

MINUTES

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – MARCH 16, 2017 – 1:00 P.M. –
CARIBOU COURTHOUSE -ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING ROOM - CARIBOU**

PRESENT

Paul J. Adams, Chair, County Commissioners
Norman L. Fournier, County Commissioner
Paul J. Underwood, County Commissioner
Douglas F. Beaulieu, County Administrator
Paul Bernier, Public Works Director
Christina Theriault, Human Resources Manager
Darrell Crandall, Sheriff
Shawn Gillen, Chief Deputy
Shanna Morrison, Corrections Officer
Sherrill Campbell, Administrative Assistant
Paul Camping, Caribou Secession Committee
Maynard St. Peter, Caribou Secession Committee

ART. 1. Chair Paul J. Adams called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

ART. 2. Public Comment Period.

Paul Camping and Maynard St. Peter of the Caribou Secession Committee presented an update on the Committee's progress. They requested a letter of support from the County Commissioners on legislation that was submitted on their behalf by Senator Troy Jackson. The public hearing on LD 830 will be held on March 27, 2017. The County Commissioners agreed to submit a letter stating that the Committee has informed the County of its progress to date and its intention to secede from the City of Caribou.

ART. 3. Approval of Agenda.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the agenda. One item was added to Art. 9, Sheriff's Appointment, B) Washburn/Easton Discussion.

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. Minutes.

Chairperson Paul J. Adams entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2017 County Commissioners' Meeting.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2017 County Commissioners' Meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

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

- A) Attendance Record.
- B) Bills and Warrants.
- C) Tax Anticipation Note.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Tax Anticipation Note as prepared by legal counsel (Attachment 1).

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 6. Approval 2017 County tax, due date and interest on delinquent taxes.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the 2017 County Tax, with a due date of September 1, 2017 and an interest rate of 7% on delinquent taxes.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 7. Bell/Clock Tower and Dome Project bid opening.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to table this agenda item until the May 17, 2017 County Commissioners' Meeting.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 8. Sheriff's small claims actions.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall requested a letter authorizing him to be the agent for collection of unpaid civil process and medical expenses for inmates pursuant to Title 30(A) §1551.2.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve a letter authorizing Sheriff Crandall or his designee to be the collection agent in small claims court for unpaid civil process and also to recover inmate medical expenses pursuant to Title 30(A), M.R.S., §1561.2.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 9. Sheriff's Appointment.

A) Approval of Support Sergeant for Jail.

Sheriff Darrell Crandall presented Shanna Morrison for approval for the position of Support Sergeant for the Jail. The Jail's new therapy dog, Libby, was presented to the County Commissioners as well.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the recommendation of Sheriff Crandall for Shanna Morrison to be appointed to the position of Support Sergeant for the Jail.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

B) Washburn/Easton Discussion.

Sheriff Crandall stated that the Town Manager for Washburn reached out to him to ask about options and cost estimates for police coverage from the County of Aroostook Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Crandall stated that to clarify reports in several local newspapers the County of Aroostook does not have a policing contract with the Town of Easton. He clarified that the County has a dispatch contract with Easton for fire protection.

ART. 10. Contracts:

A) Ambulance Services for Scopan and 49 other Townships.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to accept the recommendation of Paul Bernier, Public Works Director, to approve a contract for Ambulance Services with the Town of Ashland for Scopan and 49 other Townships.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

- B) Solid Waste Agreement with the City of Presque Isle for Scopan Township (T11R4).

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to accept the recommendation of the Paul Bernier, Public Works Director, for a solid waste agreement with the City of Presque Isle for Scopan Township (T11R4) for 5 years.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

ART. 11. County Commissioners' Report:

- A) MCCA/Risk Pool Meeting.

Risk Pool Meeting. Commissioner Paul J. Underwood reported at that the February 22, 2017 meeting it was stated that last year more money was spent than taken in due to settlements of large cases.

MCCA Meeting. Commissioner Paul J. Underwood reported that a motion to allow County CFOs and Administrators to serve as members of the Risk Pool was rejected.

Risk Pool Meeting. Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that at the March 8, 2017 Risk Pool Meeting there were 5 new claims and 4 were closed. Financial statements were reviewed. The Auditors found the organization is financially sound. Commissioner Norman L. Fournier stated that a Legal Risk Management training session was held in Southern Maine and was well attended.

MCCA Meeting. Commissioner Fournier reported that there was discussion regarding the Executive Director position. Rosemary Kulow is retiring this month. The discussion resulted in a decision to hire an individual to deal with lobbying on a contractual basis. The association will advertise for an Executive Director position soon.

- B) Legislative Update.

Commissioner Norman L. Fournier reported that he attended a legislative hearing on March 15, 2017. He testified at length on LD 463, which is An Act to Improve the Funding of County Jails. This LD is sponsored by Rep. Roland D. Martin, with the intent to remove the 3% jail cap. A meeting with the Governor regarding jail funding will be held on March 21, 2017 and Commissioner Paul J. Underwood will attend. Commissioner Fournier also reported on several other bills that relate to County Government.

