

**MINUTES**

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING –WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010– 5:30 P.M. –  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS OFFICE – FORT KENT**

**PRESENT**

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners  
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner  
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner  
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator  
Jim Madore, Sheriff  
Paul J. Bernier, Public Works Director

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ART. 2. Approval of Agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams informed the County Commissioners that one (1) item would be added to Article 4-C) -Resolution to Designate the County of Aroostook as a Recovery Zone Pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the agenda as amended.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 3 Approval of minutes of [the](#) January 5, 2010 ~~Organizational~~ County Commissioners' [Organizational](#) Meeting.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2010 County Commissioners' Organizational Meeting.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 4. The Commissioners approved and signed the following.

A) Attendance Record.

B) Bills and Warrants.

C) Resolution to Designate the County of Aroostook as a Recovery Zone Pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Resolution Designating the County of Aroostook as a Recovery Zone Pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. Discussion concerning FY 11 Correctional Services Budget.

The County Administrator reviewed the various memoranda and e-mail correspondence from the Board of Corrections (BOC) and the Corrections' ~~at~~ Working Group (CWG) with the County Commissioners. He highlighted, in particular, restrictive guidelines that related to staffing.

He also reviewed the FY 11 Correctional Services budget, with particular attention to the proposed adjustments made by the ~~CWG Corrections Working Group~~ and the Budget Process Group (~~BPG~~).

Unbeknownst to the County Administrator and others, the ~~CWG Corrections Working Group~~ decided to remove step increases and cost-of-living adjustments to our budget ~~and other jail budgets~~. This will create an undue hardship on collective bargaining efforts and present health and safety ~~concerns~~ ~~issues~~ ~~for~~ staff and inmates, in the opinion of the County Administrator.

The next step ~~in~~ the process is for the BOC to present a tentative budget to the Joint Standing Committees on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and ~~the~~ Appropriations and Financial Affairs within the next week or so.

The State of Maine is not living up to its requirement to fund county and regional jails under the PL 2007, Chapter 653.

ART. 6. County Administrator's Report:

A) Maine Association of County Clerks, Administrators and Managers (MACCAM).

The County Administrator reviewed the draft ~~s~~ minutes of a recent MACCAM Meeting in Penobscot County.

B) WIA Program Update.

The CLEOs have designated Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) to be the new grant sub-recipient for the WIA Program effective February 15, 2010. The LWIB supported the CLEO's action on January 15, 2010 by a majority vote. The County Administrator is working ~~with~~ the Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Services, and NMDC to effect this transition in a timely matter. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

C) Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust (MMEHT) ~~Health Trust~~ Claims' Experience ~~Report~~.

The County Administrator reviewed the claims experience report with the County Commissioners, indicating that the loss ratio is at 132%.

D) Maine Pretrial December 2009 Report.

The County Administrator reviewed the December 2009 Maine Pretrial Report.

E) Other Items of Interest.

1) Maine County Commissioners' Association (MCCA) Meeting.

The 2010 MCCA dues will be \$7, 999.00. Commissioner Underwood provided a brief update of the annual meeting and recommended that the County name alternate representatives to the MCCA Board of Directors and Risk Pool, in the event that he is unable to attend a meeting or meetings.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to appoint Norman L. Fournier and Paul J. ~~Adams Underwood~~ as alternate members to the MCCA Board of Directors and Risk Pool.

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

2) Squapan Update.

Paul Bernier, Public Works Director, provided an update on the requirements of LD 797 – “An Act to Fully Implement the Legislative Intent in Prohibiting Offensive Place Names.”. A committee meeting of local, interested parties will be scheduled in the immediate future to ensure ~~that we are~~ compliance with the new legislation.

ART. 7. Other Business.

There was no other business to discuss.

ART. 8. Executive Session ~~to discuss a Personnel Issue~~.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to go into executive session.

**MOTION:**

The following motion was made by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier ~~and seconded by Paul J. Underwood~~:

“I move that we go into executive session pursuant to Title 1, MRSA, §405, sub-section 6, paragraphs (A) and (E) to discuss personnel issues and attorney/client consultations, respectively.”

**VOTE:**

Motion voted on and passed.

Upon returning to open session, the following motion was made:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. ~~LF~~ Fournier to approve a one (1) month paid leave of absence for the Deputy Register in the Registry of Deeds, South.

ART 9. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy  
of Commissioners' Meeting

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Douglas F. Beaulieu  
County Administrator

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AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DATE: January 20, 2010