

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022
- 1:00 P.M. SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUILDING SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM-
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
Paul Bernier, Community Services Director
Steve Pelletier, ARP Program Administrator
Bryan Jandreau, Facilities & IT Director VIA ZOOM
Darren Woods, EMA Director VIA ZOOM
Craig Clossey, Jail Commander
Terri Sennet, Jail Administrative Assistant
Keith Wheeler, Former Deputy Sheriff
Melissa McAvoy
Kathleen Tomaselli, Houlton Pioneer Times

A public Hearing was held on the proposed winter closing of several roads located within the Unorganized Territories of Aroostook County. Chair Adams opened the public hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak in regards to any of the proposed roads. No comments were received.

ART. 1. Chair Paul J. Adams called the regular meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

ART. 2. There was no public comment.

ART. 3. MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the agenda as amended to include Art. 6 C – Special Presentation by Sheriff Shawn Gillen.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 4. Chair Paul J. Adams entertained a motion for approval of the April 27, 2022 County Commissioners' meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2022 County Commissioners' meetings.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented information from resident Richard Rhoda regarding the removal of trees near the Superior Court Building in Houlton and the planting of trees in the same area. Mr. Jandreau indicated that while he is supportive of the project, it should follow standard county protocols and be brought forward during the County budget process with cost estimates and a recommendation from staff as to how to proceed. The Commissioners were in general agreement with the Facilities Director.

ART. 6. The County Commissioner approved and signed the following:

- A) Attendance record.
- B) Bills and warrants.
- C) Sheriff Shawn Gillen presented Terri Sennet with a special accommodation for her tireless work at the Aroostook County jail, particularly during the pandemic and Terri's unwavering dedication to the County of Aroostook during the most challenging times.

ART. 7. Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented his recommendation for the entryway replacement project at the Sheriff's Office Building to Building Etcetera of Houlton for \$19,952.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the Facilities Directors recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented his recommendations for the Caribou Courthouse and EMA Building Parking Lot project.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the bid of \$123,700 by Northeast Paving utilizing \$24,000 from the UT Capital Reserve; \$12,000 from Contingency; and \$12,000 from the Cupola Reserve to cover the over expended balance in the Parking Lot Reserve.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Mr. Pelletier requested up to \$10,000 from Contingency to cover the cost of the Law Library and HR Assistant Office renovation project.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the County Administrator's request.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Sheriff Shawn Gillen presented the name of Joey Seely for a Deputy Commission renewal.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the Sheriff's recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11. Sheriff Shawn Gillen presented the names of Thor Axe and Tristan Jackman for full time correction officer positions.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Sheriff's recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 12. Mr. Bernier presented an ambulance and fire protection agreement for Cary Township with the Town of Houlton.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 13. Mr. Bernier presented a solid waste agreement for Benedicta and Silver Ridge Townships with the Town of Sherman.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

ART. 14. Mr. Bernier presented a solid waste agreement for Molunkus Township.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 15. Mr. Bernier presented the bids received for the cemetery lawn maintenance for Cary Township and recommended awarding the bid to Heidi's Lawn Care.

MOTION:

Motion made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the Community Services Director's recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 16. Mr. Woods presented Leah Potter for employment as a volunteer paid on call fire fighter with North Lakes Fire Department.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the EMA Director's recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 17. Mr. Bernier presented the various proposed winter road closures and explained the mileage, the maintenance level and any circumstances such as seasonal or year round homes on each road. The Commissioners deliberated each road proposed.

No motion necessary.

ART. 18. Mr. Pelletier explained that he had reached out for a legal opinion from Attorney Marchesi because the subject property has a valuation greater than \$1 Million and is a commercial building.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by Paul Underwood to table a decision until the June 14th meeting after receiving a legal opinion.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 19. County Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fournier presented various issues and information regarding the MCCA Board Meeting and Risk Pool Meetings held earlier this month.

No motion necessary.

ART. 20. Other business

Mr. Pelletier recommended the County Commissioners approve the appointments of Norman Fournier and Clarissa Sabattus as the County representatives on the Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) Board of Directors and the appointment of Martin Dionne as the Unorganized Territory representative on the NMDC Board of Directors.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Paul Adams to approve the County Administrator's recommendation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 21. Executive Session

MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to enter executive session at 2:15 pm pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D).

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

The Board exited Executive Session at 2:36 pm.

ART. 22.

A motion was made by Paul Underwood and seconded by Norman Fournier to adjourn the meeting at 2:37 pm. Motion voted and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator


Paul J. Adams

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: June 14, 2022