

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022
- 1:00 P.M. REGISTRY OF DEEDS FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM-
FORT KENT

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
Steve Pelletier, ARP Program Administrator
Christina Theriault, HR Director
Bryan Jandreau, Facilities & IT Director
Jason Parent, ACAP Executive Director
Paul Towle, Aroostook Partnership via Zoom
Penny Thompson, Caribou City Manager via Zoom
Michael Elliot, Mission Broadband via Zoom
Darleen Guy, Registrar of Probate via Zoom
Peter Marchesi, Attorney via Zoom

- 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 Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the agenda as amended to include Approval of the HR Assistant position and the Approval of the Deputy Registrar of Probate position and to consider approving a collective bargaining agreement between the County of Aroostook and the National Corrections Employees Union.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 4. Chair Paul J. Adams entertained a motion for approval of the March 16, 2022 County Commissioners' meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2022 County Commissioners' meetings.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed

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

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

ART. 6. Mr. Pelletier presented a proposal from Mission Broadband on behalf of the Aroostook County Broadband Committee. The Committee is interested in hiring Mission Broadband to assist them with the facilitation and completion of the Broadband Study that the Committee is currently developing under the auspices of a ConnectME planning grant. Mr. Pelletier explained that he had met with several town managers and it was their collective recommendation to utilize up to \$24,000 from the ARPA Broadband funds available to municipalities and non profits for this purpose. Mr. Paul Towle and Ms. Penny Thompson from the Broadband Committee also addressed the Commissioners in support of this recommendation. Michael Elliot of Mission Broadband gave a high level overview of their company and some of the current work they are engaged in Maine as well as other states.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to authorize the County Administrator to expend up to \$24,000 from the ARPA Broadband funds available to municipalities for the purpose of completing the Broadband Study as presented.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Mr. Bernier presented the Commissioners with a request from the Central Aroostook Ambulance Service to utilize \$8,333.33 from the UT Capital Emergency Equipment Reserve as potential match for an ARPA grant application for emergency equipment.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the UT Community Services Director recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Mr. Bernier presented the Commissioners with the Lawn Maintenance Agreement for Silver Ridge Cemetery and Memorial. Mr. Bernier recommends the proposal submitted by Golden Ridge Property Maintenance.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the UT Community Services Director recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 9. Mr. Bernier presented his recommendation for the Operator Agreement at Sinclair Transfer Station. Mr. Bernier recommends Deschaine Sanitation Services.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the UT Community Services Director recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 10. Mr. Jason Parent presented the Commissioners with a Proclamation proclaiming the Month of May as Community Action Month. Mr. Parent also provided updates to the Commissioners regarding various events and activities planned for ACAP's 50th anniversary this summer.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Proclamation as presented.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 11. Mr. Bryan Jandreau made his recommendation to award the snow removal services for the Fort Kent Registry of Deeds building to KR property Maintenance.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the recommendation of Bryan Jandreau, Facilities and IT Director.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 12. Mr. Pelletier informed the Board that he had received a request for an abatement hearing in a case involving a property in Madawaska.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the County Administrator's recommendation to hold a tax abatement hearing on June 1, 2022 at 9 AM at the Caribou Administrative Hearing Room.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

- ART. 13. Mr. Pelletier requested that the date of the regular June meeting be moved to June 14th at 1 pm to accommodate a schedule conflict with Commissioner Fournier's schedule.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the change in date of the June Commissioners Meeting to June 14th at 1 pm.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 14. County Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fournier presented various issues and information regarding the MCCA Board Meeting and Risk Pool Meetings held earlier this month. Information was also provided regarding recent public hearing and work session regarding LD 1654, An Act to Stabilize Jail Funding. Information only, no motion made.

- ART. 15. Other Business

Mrs. Christina Theriault presented the name of Joyce Findlen to be approved for the position of HR Assistant.

MOTION:

Motion made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

Mrs. Christina Theriault and Mrs. Darleen Guy presented the name of Cynthia Fowler to be approved for the position of Deputy Registrar of Probate.

MOTION:

Motion made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 16. Executive Session

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to enter into executive session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA 405E to consult with legal representation concerning the legal rights and duties of the body or agency.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed. Entered executive session at 2:15 pm.

The Board of County Commissioners exited the executive session and 2:35 pm.

ART. 16-A. **MOTION:**

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve a collective bargaining agreement between the County of Aroostook and the National Corrections Employees Union.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 17. Adjournment.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 pm.

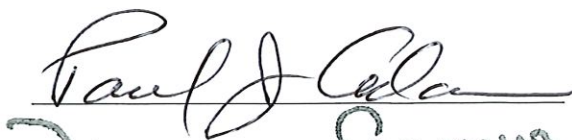
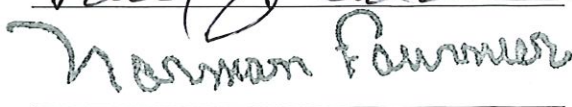
VOTE:


Motion voted and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: