

**PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**JANUARY 17, 2017**  
**Dover-Foxcroft, ME**  
**Minutes**  
**8:30 a.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners to review for approval the minutes of their January 3, 2017 meeting. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: James Annis V: 3-0
2. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the County expenditures for year end 2016 in the amount of \$7,625.67. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
3. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the County expenditures for year end 2016 in the amount of \$16,121.85. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the 2017 County expenditures in the amount of \$22,991.34. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Jail expenditures in the amount of \$16,744.01. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Unorganized Territory expenditures in the amount of \$1,327.03. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
7. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Payroll Warrant for January 12, 2017 in the amount of \$128,826.25. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
8. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Employee Benefit Warrant in the amount of \$75,619.90. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen
9. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the interest rate charged against outstanding County taxes. Under the provisions of Title 36, section 892-A, the rate of interest shall be 7% on all unpaid balances of the County tax that are due beginning on the 60<sup>th</sup> day after the Sept. 1 date of payment set by the County Commissioners. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
10. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved liquor license renewal for The Northern Restaurant in the unorganized township of T2R10 and owned by David and Luisa Surprenant. Sheriff John Goggin stated he reviewed the application and recommended the approval. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
11. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved liquor license renewal for Chesuncook Lake House and Cabins in Chesuncook Village and owned by David and Luisa Surprenant. Sheriff John Goggin informed the Commissioners he reviewed this application and recommended the approval. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0

12. Piscataquis County Commissioners re-appointed Frederick Trask of Milo as a county representative to the Board of Directors of the Penquis Solid Waste Corporation.  
M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen. V: 3-0
13. Piscataquis County Commissioners approved line-item transfer of \$2,699.00 from the jail capital reserve fund to the inmate benefit fund, to reimburse the purchase price the washer and dryer for the jail laundry. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
14. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved a request from the County Commissioners Office to transfer \$803.00 from account #010-01-04-030 Office Supplies to account #010-01-03-340 Rental Copiers. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
15. Department Head:
  - a. **Interim County Manager, Thomas Lizotte –**
    - The County Manager and Commissioner Annis attended the Maine County Commissioners Association annual meeting Jan. 11 in Augusta. State funding for county jails will continue to be a major issue before the Legislature in 2017, and MCCA has submitted a new jail funding bill for this session. The proposed state budget includes \$12.2 million in funding for county jails, but that total is at least \$2.5 million less than is needed to balance jail budgets.
    - County Department Heads met for 2.5 hours on Jan. 10 to review the revised County Personnel Policy. A second meeting has been scheduled for Jan. 19 with labor relations consultant Annalee Rosenblatt to review specific areas where language changes may be needed. Rosenblatt will then meet with County Commissioners at their Feb. 7 meeting to review the final version of the Personnel Policy. Commissioners may be in position to adopt the policy at their Feb. 21 meeting.
    - The first meeting of the 13-member county law enforcement task force has been scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, at the county office. Terry Knowles of Brownville, chair of the county Budget Advisory Committee, has volunteered his services as a facilitator for the group's monthly meetings.
    - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has informed Piscataquis County that our bridge rehabilitation project on Whetstone Brook in Williamsburg Twp. will require a biological assessment with the US Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act, since the brook has been identified as possible habitat for the Atlantic salmon. The extra time needed to complete the assessment may result in postponing the bridge work from 2017 to 2018. The County's engineering firm will seek an expedited permit review process and the designation of an emergency status, since the poor condition of one bridge abutment may create a safety hazard if the work is not completed by this summer. Work within the waterway can only be accomplished between July 15 and Sept. 30 under the Corps of Engineers permit.
    - The position advertisement has been placed in newspapers for the full-time domestic violence investigator in the District Attorney's office. The application deadline is Jan. 27, but the position will remain open until a qualified candidate is found.
    - EMA Director Tom Capraro has completed the final draft of an Emergency Operations Plan for the County building complex. The plan will be reviewed by the Safety Committee in February.
  - b. **County Treasurer, Johanna Greenfield – did not attend**
  - c. **Jail Administrator, Maria Landry –**

- Asked the County Commissioners' approval to hire Felicia Clukey as a part-time cook. The Jail does not have any part-time cooks, therefore the full time cooks have to work a lot of over time. The County Commissioners approved her recommendation. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: James Annis V: 3-0
  - The Jail is in the process of being inspected for the American with Disabilities Act/United States Dept of Labor. Maria informed the Commissioners the inspection will cost \$800.00 to \$1,200.00, but the last time the Jail was inspected was 2010.
- d. Sheriff, John Goggin –**
- His department has been dealing with camps being broken into on the Golden Road. Some arrested are pending.
  - Ice and snow melted off the roof on the Court Street side of the Sheriff's Department falling on the hood of his new cruiser. He received an estimate from Prouty Auto Body with the quote being \$1,047.00. After taking into the consideration the deductible on the insurance policy, Sheriff Goggin did not seek further quotes and had Prouty Ford repair the cruiser.
- e. EMA Director, Tom Capraro – did not attend**
- f. Probate Register Donna Peterson – did not attend**
- g. Deeds Register, Linda Smith – did not attend**
- h. DA Administrative, Chis Almy – did not attend**
- i. Head of Maintenance Josh York – did not attend**

Other Business:

Meeting adjourned: 9:30 am M: Wayne Erkkinen S: James Annis V: 3-0