- C) Other items of interest.

None.

ART. 12. County Administrator's Report:

A) Approval of appointment to Finance Committee.

County Administrator Douglas F. Beaulieu recommended that Ryan Bushey of Houlton be appointed to serve on the Finance Committee for District 1. Ryan has the endorsement of Commissioner Paul J. Adams and Reynold Raymond, Finance Committee Chairman.

MOTION:

Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to approve the recommendation of the County Administrator to appoint Ryan Bushey of Houlton to the Finance Committee for a term of four (4) years, ending December 31, 2020. (An invitation will be extended for Mr. Bushey to attend the next County Commissioners' meeting on April 26, 2017 in Houlton.)

VOTE:

Motion voted on and approved.

B) Potential scheduling of Hines' tax abatement.

After reviewing the file, the County Commissioners decided they would not hear the Hines v. Town of Hammond tax abatement. The County Commissioners requested that County Administrator Douglas F. Beaulieu draft a letter to be sent to the Hines' applicants.

C) Community Development Block Grant Application.

Public Works Director Paul Bernier explained that the CDBG is a Micro Enterprise Assistance Grant for a business expansion for a company in Cross Lake. Phase 1 has been completed and the application is ready to move forward. There will be a public hearing on March 21st at Cross Lake.

MOTION:

Motion by Norman L. Fournier and seconded by Paul J. Underwood to approve the Community Development Block Grant application.

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

D) Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust Claims Experience Report.

County Administrator Douglas F. Beaulieu stated that the Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust Claims Experience Report was at 98%. This amount is under 100%, which is what we strive for.

E) Other Items of Interest.

None.

ART. 13. Other Business.

None.

ART. 14. Executive Session to discuss a confidential tax abatement matter (Poverty Abatement) and to discuss a personnel matter regarding the Office of County Commissioners.

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 36, M.R.S., §841(2E) to discuss a poverty tax abatement and a personnel matter regarding the Office of County of Commissioners pursuant to Title 30-A, M.R.S., §405(6A).

VOTE:

Motion voted on and passed.

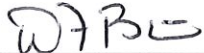
Upon returning to open session no action was taken.

ART. 15. Adjournment.


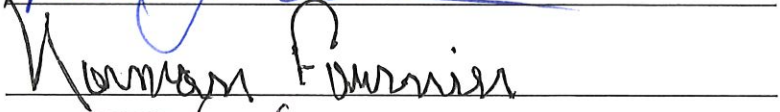
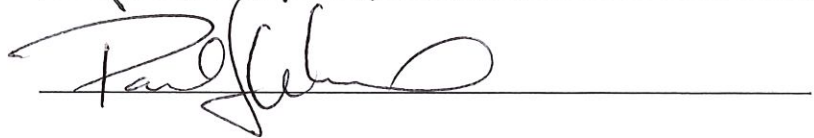
Motion by Paul J. Underwood and seconded by Norman L. Fournier to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

ATTEST: A True Copy
of Commissioners' Meeting



Douglas F. Beaulieu
County Administrator

AROOSTOOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATE: March 16, 2017

AROOSTOOK COUNTY

VOTES TO BE ADOPTED

Voted: That the Board of Commissioners of Aroostook County (the "County") hereby authorizes a borrowing in anticipation of tax receipts for the 2017 fiscal year in the original principal amount not to exceed One Million Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000) from Katahdin Trust Company on behalf of the County with interest thereon at 2.90% per annum.

Voted: That under and pursuant to the provisions of Title 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 932 and Article III, Section 8(p) of the Charter of the County of Aroostook the Board of Commissioners and the Treasurer of the County be and they are hereby authorized to borrow in anticipation of tax receipts from Katahdin Trust Company in the name of the County the sum of up to One Million Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000) at the interest rate of 2.90%; and that the Board of Commissioners and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized to issue general obligation securities of the County in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed One Million Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000) and to execute and deliver a note or notes under the seal of the County attested by the County Administrator, dated on or about March 31, 2017 in such form as the Board of Commissioners and Treasurer may approve; and that the appropriate officials of the County be and hereby are authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the County such documents and certificates as may be required in connection with such borrowing; and that no part of the proceeds of said borrowing shall be used, directly or indirectly, to acquire any securities and obligations, the acquisition of which would cause the notes to be "arbitrage bonds" or "private activity bonds" within the meaning of Sections 148 and 141, respectively, of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"); and that the notes be designated as qualified tax-exempt obligations within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of said Code; and that the Board of Commissioners and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized to covenant on behalf of the County to file any information report and pay any rebate due to the United States in connection with the issuance of the notes, to take all other lawful actions necessary to ensure the interest on the notes will be excluded from gross income of the owners thereof for purposes of federal income taxation and to refrain from taking any action which would cause interest on the notes to become includable in the gross income of the owners thereof.