

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025 1:00PM
2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – SHERIFF'S OFFICE – HOULTON

Present:

Paul J. Underwood, Chair, County Commissioner - Zoom
William Dobbins, County Commissioner
Daniel Deveau, County Commissioner
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator
Peter Johnson, Sheriff
Erica Pelletier, Chief Deputy
Steve Pelletier, ARPA Administrator - Zoom
Darren Woods, Director EMA
John Gibson, Community Services Director
Leigh Smith, Treasurer
Tammy Pelletier, Operations Assistant
Lt. Brian Harris, Maine State Police
Jeremy Ouellette, Wolfden Mining - Zoom
Tucker LaClair, Enterprise Fleet Management - Zoom

ART. 1. Commissioner William Dobbins called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins and seconded by Paul Underwood to have Commissioner Underwood serve as Chair.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

ART. 3. Commissioner Dobbins opened the floor for a public comment period.

No public comments.

ART. 4.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the agenda of January 7, 2025.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. Commissioner Dobbins entertained a motion for approval of the December 18, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the meeting minutes of December 18, 2024.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

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

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

ART. 7. Lt. Brian Harris, Maine State Police, provided an update regarding support for a rural patrol bill that includes 4 Troopers and 1 Corporal for Aroostook County.

ART. 8. Mr. Tucker LaClair, Enterprise Fleet Management, presented for consideration the outline of how Enterprise would manage County vehicle purchases, maintenance, and sales, along with projected savings over a 10-year period.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to have the County Administrator and Finance Director work with department heads during the budget process to determine next steps.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the selection of WIOA chief local elected official representative.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, and seconded by William Dobbins to the selection of Paul Underwood as WIOA representative.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for discussion the LUPC Commissioner term expiring in March 2025. Interested parties will need to apply and be interviewed before being recommended for the appointment of LUPC Commissioner.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded Paul Underwood to move forward with advertising and interviews for the LUPC Commissioner.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11. Mr. Ryan Pelletier opened a discussion regarding the Jail Study Commission appointments.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded by Paul Underwood to appoint William Dobbins as the Commissioner representative on the Jail Study Commission.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 12. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the Jail Needs Assessment proposal from Justice Planners.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded by Paul Underwood to approve the Jail Needs Assessment proposal from Justice Planners.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 13. Mrs. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration the 2025 mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.70/mile.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 2025 mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.70/mile.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 14. Mr. John Gibson presented for consideration the preliminary 2025-2026 UT Budget estimates for state submission.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the preliminary 2025-2026 UT Budget estimates for state submission.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 15. Mr. John Gibson presented for consideration the 2025 ambulance agreement for services in Madawaska Lake; and the 2025 ambulance and fire agreement for Connor with the City of Caribou.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 2025 agreements for ambulance and fire services with the City of Caribou.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 16. Sheriff Peter Johnson presented for consideration the hiring recommendation of Benjamin Wipperman as full-time patrol deputy.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, and seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the hiring recommendation of Benjamin Wipperman as full-time patrol deputy.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 17. Mr. Darren Woods presented for consideration the bid recommendation for the purchase of an unmanned drone from Adorama for \$19,999.71, fully funded by Homeland Security.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, and seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the bid recommendation to purchase an unmanned drone from Adorama for \$19,999.71.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 18. County Commissioners Report

Commissioner Dobbins noted that the MCCA/Risk Pool meeting was scheduled for the next day. No new items to report.

ART. 19. Other Business

Commissioner Deveau requested that we engage the Tony Pinette/Lisa Whynot to present on Assessing and state valuations.

ART. 22. Adjournment.

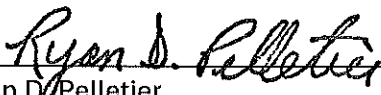
MOTION:

A motion was made by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to adjourn the meeting at 2:28 pm.

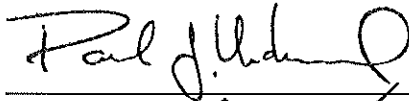
VOTE:


Motion voted on and passed.


ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator







AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: February 19, 2025