

MINUTES

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016 - 4:30 P.M. - SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUILDING - CONFERENCE ROOM (SECOND FLOOR) - HOULTON

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chairperson, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner (participated by teleconference)
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator
Darrell Crandall, Sheriff
Ross McQuade, Captain
Kris Miller, Training Sergeant
Arthur Thorne, Dispatcher
Erica Cheevers-Pelletier, Sergeant
Kenneth Spittle, Dispatcher
Joshua Holcombe, Corrections Officer

ART. 1. Chairperson Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

ART. 2. Public Comment Period.

There was no public comment.

ART. 3. Approval of agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams advised that two (2) items would be added to the agenda: Article 5. C) State of Maine v. Kenneth Adams' Criminal Forfeiture and Article 9. C) Sheriff's Exceptional Service Award.

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. 4. Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2016 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2016 County Commissioners' Meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 5. The Commissioners approved and signed the following:

- A) Attendance Record.
- B) Bills and Warrants.
- C) State of Maine v. Kenneth Adams' Criminal Forfeiture.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the Criminal Forfeiture pursuant to 15 M.R.S. §§5824(2) & 5826(8)(A) to transfer \$2,256.00 in U.S. Currency, which is a portion of \$4,512.00, in U.S. Currency and property owned by and seized from Kenneth Adams and to authorize the Chair to sign the Approval of Transfer.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Approval of deputy sheriff commission for MDEA assignment.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall recommended that the County Commissioners approve a deputy sheriff commission for William Campbell of Presque Isle for MDEA assignment.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve a deputy sheriff commission for William Campbell of Presque Isle for MDEA assignment.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Review of Undesignated Fund Balance for General Fund.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu reviewed the General Fund undesignated and unaudited fund balance worksheet with the County Commissioners. The fund balance has diminished from 2015 to 2016, from \$1,037,886.09 to \$744,834.68. This is primarily due to income which is approximately \$73,000.00 short of budget projections and other adjustments. After adjustments were made to clean up balance sheet account changes that were incorporated into the new 2016 budget, funding of liability accounts and capital accounts, essential carry overs, and a surplus adjustment of \$123,092.00, the fund balance to start 2016 is \$744,834.68.

ART. 8. Approval of 2016 County Tax, due date and interest on delinquent taxes.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu reviewed a series of tax calculation documents with the County Commissioners. These documents are integral in the calculation of the County Tax. Given the County's austere financial situation and fund balance situation, he reinforced the need to take as close to 2% of the overlay as possible, which was computed in the financial tax calculation recommended by staff. Mr. Beaulieu further explained the calculation of the tax by reviewing the worksheets supporting his recommendation. He advised that the State Tax Assessor erroneously included Bancroft in his 2016 State Valuation. Although this error was brought to the State's attention, they are not going to issue a correction, so the adjustment has been made in the recommended tax commitment by County staff. After discussion and dialogue with the County Commissioners, the County Administrator recommended approval of the County Tax, with a due date of September 1, 2016 and an interest rate of 7% on delinquent taxes.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the 2016 County Tax, with a due date of September 1, 2016 and an interest rate of 7% on delinquent taxes.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. County Administrator's Report:

A) North Lakes Fire and Rescue Grants.

County Administrator Doug Beaulieu reviewed all three (3) grants with the County Commissioners as outlined below:

- Fire truck pumper - total grant \$400,00.00 (Federal share - \$380,953.00; County share - \$19,047.00);
- Firefighter equipment - total grant \$34,228.00 (Federal share - \$32,599.00; County share - \$1,629.00);
- Cold water rescue equipment - Stephen King Foundation Grant - \$12,225.00.

B) Other items of interest.

Commissioner Paul J. Underwood advised that he attended a Northern Maine Regional Airport Meeting recently and that the airport ended its fiscal year in the "black". He also reported that the airport had received a total of three (3) bids for Essential Air Service and that a vendor would be selected soon.

C) Sheriff Darrell Crandall indicated he was implementing a new Exceptional Service Award Program and that the first two (2) recipients had been selected. Under the Law Enforcement Division, Dispatcher Kenneth Spittle was selected for putting his technology acumen to use in implementing computer upgrades, thus saving the County an estimated \$3,000.00 in a fiscal year. Within the Corrections' Division, Corrections' Officer Joshua Holcombe was selected for his strength of character and for his actions which improve overall safety and security of the jail facility. These gentlemen, through their service, which is above and beyond the call of duty, improve the overall image of the Sheriff's Office.

ART. 10. Other business.

None.

ART. 11. Executive Session.

None

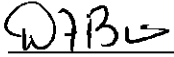
ART. 12. Adjournment.

MOTION:

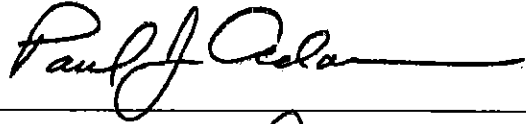
Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Adams to adjourn the meeting.

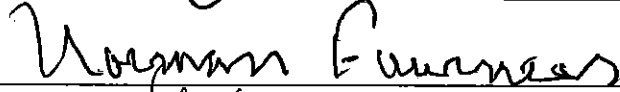
Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator







AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: February 17, 2016