

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MARCH 12, 2026 – ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING ROOM – CARIBOU COURTHOUSE

PRESENT

Sue Powers, Chair, Finance Committee - Zoom
Richard Fortier, Secretary, Finance Committee
Nelson Jandreau, Finance Committee - Zoom
Kai Libby, Finance Committee – Zoom
Michael Greenlaw, Finance Committee
Paul J. Underwood, Chair, County Commissioner - Zoom
Daniel Deveau, County Commissioner
Dana Gendreau, Interim County Administrator/Finance Director
Leigh Smith, Treasurer - Zoom
Tammy Pelletier, Operations Assistant

ART. 1. The meeting was called to order by Finance Committee Chair Sue Powers at 9:06 AM.

ART. 2. Motion by Nelson Jandreau and seconded by Richard Fortier to approve the Public Hearing minutes of May 14, 2025. So voted.

ART. 3. Motion by Nelson Jandreau and seconded by Michael Greenlaw to elect Sue Powers as Chair, Ryan Bushey as Vice Chair, and Richard Fortier as Secretary. So voted.

Chair Powers reviewed the current Finance Committee seats that have expiring terms in December 2026. 5 seats will be up for election; District 1 Area 1 (Kai Libby), District 2 Area 4 (Sue Powers), District 2 Area 5 (Donald Savage), District 2 Area 6 (Richard Fortier), District 3 Area 8 (Nelson Jandreau). Nomination papers will be sent to all members with expiring terms. These must be submitted to the Secretary of State by June 1st.

ART. 4. Motion by Richard Fortier and seconded by Nelson Jandreau to adopt the rules, procedure, and by-laws as written. So voted.

ART. 5. Interim County Administrator Dana Gendreau presented a financial overview of FY25 for the County, UT, and Jail funds. Budgets are all on track for the current FY26. Jail funding continues to be an issue due to flat funding from the state when all costs to run a jail have increased. Several bills are in the legislature that could change the funding amounts and formulas used by the state to distribute funding to County jails. As with most Counties, Aroostook is behind in our audits. Jail is current to June 2024; General Fund is current to December 2021 with 2022-2024 in process; UT is current to 2021 with 2022-2024 in process. The number of single audits has increased due to the amount of Federal funding being received and increases the workload on the County and the auditors.

- ART. 6. Interim County Administrator Dana Gendreau presented a preliminary overview of the budget requests for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027. Items of significance include General Fund increases for law enforcement staffing & operations; benefits; communications/safety, and fleet management. UT budget has already been sent to the state in January due to their filing requirements. The budget included significant increases for ambulance and fire contracts.
- ART. 7. Sue Powers reviewed the upcoming meeting dates for budget work sessions and the Public Hearing. Finance Committee members are encouraged to attend the work sessions on April 7 and April 9; and are required to attend the work session on April 28 and the Public Hearing on May 12.
- ART. 8. Ms. Dana Gendreau presented an update regarding outside agency requests. One meeting of the subcommittee was held in August 2025. The committee determined which agencies the County was statutorily required to fund and which agencies were regional versus County-wide. No further action was taken by the subcommittee. Several outside agencies, along with the Aroostook Town Managers Association, have requested that some requests for funding go to the County, versus to the individual towns. Ms. Gendreau will be scheduling a time for those agencies to meet with the Commissioners to discuss further.
- ART. 9. Other Business:
Commissioner Deveau commented that we must educate the public on what the County is doing with regard to the budget and how funds are allocated and spent.
- ART. 10. Motion by Nelson Jandreau and seconded by Richard Fortier to adjourn at 10:07 AM. So voted.



Richard Fortier, Secretary Finance Committee