGISTRY OF DEEDS BUILDING – CONFERENCE ROOM (FIRST FLOOR) – FORT KENT

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chair, County Commissioners  
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner  
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator  
Sheriff Shawn Gillen  
Chief Deputy Craig Holder  
Christina Theriault, Human Resources Director  
Paul Bernier, Community Services Director  
Bryan Jandreau, Facilities & IT Director  
Darren Woods, EMA Director  
John Gibson, EMA Deputy Director  
Sherrill Campbell, Executive Assistant  
Jamie Pelletier, Madawaska Police Department

- ART. 1. Chair Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- ART. 2. There was no public comment.
- ART. 3. Chair Paul J. Adams entertained a motion for approval of 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. Chair Paul J. Adams entertained a motion for approval of the November 20, 2019 County Commissioners' meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2019 County Commissioners' meeting with a correction to ART. 10 which should read 2016 Ford pickup.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 5. The County Commissioners approved and signed the following:
- A) Attendance record.

- B) Bills and warrants.
- C) Audit Questionnaire.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the responses of the audit questionnaire.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- D) Liquor License Renewal for St. Peter's Country Store.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the liquor license renewal for St. Peter's Country Store.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- E) MOU for E-911 PSAP.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between Penobscot Regional Communications Center, Penobscot County and Aroostook County.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**ART. 6. Approval of part-time EMA Assistant Planner.**

EMA Director Darren Woods recommended Brian Goff of Caribou for the position of EMA Assistant Planner.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve Brian Goff of Caribou as the EMA Assistant Planner.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**ART. 7. EMA rescue equipment bid results.**

One bid was received from Bergeron Protective Clothing in the amount of \$18,561.20. A grant received from the Tabatha and Steven King Foundation in the amount of \$20,000.00 written by EMA Deputy Director John Gibson will cover the remaining amount of the equipment needed.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to accept the bid from Bergeron Protective Clothing in the amount of \$18, 561.20 for EMA rescue equipment.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**ART. 8.** Approval of one full-time Deputy Sheriff.

Sheriff Shawn Gillen recommended Nathan Chisholm of Van Buren for the position of full-time Deputy Sheriff. Nathan is a certified K-9 handler for narcotics and will bring along his K-9 partner "Jazz".

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the recommendation of Sheriff Gillen for Nathan Chisholm of Van Buren for the position of full-time Deputy Sheriff.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**ART. 9.** Approval of one Deputy Sheriff Commission.

Sheriff Shawn Gillen recommended approval of Rudy Levesque of Linneus for Deputy Sheriff Commission.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve Rudy Levesque of Linneus for Deputy Sheriff Commission.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**ART. 10.** To See if Aroostook County will vote to change its plan for law enforcement officers effective January 1, 2020 for future service only.

**MOTION:**

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

"The County agrees to:

- A) Provide *Special Plan 3C* to its law enforcement officers for service rendered after December 31, 2019. Service prior to January 1, 2020 remains under regular plan AC.
- B) Continue to provide Regular Plan AC to its corrections employees, dispatchers, elected/appointed officials and general government employees
- C) To authorize the County Administrator and/or County Commissioners to sign the amended agreement between the County and the Maine Public Employees' Retirement System.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 11 To Ratify the 2020-2022 Contract with the New England Police Benevolent Association, Inc., Local 601 and the County of Aroostook, Maine.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the ratification of the 2020-2022 Contract with the NEBPA, Inc., Local 601 and the County of Aroostook, Maine.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 12. Position statement for marijuana in the Unorganized Territory for the LUPC.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier stated that the LUPC had been in contact with him requesting a statement confirming that the County of Aroostook will entertain the idea of opting in if an ordinance is developed by the LUPC for marijuana in the Unorganized Territories and presented a draft of such statement.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the draft statement for marijuana in the Unorganized Territory as presented.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 13. January meeting time.

Due to a conflict in County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier's schedule the time of the January 7, 2020 Organizational Meeting will be changed to 11:00 a.m.

