

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2009 – 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
Bryan Jandreau, Facilities Manager

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

ART. 2. Approval of agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 3. Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

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

A) Attendance Record.

B) Bills and Warrants.

ART. 5. Resolution in Support of LD 305 "An Act To Renovate The Boat Launch on Long Lake in St. Agatha".

The County Administrator recommended that the County Commissioners approve this Resolution.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Resolution in support of LD 305.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Approval of temporary, part-time custodian for Houlton Building Complex.

The County Administrator reviewed a proposal to hire a temporary, part-time custodian for the Houlton Building Complex. He reviewed a spreadsheet highlighting salary savings available to fund this position for thirty-five (35) weeks in 2009. He also reviewed the justification for the request, essentially indicating that because of increased demands and a history of understaffing, approval of this request is necessary.

The County Commissioners and staff engaged in a fairly lengthy exchange of dialog and questions. While there was some initial reluctance voiced by the County Commissioners to approve this request, the County Administrator persevered and continued to maintain the necessity of this position. The County Administrator also stated that the continuation of this position beyond fiscal year 2010 would be subject to approval during the 2010 budget process.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the hiring of a temporary, part-time custodian for the Houlton Building Complex.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. County Administrator's Report:

A) PSAP/Dispatch for Aroostook County.

Because of a new fee structure for PSAP/Dispatch for entities that contract with the Department of Public Safety, the County is getting a fair number of requests to have our Sheriff's Department dispatch for various communities. The County Administrator discussed how the County intends to proceed with these requests. The Sheriff discussed the various communities that have contacted his office to date. It will be essential for the County to make sure that any marginal costs associated with new dispatch contracts be reflected in a new rate structure (for new entities that contract in 2009 only). The rate structure for existing contracts will be honored through the remainder of their contract period.

B) Houlton Courthouse Renovation project update.

The County Administrator and Facilities Manager provided an update of the Houlton Courthouse Renovation project. The court system is still planning to move into their new space in April 2009.

C) Heating fuel usage update.

Fuel usage for the various County buildings for 2009 was discussed. Fuel costs are down drastically over 2008.

D) Vehicle bid results.

This item will be discussed at the next County Commissioners' Meeting.

E) Other items of interest.

There were no other items to discuss.

ART. 8. Other Business.

Commissioner Fournier, with the consensus of the other two (2) commissioners, asked the County Administrator to respond to a constituent inquiry on behalf of the Board.

ART. 9. Executive session.

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

MOTION:

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

"I move that we go into executive session pursuant to Title 1, MRSA, §405, sub-section 6, paragraph (D) to discuss collective bargaining negotiations."

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

ART. 10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting

Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: March 4, 2009