

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 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
Sandra L. Fournier, Deputy County Administrator of Finance
Sheriff Shawn Gillen
Chief Deputy Craig Holder
Paul Bernier, Community Services Director
Bryan Jandreau, Facilities & IT Director
Sherrill Campbell, Executive Assistant
Bill McCluskey, William Robinson, LLC
Steven Porter, William Robinson, LLC

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 with ART. 7. amended to FIVE full-time Corrections Officers.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 4. Chair Paul J. Adams entertained a motion for approval of the July 17, 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.

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. To consider a request to “opt in” TAR2 for adult use and medical marijuana.

After discussion, this item was tabled until it is determined whether the LUPC will adopt a regulation or ordinance regarding medical marijuana and adult use of marijuana in the Unorganized Territories.

ART. 7. Approval of five Full-time Corrections Officers.

Sheriff Shawn Gillen presented five Full-time Corrections officers for approval.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood to approve the recommendation of Sheriff Gillen to hire Bailey Snyder of Presque Isle, David Letourneau of Presque Isle, John Anderson of Easton, Art Thorne, Jr. of Monticello, and Michael Bradstreet of Linneus for the positions of Full-time Corrections Officers.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Jail Building Study Commission Discussion.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier reported that the jail building conditions continue to deteriorate and is that a commission be formed consisting of himself, Facilities and IT Director Bryan Jandreau, Sheriff Shawn Gillen, and other County representatives to include a Finance Committee member and members of towns and cities, to study solutions.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Adams to give authorization to County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier to pursue forming a Commission and to report back to the County Commissioners by December with the make-up of the proposed Committee for further consideration.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Northern Maine Development Commission dues for Unorganized Territories.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to fund the total amount of dues to Northern Maine Development Commission for the Unorganized Territories.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Registry of Deeds management system RFP results.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier requested that the County Commissioners give him the authority to award the bid for the Registry of Deeds management system RFP to the lowest, most responsible bidder.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Adams to authorize County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier to award the Registry of Deeds management system RFP to the lowest, most responsible bidder.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11 County Commissioners' Report:

A) MCCA/Risk Pool.

Risk Pool: County Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that at the August, 2019 meeting: 6 new claims were opened; \$10,000.00 has been set aside for safe driving awards; the Risk Pool will cover registration costs for two employees from each county to attend an Employment Law Summit training session in October; a decision was made that the Risk Pool will NOT cover any claims resulting from county employees drawing blood for testing; discussion still being held regarding Franklin County's debt to the Risk Pool.

MCCA: County Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that at the August, 2019 meeting a discussion was held regarding long term funding for MCCA. Dues increases will go into effect in January per MCCA by-laws. All counties in the state are eligible for \$10,000.00 to sponsor Maine Bi-Centennial events through a Maine Arts Community Development Block Grant.

B) Legislative update.

County Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that there has been no movement on Rep. Warren's bill regarding funding of the jail. There will be meetings with the Criminal Justice Committee over the next several months to discuss LD 973.

C) Other items of interest.

County Commissioner Paul J. Underwood reported that he will be attending a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission meeting regarding the Forest City Dam on East Grand Lake. Commissioner Underwood stated that depending on the outcome of this meeting, there could be considerable tax and environmental impact on several Aroostook County towns as the dam regulates levels of water on East Grand Lake. There will be a hearing held on August 28, 2019 at East Grand High School on the issue.

ART. 12. County Administrator's Report.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier gave an update on the 2020 budget process. Meetings with Department Heads and the County Administrator will take place on August 26th and 27th. County Administrator Pelletier reminded the County Commissioners of the upcoming Finance Committee organizational meeting on September 11th.

County Administrator Ryan D. Pelletier informed the County Commissioners that he sent an email to the Aroostook County legislation delegation outlining his concerns for the 2020 jail tax cap. Several legislators have responded with interest in sponsoring a bill addressing these concerns. A meeting may be held in Houlton to discuss the matter further with community members and legislators.

ART. 13. Other Business.

None.

ART. 14. Adjournment.

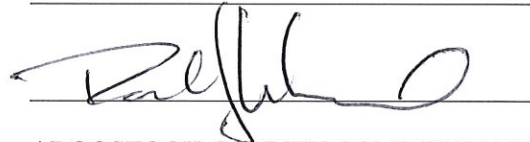
MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to adjourn the meeting at 2:20.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: August 21, 2019