

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026 1:00 PM  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – SHERIFFS OFFICE - HOULTON

**Present:**

Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner -Zoom  
William Dobbins, County Commissioner  
Daniel Deveau, County Commissioner  
Dana Gendreau, Interim County Administrator/Finance Director  
Peter Johnson, Sheriff  
Beth Hummel, HR Director  
Roy Guidry, Facilities Director  
Steve Pelletier, ARPA Administrator - Zoom  
Tammy Pelletier, Operations Assistant  
Darren Woods, EMA Director  
John Gibson, Community Services Director  
Galan Williamson, Northeast Workforce Development Board  
Heidi Rackliffe, ACAP  
Kathleen Tomaselli, BDN - Zoom  
Metro Publishing Group – Zoom

ART. 1. Commissioner William Dobbins called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and opened the nomination for the 2026 Chairperson.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Daniel Deveau, seconded by William Dobbins to elect Paul Underwood as 2026 Chairperson.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

ART. 3. Public Comment Period.

No public comment.

ART. 4. Ms. Dana Gendreau requested the following additions to the agenda under Article 13 – Other Business:

- A) To consider the 2026 mileage rate. (Dana)
- B) To consider the ambulance agreement with Ambulance Services, Inc for services in Sinclair/Cross Lake/Square Lake and 3 other townships. (John)
- C) To consider the agreement with the City of Caribou for ambulance/fire services in Connor and ambulance service in Madawaska Lake. (John)

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the agenda as amended.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. Ms. Beth Hummel requested a correction to the December 17, 2025 minutes under Article 21 – Executive Session. A second motion was made after exiting Executive Session to extend an offer to the preferred County Administrator candidate that is

not reflected. Commissioner Dobbins entertained a motion for approval of the December 17, 2025 minutes and the Special Commissioner Meeting minutes from December 23, 2025 and December 29, 2025.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the meeting minutes of December 17, 2025 with the amendment of the Executive Session motion to reopen the County Administrator search, and the minutes of December 23, 2025 and December 29, 2025.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

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

- A) Attendance record.
- B) Bills and warrants.
- C) To consider a letter of support for St. Peter's Store/Cross Lake to be considered for an Agency Liquor Store licensure.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the letter of support for St. Peter's Store/Cross Lake to be considered for an Agency Liquor Store licensure.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Mr. Galan Williamson (NWDB) and Heidi Rackliffe (ACAP) provided an update from the Northeast Workforce Development Board.

No motion necessary.

ART. 8. Ms. Dana Gendreau advised that the WIOA Chief Local Elected Official was appointed in 2025 for a 2-year term and does not need to be reappointed this year.

No motion necessary.

ART. 9. Ms. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration a decision on the Devoe Brook Road, Eagle Lake winter closure appeal.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to deny the appeal of the Devoe Brook Road, Eagle Lake winter road closure.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Ms. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration on Order to Establish a Charter Commission.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the Order to Establish a Charter Commission.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11. Mr. John Gibson presented for consideration the 6-month (Jan 2026-Jun 2026) ambulance contract with the Town of Madawaska for services in Baie Creuse.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 6-month (Jan 2026 – Jun 2026) ambulance contract with the Town of Madawaska for services in Baie Creuse.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 12. County Commissioners Report.

Commissioner Dobbins advised that the MCCA/Risk Pool meetings were not scheduled until next week, so there is no report out today.

Legislatively, Commissioner Deveau advised that the state is looking at the restructuring of tax appeals and will be forming a commission to study the process. Jail funding bills went unfunded. The County is bound by the 4% tax cap for jail funding.

Commissioner Underwood discussed the LUPC and how Aroostook should be a development zone and have an option for our own planning board. Counties could get together and come up with a comprehensive land use plan. MCCA support is needed, as is better communication between the LUPC and the Board of Commissioners.

ART. 13. Other Business.

- A) Ms. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration the 2026 mileage rate to align with the 2026 IRS mileage rate.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 2026 mileage rate of 72.5 cents/mile.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- B) Mr. John Gibson presented for consideration the 1-year (Jan 2026- Dec 2026) contract with Ambulance Services, Inc. for services in Sinclair, Cross Lake, Square Lake and 3 other townships.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 1-year (Jan 2026- Dec 2026) contract with Ambulance Services, Inc. for services in Sinclair, Cross Lake, Square Lake and 3 other townships.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

- C) Mr. John Gibson presented for consideration the 1-year (Jan 2026- Dec 2026) contracts with the City of Caribou for fire/ambulance services in Connor and ambulance services in Madawaska Lake.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to approve the 1-year contracts (Jan 2026- Dec 2026) with the City of Caribou for fire/ambulance services in Connor and ambulance services in Madawaska Lake.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 14. At 2:13 pm, the following motion was made by Daniel Deveau and seconded by Paul Underwood:

"I move that we enter into Executive Session, pursuant to Title 1 MRSA 405(6)(A)."

Upon return from Executive Session at 3:25 pm, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to reopen the County Administrator position.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 15. Adjournment.

**MOTION:**

A motion was made by Paul Underwood, seconded by Daniel Deveau to adjourn the meeting at 3:26 pm.

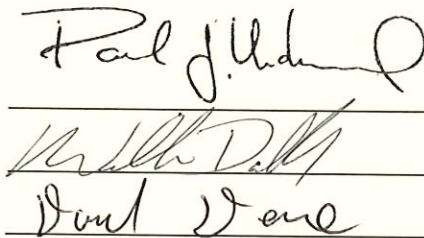
**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy  
of Commissioners' Meeting



Dana L. Gendreau  
Interim County Administrator



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DATE: February 18, 2026