

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024 – 1:00 PM
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING ROOM – CARIBOU COURTHOUSE - CARIBOU

Present:

Paul J. Underwood, Chair, County Commissioner
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
William Dobbins, County Commissioner
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator
Tammy Pelletier, Operations Assistant
Dana Gendreau, Finance Director
Derrick Ouellette, Deputy Director EMA
Paul Bernier, Community Services Director
Peter Johnson, Sheriff
Erica Pelletier, Chief Deputy
Bryan Jandreau, IT/Facilities Director
Roger Lichtman, NIC
Karen Albert, NIC
Christopher Bouchard, SJV Times
Residents of Grand Isle – David Arnold, Cynthia Payne
Raylan Lagasse – Selectman, Grand Isle

- ART. 1. Commissioner Paul Underwood called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
- ART. 2. Pledge of Allegiance.
- ART. 3. No public comment.
- ART. 4. **MOTION:**
Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the agenda.
- VOTE:**
Motion voted on and passed.
- ART. 5. Commissioner Underwood entertained a motion for approval of the May 15, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting minutes.
- MOTION:**
Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the meeting minutes of May 15, 2024.
- VOTE:**
Motion voted on and passed.
- ART. 6. The County Commissioners approved and signed the following:
- A) Attendance record.

- B) Bills and warrants.
- C) Liquor license renewal – The Homestead Lodge – Oxbow.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the liquor license renewal for Homestead Lodge – Oxbow.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 7. Mr. Ryan Pelletier introduced NIC representatives Mrs. Karen Albert and Mr. Roger Lichtman to provide an update on their scheduled Jail & Justice System Assessment study. Interviews with stakeholders, touring the jail, and an open Community Forum are planned for the next 3 days. General recommendations will be presented during the Community Forum.

No motion necessary.

- ART. 8. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration an update on LUPC guidance for adult use and medical cannabis businesses in the Unorganized Territories of Aroostook County. Application guidelines and process will be developed for further consideration.

No motion necessary.

- ART. 9. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration a petition pursuant to MRSA 23 Section 3651 for the Grivois Road in Grand Isle. Petitioners Cynthia Payne and David Arnold expressed their concerns. Selectman Raylan Lagasse provided some history and current maintenance challenges. The Commissioners agreed to hold a Public Hearing in Grand Isle on August 7, 2024 at 4:00 pm.

No motion necessary.

- ART. 10. Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented for consideration the hiring recommendation of James Barton as full-time maintenance worker in Houlton.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of James Barton as full-time maintenance worker in Houlton.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 11. Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented for consideration the bid recommendation from A.M. Construction for the replacement of the asphalt shingle roof at the Houlton Superior Court.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the bid recommendation from A.M. Construction for the replacement of the asphalt shingle roof at Houlton Superior Court.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 12. Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented for consideration the bid recommendations for snow removal at the Houlton building complex (Nickerson Construction), and the Caribou Courthouse/EMA (Larry's Construction).

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the bid recommendations for snow removal at the Houlton building complex and the Caribou Courthouse/EMA.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 13. Mr. Derrick Ouellette, on behalf of Mr. Darren Woods, presented for consideration the hiring recommendation of Garth Johnson as North Lakes Firefighter.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the hiring recommendation of Garth Johnson as North Lakes Firefighter.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 14. Sheriff Peter Johnson presented for consideration the hiring recommendations for the following corrections officers:

A) Daniel Bowman – full-time

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Daniel Bowman as full-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

B) Mayse-Meysah Dahlk – full-time

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Mayse-Meysah Dahlk as full-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

C) Lindsay Anderson – full-time

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Lindsay Anderson as full-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Kamden Westerdahl – part-time

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Kamden Westerdahl as part-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

E) Sarah Sirois – part-time

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Sarah Sirois as part-time corrections officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 15. Sheriff Peter Johnson presented for consideration the commission of Chief Joey Seeley as Aroostook County Deputy.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the commission of Chief Joey Seeley.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 16. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the three (3) year contract for snow removal in Connor with the City of Caribou.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the three (3) year contract for snow removal in Connor with the City of Caribou.

VOTE

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 17. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the three (3) year contract for snow removal in Cross Lake with the Town of St. Agatha.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the three (3) year contract for snow removal in Cross Lake with the town of St. Agatha.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 18. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the road paving projects for Wilcox and Oliver roads in Cary Plantation.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the road paving projects for Wilcox and Oliver roads in Cary Plantation.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 19. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the three (3) year contract for snow removal in TDR2 with the town of Bridgewater.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the three (3) year contract for snow removal in TDR2 with the town of Bridgewater.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 20. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the three (3) year fire protection agreement in TCR2 with the town of Monticello.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the three (3) year fire protection agreement in TCR2 with the town of Monticello.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 21. County Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fournier advised that there were some major claims from last month with \$254,000 put in reserves. Liability premiums could increase 10-20% next year. FOAA requests are taking a lot of effort to provide 5 years of settlement agreement information. One county has more than 30 requests.

The Jail Professional Council recommended that Jail MAT funding of \$4 million be allocated based on the applications submitted by the counties. \$100,000 will be left open for counties who did not submit their initial applications for funding.

ART. 22. Other Business

No other business.

ART. 23. At 2:16pm, the following motion was made by William Dobbins, and seconded by Norman Fournier:

"I move that we enter Executive Session pursuant to MRSA 405(6)(a) discussion of the county administrator's goal review and Evaluation for 2023; and to discuss employee retirement and position considerations."

Upon return from Executive Session at 2:53pm, William Dobbins moved to approve the creation of a part-time IT Director position and to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate employment terms.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 24. Adjournment.

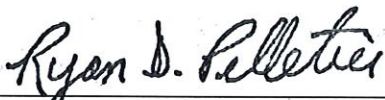
MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier, seconded by William Dobbins to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 pm.

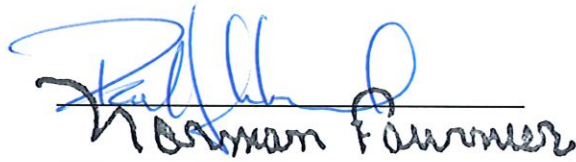
VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D Pelletier
County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DATE: July 17, 2024