

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2009 – 5:30 P.M. –
HOULTON DISTRICT COURT BUILDING – CONFERENCE ROOM**

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 Bernier, Economic Development Director, Frenchville/St. Agatha

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

ART. 2. Approval of agenda.

County Administrator Douglas F. Beaulieu informed the County Commissioners that one (1) item would be added to Article 10, Other Business – Approval of temporary, part-time Custodian for the Houlton Complex.

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. Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2009 County Commissioners' Special Meeting and the May 6, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2009 County Commissioners' Special Meeting and the May 6, 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.

The bills and warrants were not available to be signed.

- C) Corrections/Dispatch/Cooks Union Bargaining Unit Contract.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Corrections/Dispatch/Cooks Bargaining Union Contract with Teamsters Local #340.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. Bids:

A) Snow Removal for Houlton Complex and Caribou Courthouse.

Bids were received from the following vendors for the Houlton Complex:

	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Nickerson Construction Houlton	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,500.00
Steelstone Construction Houlton	\$6,450.00	\$6,450.00	\$6,450.00

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to table the bids pending review by the County Administrator, with authorization to award the bid to the apparent low bidder who adheres to the specifications.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

Bids were received from the following vendors for the Caribou Courthouse:

Larry’s Construction Caribou	\$7,600.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,400.00
Soderberg Construction Caribou	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,800.00

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to table the bids pending review by the County Administrator, with authorization to award the bid to the apparent low bidder who adheres to the specifications.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Contract:

- A) Three (3) year (7/1/09 – 6/30/12) Fire Protection Contract with the Town of Madawaska for T17R4 (Baie Creuse).

The County Administrator explained that this contract represented an annual increase of 3% per year and recommended that the County Commissioners approve the three (3) year Fire Protection Contract with the Town of Madawaska for T17R4 (Baie Creuse) in the amounts of \$1,109.31, \$1,142.58 and 1,176.85, annually.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the three (3) year Fire Protection Contract with the Town of Madawaska for T17R4 (Baie Creuse) in the amounts of \$1,109.31, \$1,142.58 and 1,176.85, annually, and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the contract.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Commissioning of one (1) part-time Deputy Sheriff.

Sheriff Madore recommended that the County Commissioners approve the hiring of Craig Walter Holder of Mapleton as part-time Deputy Sheriff.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the hiring of Craig Walter Holder of Mapleton as part-time Deputy Sheriff.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Approval of Public Works Director.

The County Administrator reviewed an e-mail that he sent to the County Commissioners on May 14th, regarding his recommendation to hire Paul Bernier of Frenchville for the Public Works Director position. He further indicated that he thought Paul would be the best overall fit for our organization and that he will perform the job duties in a competent and efficient manner.

Mr. Bernier was present to offer a few comments and entertain any questions concerning his candidacy for the position; he mentioned that he is very excited about joining Aroostook County Government. His start date is June 8th.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the hiring of Paul Bernier of Frenchville as the Public Works Director for the Unorganized Territory.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

The County Commissioners, Sheriff and County Administrator welcomed Mr. Bernier to Aroostook County Government.

ART. 9. County Administrator's report:

A) Grant for 2009 Fire Truck.

Darren Woods, Public Safety Coordinator, has applied for a Federal Grant to purchase 2009 Fire Truck for the North Lakes Fire and Rescue. If the grant is approved, the total cost of the fire truck would be \$260,000.00. The Federal share would be \$247,000.00, leaving only \$13,000.00 for the County's share.

B) Other Items of Interest.

State Budget.

The County Administrator indicated that \$3.5 million for the County jails has been included in the Biennial Budget for FY 2010. It is unclear what kind of funding the County can expect for the FY 2011. The County Administrator will follow-up with Bob Howe, Maine County Commissioners' Association Executive Director, to see how funding for the year FY 2011 will be handled by Legislature. (Subsequent to the meeting, it was confirmed by Mr. Howe that the FY 2011 funding will have to be included in a Supplemental Appropriation).

The County Commissioners, Sheriff and County Administrator embarked on a discussion about jail finances, boarding of prisoners and daily population of inmates at our County facility. All of these factors will present a challenge to us and the Board of Corrections in the future.

ART. 10. Other Business.

A) Approval of temporary, part-time Custodian for Houlton Complex.

The County Administrator, on behalf of Bryan Jandreau, Facilities Manager, recommended the approval of Scott Turner, of Linneus as temporary, part-time Custodian for the Houlton Complex.

He further advised that he was asking for approval to make this appointment through the end of the County's calendar year; continuation of this position beyond that date will be subject to our budgetary process.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the hiring of Scott Turner of Linneus as temporary, part-time Custodian for the Houlton Complex.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

The County Commissioners approved, by consensus, to change the June 3, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting to Monday, June 1, 2009.

ART. 11. Executive session.

There were no items to discuss in executive session.

ART. 12. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m. with a tour of the District Court Building, specifically the newly acquired space for the Sheriff's Office.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting

Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: May 20, 2009