

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING –WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 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
Paul 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 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 Approval of minutes of August 19, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the August 19, 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.

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

C) Liquor License Renewal for Long Lake Sporting Club.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Liquor License Renewal for Long Lake Sporting Club.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Warrant and Notice of Election.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve and sign the Warrant and Notice of Election for the November 3, 2009 General Election for T16R4.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. County Administrator's Report:

A) Employee Recognition Picnic.

The County Administrator indicated that 55-60 people participated in the Employee Recognition Picnic on August 21st at the Nordic Heritage Center. He looks forward to next year's event.

B) Unaudited Fund Balance for Unorganized Territory (7/1/09).

The Undesignated Fund Balance as of July 1, 2009 is \$85,733.01. We have, again, finished the year-end with a surplus.

C) Posthumous Certificate of Appreciation for Alice McQuarrie.

The County Administrator recognized Alice McQuarrie for her forty-eight (48) years of service to the County of Aroostook. Alice passed away July 31, 2009. The certificate will be signed by the County Commissioners and County Administrator and presented to Alice's daughter, Mary.

D) Other Items of Interest.

1) Approval to award Housing Assessment Study for Sinclair (T17R4) Township.

Both the County Administrator and Public Works Director recommended that the Housing Assessment Study for Sinclair be awarded to Leo L. Trudel. Mr. Trudel has a wealth of experience in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) process and is very familiar with Housing Assessments and Rehabilitation projects.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to award the Housing Assessment Study for Sinclair to Leo L. Trudel of Fort Kent Mills.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- 2) Certificate of Appreciation for Norman Fournier.

Chair Paul J. Adams presented a certificate to Norman Fournier for his twenty (20) years of dedicated service to the County of Aroostook.

- 3) Aroostook Municipal Association (AMA) Meeting regarding TABOR II and Excise Tax Referenda.

The County Administrator and Public Works Director attended a presentation hosted by the Aroostook Municipal Association (AMA) on September 1st regarding TABOR II and Excise Tax. This topic was presented by Geoff Herman, Maine Municipal Association Representative. The County Administrator gave a brief overview of these ballot initiatives. The referenda will be on the November 3rd ballot.

- 4) Unorganized Territory (UT) Mil Rate.

According to Bob Doiron of the Property Tax Division at Maine Revenue Services, the Aroostook County Mil Rate for the Unorganized Territory (UT) increased from .006041 in 2008 to .008075 in 2009. The increase was totally budget driven and mainly because of an increase in the Department of Education Budget.

- 5) Letter of Support for Caribou Connector.

The County Administrator indicated that Steven Buck, Caribou City Manager, requested that the County Commissioners support the Caribou Connector Project. The County Administrator prepared a draft letter for the County Commissioners' review and approval.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to authorize the County Administrator to send a letter of support to David A. Cole, Commissioner, Maine Department of Transportation, supporting the Caribou Connector Project.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- 6) Maine County Commissioners' Association (MCCA) Convention.

The County Administrator reminded the County Commissioners that they should contact Diane Gove if they are planning on attending the upcoming Maine County Commissioners' Association (MCCA) Convention in Northport.

- 7) Department of Energy (DOE) Application.

The County Administrator was pleased to report that a grant application for energy efficiency enhancements to our facilities was submitted today by Bryan Jandreau and David Wylie, Grant Writer. The application is in excess of \$265,000.00. The County Administrator thanked Bryan Jandreau for a "bang-up job" on this project.

ART. 6. Other Business.

There were no other items to discuss.

ART. 7. 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 by Paul J. Underwood:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

ART 8. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting

Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: September 2, 2009