- ART. 14. Spillman Agreement approval.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the County Administrator to sign the Spillman agreement in accordance with the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of Lessee as follows:

1. Determination of Need. The Governing Body of Lessee has determined that a true and very real need exists for the acquisition of the Equipment or other personal property described in the Lease between Aroostook County (Lessee) and Motorola Solutions, Inc, (Lessor).
2. Approval and Authorization. The Governing body of Lessee has determined that the Lease, substantially in the form presented to this meeting, is in the best interests of the Lessee for the acquisition of such Equipment or other personal property, and the Governing Board hereby approves the entering into of the Lease by the Lessee and hereby designates and authorizes the following person(s) referenced in the Lease to execute and deliver the Lease on Lessee's behalf with such changes thereto as such person deems appropriate, and any related documents, including any escrow agreement, necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Lease.
3. Adoption of Resolution. The signatures in the Lease from the designated individuals for the Governing Body of the Lessee evidence the adoption by the Governing Body of this resolution.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 15. Appointment of 2020 Risk Pool Board of Directors representative, proxy and point of contact; and appointment of 2020 MCCA Board of Directors representative.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Paul J. Adams to approve Norman L. Fournier as 2020 Risk Pool Board of Directors representative with Paul J. Underwood as proxy, and to appoint Norman L. Fournier as 2020 MCCA Board of Directors representative.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to appoint Ryan D. Pelletier as point of contact for the 2020 Risk Pool for Aroostook County.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 16. Jail Commission Update.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier suggested that organizations and/or names of those proposed for the Jail Commission be presented at the January 7, 2020 meeting.

ART. 17. County Commissioners' Report:

A) MCCA/Risk Pool update.

County Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that at the December Risk Pool meeting a clean audit was received; council was consulted over whether it is legal to require counties who want to receive the Risk Pool insurance to be a member of the MCCA; the Risk Pool has secured a new insurance carrier; rates for counties for the upcoming year will be based on property valuation, UT budget, and the number of vehicles in the county; there were 11 claims set up and 7 claims closed resulting in an increase in reserves of \$43,000.00

County Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that at the December MCCA meeting a budget was adopted; the membership meeting will be on January 8, 2019 at the Senator Inn.

B) Legislative update.

County Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that the Criminal Justice and Safety Committee voted 10-2 in favor of the state paying 18.4 million dollars or 20% of the total jail operating costs. The state must fund at least 20% or \$50/day per inmate. The funding will be allocated quarterly.

C) Other items of interest.

County Commissioner Paul J. Underwood reported that at the last WIOA meeting it was announced that they would seeking a new contract for services. Commissioner Underwood also reported that Ryan Bushey would be resigning from the WIOA Board as of June, 2020.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier informed the County Commissioners that the mileage rate for the State has increased to .45 per mile and asked the County Commissioners if they would entertain a motion to adjust the County's rate.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to increase the County of Aroostook's mileage rate from .44 per mile to .45 per mile.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 19 Executive session.

**MOTION:**

At 2:08 p.m. the following motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood:

"I move that we enter executive session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(E), for consultation between the County and it's attorney concerning pending or contemplated litigation and/or settlement offers."

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**MOTION:**

Upon returning to open session the following motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood:

“I move that we approve the settlement agreement in the matter of Adam Boisvert”.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

**MOTION:**

At 2:32 the following motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood:

“I move that we enter executive session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) for discussion of yearly evaluation of the County Administrator”.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

Upon return to open session no action was warranted or taken.

ART. 20 Adjournment.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to adjourn the meeting at 2:50.

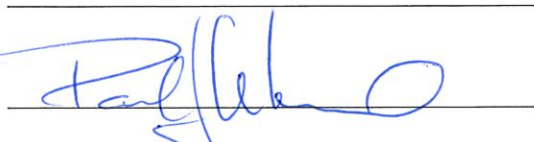
**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy  
of Commissioners' Meeting



Norman Fournier



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DATE: December 18, 2019



Ryan D. Pelletier  
County Administrator