

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021
– 1:00 P.M. –SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUILDING – CONFERENCE ROOM (SECOND FLOOR) - HOULTON

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chair, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator
Shawn Gillen, Sheriff
Craig Holder, Chief Deputy
Paul Bernier, Community Services Director
Dana Gendreau, Finance Director
Craig Clossey, Jail Commander
Christina Theriault, HR Director
Lt. Brian Harris, MSP
Ryan Bushey, Oxbow Snowmobile Club Representative
Joe Cyr, Houlton Pioneer Times
Steve Pelletier, ARP Program Administrator, via Zoom
Darren Woods, EMA Director, via Zoom

ART. 1. Chair Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 1:05 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 Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the agenda.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 4. Chair Paul J. Adams entertained a motion for approval of the October 21, 2021 County Commissioners' meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021 County Commissioners' meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

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

- A) Attendance record.
- B) Bills and warrants.

ART. 6. Public Request for snowmobile access route in Oxbow North Township.

Mr. Ryan Bushey introduced himself and explained that the local snowmobile club was seeking designation of the road as a snowmobile access route to allow residents and landowners access to the designated ITS system where it intersects at various points along said road. Mr. Bernier indicated that he was in support of the request and asked that if the Commissioners approve the request to include language that would allow him the authority to decide to suspend the access if problems arise this snowmobile season.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier to authorize the designation of road as a snowmobile access route and to allow the Community Services Director the authority to suspend the designation at his pleasure if the need arises. Seconded by Paul Underwood.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Quarterly Financial Report

Mrs. Dana Gendreau presented the third quarter financial report for the general fund; the first quarter report for the unorganized territory and jail funds.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier to approve the quarterly financial report as presented. Seconded by Paul Underwood.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Emergency Management Agency Mutual Aid Agreement

Mr. Woods presented the EMA mutual aid agreement. This agreement is being reviewed by each county and spells out how mutual aid would work in the event one county requested assistance during an emergency from another county.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood to approve the mutual aid agreement as presented. Seconded by Norman Fournier.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Mileage Reimbursement Rate for Personal Vehicle Use

Mr. Pelletier asked the board to provide a .10 cent increase retroactive to September 1, 2021 until the 2022 mileage rate is published and approved expected in January. This request is due to the recent spike in gasoline and affects only those employees who use their personal vehicles for business travel.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood to approve the Administrator's recommendation. Seconded by Norman Fournier.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. 2022 County Commissioners Meeting Dates

The Commissioners reviewed the 2022 Proposed meeting dates. In general, the Commissioners will meet the third Wednesday of each month at 1 pm, with the exception of the Organizational Meeting in January which will be Tuesday January 4, 2022 at 1 pm in Houlton and the September meeting which will be Tuesday September 13, 2022 at 1 pm in Caribou. The County Administrator will post the meeting schedule on the Aroostook County website.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood to approve the 2022 County Commissioner Meeting Dates as proposed. Seconded by Norman Fournier.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11 OSHA Guidelines and Policy

Mrs. Theriault updated the board on the current status of the OSHA ETS for mandatory testing and/or weekly testing. Mrs. Theriault is continuing to work on a policy for County Commissioner approval, however, at this time the ETS has been suspended by OSHA pending further litigation. Once the issues have been resolved, the Commissioners will be presented with a full draft policy for consideration.

No motion necessary.

ART. 12. County Commissioners Report

Commissioner Fournier updated the Board with various activity and issues at the MCCA Board Meeting and Risk Pool meeting as well as discussion regarding various pieces of legislation affecting County government. No action taken or motions made.

ART. 13. Other Business

There was no other business.

MOTION: A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the MDOT Crack Seal projects as presented.

ART. 14. To Consider an Executive Session

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to enter executive session at 2:05 pursuant to Title 1 MRSA 405(6)(A) discussion or consideration regarding compensation of an individual or group of employees of the body or agency.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

The Board exited executive session at 2:35 pm and there was no post executive session action.

ART. 15. Adjournment.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to adjourn the meeting at 2:36 pm.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy

of Commissioners' Meeting

Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: