

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING –WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2009 - 5:30 P.M. –
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING ROOM – CARIBOU COURTHOUSE**

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator
Wilfred J. Bell, Treasurer
Vern Ouellette, EMA Director
Paul Bernier, Public Works Director

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

ART. 2. Approval of agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams advised that two (2) items would be added to the agenda: 1) Article 4 – Other Items for Approval and Signatures - C) Warrant for Sinclair Sanitary District Election. 2) Article 8 – Other Business – Approval of temporary, part-time position to update the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 3. Approval of minutes of the September 2, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2009 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Adams to approve the minutes of the September 2, 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.

C) Warrant for Sinclair Sanitary District Election.

ART. 5. Bids:

A) Gasoline.

Bids were received from the following vendors:

Daigle Oil Company
Fort Kent

R.H. Foster Energy
Hampden

Irving Oil Company
Oakland

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.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Request to create full-time Victim Witness Advocate position.

The County Administrator, on behalf of Neale Adams (who was ill), recommended that the County Commissioners approve the request to convert a part-time Victim Witness Advocate position to a full-time position, contingent on Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding for a three (3) year period. The County has been advised that we are eligible to receive \$13,200.00 per year for three (3) years to offset the salary and benefits for this position. Approval of this request would not require the additional appropriation of funds for the remainder of this year or the next year (FY10) from our County Budget.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the request to create a full-time Witness Victim Advocate position contingent on VOCA funding for the next three (3) years.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. County Administrator's Report:

A) Budget meetings.

The County Administrator advised that he had conducted preliminary budget meetings with the department heads and reminded the County Commissioners of the Finance Committee Organizational Meeting next Tuesday, September 22nd at 11:00 a.m.

The County Administrator also provided copies of preliminary budget estimates for the FY10 County Budget and FY 10-11 Unorganized Territory Budget for their review.

B) Maine Pretrial August report.

The County Administrator reviewed the August Maine Pretrial Report with the County Commissioners.

C) Passing of former County Commissioner Keith Lambert.

The County Administrator advised that Keith Lambert, who had been a County Commissioner from 1980 to 1988, passed away recently. The County sent its condolences to the family and made an equal contribution to the two (2) organizations that were referenced in the obituary.

D) Other Items of Interest.

1) Safe Driving Award.

The County Administrator advised that Aroostook County was awarded a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 from the Maine County Commissioners' Association (MCCA) Risk Pool for safe driving.

2) Maine County Commissioners' Association (MCCA) Convention.

Commissioner Paul J. Underwood attended the most recent Maine County Commissioners' Association (MCCA) Convention in Waldo County and indicated that MCCA members voted to amend the by-laws to include eight (8) new voting members to the Executive Board. This will increase the membership from 16 to 24. Commissioner Underwood also indicated that it is likely that the Executive Board will change the formula for the calculation of MCCA dues at the January 10, 2010 meeting. This may result in an increase in our annual membership dues.

3) Deputy Register of Probate resignation.

The County Administrator indicated the Karen Butler, Deputy Register of Probate, tendered her resignation today. Mrs. Butler is a competent and dedicated County employee and will be difficult to replace.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to accept the resignation of Karen Butler as Deputy Register of Probate with great regret and with many thanks for her years of dedication and commitment to the County of Aroostook.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Other business.

A) Approval of temporary, part-time position to update the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The County Administrator recommended the approval of a temporary, part-time position to update the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. This position will be funded through the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and it will not require an injection of County funds.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the request for a temporary, part-time position to update the County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. 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, §403, sub-section 6, paragraphs (A) and (D) to discuss personnel issues and contract negotiations, respectively.”

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

ART. 10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners’ Meeting

Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: September 16, 2009