

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

August 22, 2017

Dover-Foxcroft, ME

Minutes

8:30 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of their August 8, 2017 meeting. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
2. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the County expenditures in the amount of \$30,866.18. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
3. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Jail expenditures in the amount of \$20,765.64. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the 2016-2017 Jail expenditures in the amount of \$3,800.00. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Unorganized Territory expenditures in the amount of \$5,175.88. M: James Annis W: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Payroll Warrant for August 10, 2017 in the amount of \$121,230.28. M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0
7. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed the membership of the County Budget Advisory Committee. County Manager Thomas Lizotte asked the County Commissioners to reach out to their committee members to verify their intentions for serving on the board. This discussion will be continued at a later date. No action was required.
8. Department Head:
 - a. County Manager, Thomas Lizotte -
 - The development of the FY 2018 County budget has begun, with budget worksheets distributed to all departments on Aug. 14. Completed work sheets are due in the Finance Office by Sept. 1, and the Budget Advisory Committee's first meeting will be scheduled on or about Oct. 5.
 - A completed junkyard permit application has been received from Richard Ladd Sr. in Barnard Twp., and the required public hearing to consider the application has been scheduled for the County Commissioners' meeting on Sept. 19.
 - The Penobscot Information Technology staff has completed installation of most of the new computers in Piscataquis County offices.
 - Six towns have paid their County taxes prior to the Sept. 1 deadline, totaling \$528,000 from Milo, Sangerville, Parkman, Lake View, Medford and Wellington. These early payments are a great help to the county's cash flow and allow us to avoid continuing use of the line of credit.
 - The union representing Sheriff's Department employees has signed off on a memorandum of understanding with the County that establishes a conversion formula for earned time accrued by members of the bargaining unit representing patrol deputies, dispatchers and corrections officers. When members of that unit are promoted into the

administrative bargaining unit, their accrued earned time can now be carried over into separate vacation and sick leave pools.

b. County Treasurer, Johanna Greenfield – did not attend

c. Jail Administrator, Maria Landry –

- Has received some money from the State
- Housing between 15-16 federal prisoners
- Would like to hire a few more part-time people to have them trained in time to replace the full time employees who are planning on retiring.

d. Sheriff, John Goggin – did not attend

e. EMA Director, Tom Capraro –

- The EMA Office has been participating in a State wide 4 part exercise that involves the military, first responders and other entities. This exercise is for when a disaster or major emergency occurs pertaining to weather.
- On September 21st part 3 will be held from 2pm to 8pm for the people that have a shift change. This exercise is for space weather events focusing on the response of severe solar flare. If this ever happens it can impact the power grid and communication.
- Tom is conducting an exercise with Dover-Foxcroft Water District for “loss of water”. This exercise is to discuss their preparation for lack of water – using the drought like conditions that the County went through last year where the low water level at Salmon Stream Pond which is Dover-Foxcroft source of water started to affect the intake pipe as a guide for this exercise.
- October 23rd. EMA is conducting a table top exercise at the Center Theater for their emergency – evacuation plan
- September 20th, EMA will be starting a search and rescue program that will go through the winter. This program will involve game wardens and volunteer searchers.
- Has been working on the hazardous mitigation plan. This is a 5 year plan that enables action to reduce loss of life and property, lessening the impact of disasters. Tom stated he has met with 75% of towns and the final draft will be reviewed on September 14th.
- LEPC has been working on the current hazardous material emergency response plan
- August 31st Tom will be attending a class for “until help arrives”. This class is for public awareness. It will teach individuals who are the first to arrive on the scene of a serious situation what they need to do until professionals arrive. Tom is attending this class to become a teacher.
- Tom informed the County Commissioners he received a homeland security grant for \$62,881.80. With this money Tom plans to give:
 - \$5,800.00 for a generator for Three River ambulance
 - \$5,800.00 for a generator for the Town of Medford
 - \$18,000.00 for the Greenville Town Office and Greenville Fire Department
 - Approximately \$900.00 for first aid kits and walkie talkie radios for the County complex
 - \$15,000.00 for radio repeaters for telecommunication
- Will be teaching a first aid class for County employees at the end of September or early October
- Was hoping to start the new EMA garage, but because it is considered a commercial building he has to have professional plans drawn up. Tom checked with D & S Engineering and they wanted \$23,000 for plans. He is waiting to hear back from Dirigo Engineering for their quote.

f. Probate Register Donna Peterson – did not attend

g. Deeds Register, Linda Smith – did not attend

h. DA Administrative, Chris Almy did not attend, but Admin. Corina Tibbetts represented the department. She reiterated to the Commissioners the same information from the August 8, 2017 meeting - lack of space, the County to purchase a vehicle for Scott Arno, working

on the budget, a change of software for the DA's Department and Scott working on his yearly grant.

- The DA's Department has to attend a new security class – County Manager Tom Lizotte, Head of maintenance Joshua York and Kevin Ronco will have to attend as well.
 - i. Head of Maintenance, Joshua York – did not attend

Other Business:

Meeting adjourned:

9:15 am M: James Annis S: Wayne Erkinen V: 3-0