

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY, May 21, 2025 1:00PM
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – REGISTRY OF DEEDS – FORT KENT

Present:

Paul J. Underwood, Chair, County Commissioner
William Dobbins, County Commissioner
Daniel Deveau, County Commissioner
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator
Peter Johnson, Sheriff
Erica Pelletier, Chief Deputy
Roy Guidry, Facilities Director
Dana Gendreau, Finance Director, Zoom
Beth Hummel, HR Director – Zoom
Steve Pelletier, ARPA Administrator
Tammy Pelletier, Operations Assistant
Galan Williamson, NWDB - Zoom
Heidi Rackliffe, ACAP - Zoom
Ray Cunrod, Resident of Connor
Robbie Cunrod, Resident of Connor
Rebecca Graham, Maine Municipal Association
Chris Bouchard, Bangor Daily News
Donald Guimond, Chair, Jail Study Commission

ART. 1. Commissioner Paul Underwood called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

ART. 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Ray Cunrod asked if the County would consider maintaining a quarter mile of the Town Line Rd in Connor. The road is currently closed for winter maintenance. He and his son have been plowing using a 1 ton truck to access their home.

Mr. Robbie Cunrod explained that they own 110 acres of land down there that they would like to develop into house lots but it would require the road to remain open year-round.

ART. 4. Mr. Ryan Pelletier requested an addition to Article 25: Other Business to include A) To consider a contingency fund request from EMA.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the agenda as amended.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. Commissioner Underwood entertained a motion for approval of the April 16, 2025 Commissioners' Meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the meeting minutes of April 16, 2025.

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. Mr. Galan Williamson and Ms. Heidi Rackliffe presented an update on the Northeastern Workforce Development Board. The Quest program is ending with no further funding. The program has been very successful for our County. ACAP will be using their opioid settlement grant funding to continue to provide services similar to this program.

No motion necessary.

ART. 8. Mr. Ryan Pelletier and Ms. Rebecca Graham provided an update on LD852 and LD719 which both include increased jail funding from the state. The outcome is uncertain.

No motion necessary.

ART. 9. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the appointments to the NMDC Board for general membership (2) and unorganized territory (1).

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to re-appoint Martin Dionne to the NMDC board representing the UT.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by William Dobbins to appoint Commissioner Dobbins and Commissioner Deveau for general membership.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the creation of a Finance Sub-Committee to review outside agency funding requests.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the creation of a Finance Sub-Committee to include Ryan Bushey, Richard Fortier, and Nelson Jandreau.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 11. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the ratification of the purchase of \$50 gift cards for the Finance Committee.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to ratify the purchase of \$50 gift cards for the Finance Committee.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 12. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration an offer from DOT for the use of County property Houlton as they perform a sidewalk project that needs access.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the offer from DOT for use of property in Houlton during their sidewalk project.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 13. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the request for a letter of support for the CDBG program.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the letter of support for the CDBG program.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 14. Ms. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration the quarterly financial report.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to accept the quarterly financial report.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 15. Ms. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration the 2025-2026 Tax Commitment, due date, and interest rate for the 2025-2026 County taxes.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 2025-2026 Tax Commitment.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the due date of September 1, 2025.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the interest rate of 7.5%.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 16. On behalf of Darren Woods, Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the hiring recommendation of Ervin Levesque, Jacob McDougal, and Austin Dibble as North Lakes Fire & Rescue Firefighters.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Ervin Levesque, Jacob McDougal, and Austin Dibble as North Lakes Fire & Rescue Firefighters.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 17. Mr. Roy Guidry presented for consideration a proposal for HVAC at the Caribou Courthouse.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve HVAC recommendation for the Caribou Courthouse.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 18. Mr. Roy Guidry and Sheriff Peter Johnson presented for consideration a recommendation to upgrade the control panel at the County Jail.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve recommendation to upgrade the control panel at the County Jail and to approve the County Administrator to take whatever action necessary to secure lease payments with Johnson Controls.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 19. Sheriff Peter Johnson presented for consideration the hiring recommendation of Samantha Sakcriska and Hunter Tabbe-Muncey as full-time corrections officers.

MOTION:

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring recommendation of Samantha Sakcriska and Hunter Tabbe-Muncey as full-time corrections officers.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 20. On behalf of John Gibson, Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the three (3) year agreement for Molunkus fire protection with the town of Medway.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the three (3) year agreement for Molunkus fire protection with the town of Medway.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 21. On behalf of John Gibson, Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the one (1) year solid waste agreement for Benedicta/Silver Ridge with the town of Sherman.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the solid waste agreement for Benedicta/Silver Ridge with the town of Sherman.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 22. On behalf of John Gibson, Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the one (1) year dispatch services agreement for Sinclair/Cross Lake with the County of Aroostook.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the dispatch agreement for Sinclair/Cross Lake with the County of Aroostook.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 23. On behalf of Todd Collins, Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the hiring recommendation of Casey Malone as legal assistant in Houlton.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to the hiring recommendation of Casey Malone as legal assistant in Houlton.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 24. County Commissioners Report

Commissioner Dobbins provided an update from the MCCA/Risk Pool. A lot of counties are opting out of Maine Paid Family Medical Leave to save money. Risk Pool is looking to provide training to jail personnel to cut down on claims.

Legislatively, Commissioner Deveau provided an update on the LUPC changes to appointments where the Governor will be able to appoint 2 members and the President/Speaker to appoint 1 member. Jail funding bills are being watched closely. There is some discussion of a people's veto of the budget that could cause government funding to not be available.

ART. 25. Other Business

A) On behalf of Darren Woods, Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration a request to use Contingency funds to cover the cost to replace a broken sink in the EMA office.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the request to use Contingency funds to replace the broken sink.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

B) Mr. Ryan Pelletier asked if the Commissioners would like him to begin researching the Townline Rd in Connor to address public comments during the meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins, seconded by Daniel Deveau to have the County Administrator begin researching the Townline Rd in Connor to address public comments during the meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 26. At 3:19 pm, the following motion was made by William Dobbins, and seconded by Daniel Deveau:

"I move that we enter into the Executive Session, pursuant to Title 1 MRSA 405(6)(A) to discuss the Jail Study Commission applications."

Upon return from executive session no action was taken.

ART. 27. Adjournment.


MOTION:

A motion was made by Daniel Deveau, seconded by William Dobbins to adjourn the meeting at 3:48 pm.

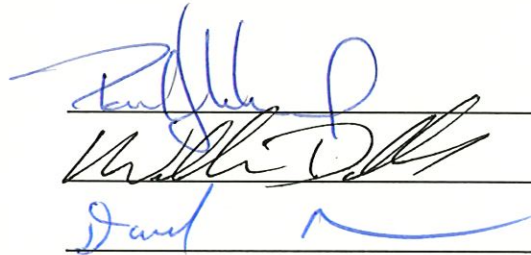
VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: June 18, 2025