

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2023
1:00 PM ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING ROOM – CARIBOU COURTHOUSE

PRESENT

Paul J. Underwood, Chair, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
William T. Dobbins, County Commissioner-Zoom
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator
Bryan Jandreau, Facilities & IT Director
Dana Jandreau, Finance Director
Joey Seeley, Deputy Sheriff
Peter Johnson, Sheriff
Todd Collins, District Attorney
Paul Bernier, Community Services Director
Steve Pelletier, ARPA Program Administrator
Galan Williamson, Executive Director – NEWDB
Kathy Williams, ACAP
Melissa Lizotte, Reporter-BDN
Stephen Wagner, Attorney - Rudman Winchell-Zoom
Richard Currier, Attorney -Currier & Trask-Zoom

ART. 1. Chair Paul J. Underwood called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

ART. 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

ART. 3. No public comments.

ART. 4. Mr. Ryan Pelletier requested that Article 5 include the approval of the minutes for the Road Closure Appeal Hearing held on September 8, 2023 and that 2 items be added under Other Business; 1) To consider a request to rollover UT account balances; 2) To consider the snow removal contract for Connor Township with the Town of New Sweden.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the agenda as amended.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. A) Chair Paul J. Underwood entertained a motion for approval of the August 16, 2023 County Commissioners' meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023 County Commissioners' meeting.

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, Executive Director of Northeast Workforce Development Board presented an update on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

ART. 8. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for discussion items of record regarding the Road Closure Appeal hearing in the matter of Wynes v. Town of Hodgdon.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to deny the appeal in the matter of Wynes v. Town of Hodgdon.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the nomination of a County representative to serve on the ACAP board.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins and seconded by Norman Fournier to nominate Sheriff Peter Johnson to serve on the ACAP Board.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 10. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the Sinclair Sanitary District warrant to nominate and elect two (2) trustees for a term of three (3) years and one (1) for a term of one (1) year.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the Sinclair Sanitary District warrant.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11. Mr. Ryan Pelletier presented for consideration the recommendation to complete a compensation and benefit study.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the recommendation for a compensation and benefit study, with the expense not to exceed \$7,500.

VOTE:

ART. 12. Motion voted on and passed.
Mrs. Dana Gendreau presented for consideration a recommendation to use the General Fund to cover the Jail Fund deficit balance of \$147,706 for FYE 6/30/2023.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the use of the General Fund to cover the Jail Fund deficit of \$147,706.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 13. A) Mr. Bryan Jandreau presented for consideration the hiring of Shawn Howe as full-time Maintenance worker in Houlton.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the hiring of Shawn Howe as full-time Maintenance worker in Houlton.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

B) Mr. Todd Collins presented for consideration the hiring of John Verno as full-time Victim Witness Advocate.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring of John Verno as full-time Victim Witness Advocate.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

C) Mr. Peter Johnson presented for consideration the hiring of Benjamin Wipperman as full-time Corrections Officer. Mr. Wipperman was previously approved as part-time.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the hiring of Benjamin Wipperman as full-time Corrections Officer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Mr. Peter Johnson presented for consideration the hiring of Kenneth Spittle as full-time Dispatch Supervisor.

MOTION:

Motion by William Dobbins and seconded by Norman Fournier to approve the hiring of Kenneth Spittle as full-time Dispatch Supervisor.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 14. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the three (3) year fire protection contract with the Town of Mars Hill for coverage of E Plantation.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the three (3) year contract with the Town of Mars Hill for E Plantation fire protection.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 15. Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration the three (3) year fire protection contract with the Town of Oakfield for coverage of T7R3, R4, R5.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the three (3) year contract with the Town of Oakfield for T7R3, R4, R5 fire protection.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- ART. 16. County Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fournier presented an update on the MCCA/Risk Pool. Convention was held at Poland Springs Sept 12-13.

- ART. 17. Other Business

Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration a request to rollover balances from 2 accounts into their respective Capital accounts: 1) \$1975 from 230907-31120 to 2-3411; 2) \$3958 from 230152-30302 to 2-3401.

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and seconded by William Dobbins to approve the rollover of funds as noted.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

Mr. Paul Bernier presented for consideration an increase for the 2nd and 3rd years of the three (3) year snow removal contract for Connor Township with the Town of New Sweden previously approved in July 2022 with annual reviews. Rate increase of 5% for Year 2 and 3% for Year 3.

MOTION:

A motion was made by William Dobbins and Norman Fournier to approve the proposed rate increases of 5% for FY 24 and 3% for FY 25.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

ART. 18. Adjournment.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Norman Fournier and William Dobbins to adjourn the meeting at 2:15pm.

VOTE:

Motion voted and passed.

ATTEST: A True Copy

of Commissioners' Meeting



Ryan D. Pelletier
County Administrator



Norman Fournier



AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: October 18, 2023