

**PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**August 2, 2016**  
**DOVER-FOXCROFT**  
**Minutes**  
**8:30 a.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- 1. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of their July 19, 2016 meeting. M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0**
- 2. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the County expenditures in the amount of \$11,174.24. M: James Annis S: James White V: 3-0**
- 3. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Jail expenditures in the amount of \$10,454.45. M: James Annis S: James White V: 3-0**
- 4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Unorganized Territory expenditures in the amount of \$46,870.30. M: James Annis S: James White V: 3-0**
- 5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Payroll Warrant for July 28, 2016 in the amount of \$108,226.00. M: James Annis S: James White V: 3-0**
- 6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Employee Benefit Warrant in the amount of \$60,797.60. M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0**
- 7. Piscataquis County Commissioners declared the results of the advisory referendum vote in the Piscataquis County Unorganized Territory regarding the proposed deorganization of the Town of Atkinson. M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0**



**PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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DOVER-FOXCROFT, ME 04426  
(207) 564-6500  
(207) 564-3022 (Fax)

James L. White, District 1

James Annis, District 2  
Thomas L. Lizotte, County Manager

Frederick Y. Trask, District 3

**Certification of Results for Advisory Referendum  
in the Piscataquis County Unorganized Territory**

WHEREAS, the Piscataquis County Commissioners, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes Title 30-A, section 7207 (2-A), proposed to the electors of the Piscataquis County Unorganized Territory the following question:

“Do you support the deorganization of the Town of Atkinson, Maine?”

WHEREAS, it appears by a return of votes cast by electors of the Unorganized Territory in Piscataquis County voting upon said question by absentee ballot received at the County Offices by August 1, 2016, that a majority of said votes were in opposition to the deorganization of the Town of Atkinson; namely,

33 for, and 34 opposed;

Now, therefore, the Piscataquis County Commissioners, meeting August 2, 2016 in Dover-Foxcroft, declare the results of the advisory referendum and order the County Manager to file the results with the Secretary of State on or before August 11, 2016.

In testimony whereof, we have caused the Seal of the County of Piscataquis to be hereunto affixed, given under our hand at Dover-Foxcroft this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen.

*Fred Trask*

Frederick Y. Trask

*James D. Annis*

James D. Annis

*James L. White*

James L. White

Piscataquis County Commissioners



8. Piscataquis County Commissioners discussed and approved the candidate for the EMA/Probate Administrative Assistant as was presented to the Commissioners by EMA Director, Tom Capraro and Registrar of Probate Donna Peterson. Director Capraro informed the County Commissioners they received 33 applications and 6 individuals were interviewed. The interviewing board consisted of County Manager Thomas Lizotte, EMA Director Tom Capraro, EMA Planner Fred Meuhl, Registrar of Deeds Linda Smith and Registrar of Probate Donna Peterson. It was the boards' recommendation that the County Commissioners accept the nomination of Debra R. Hamlin to fill the position. Debra has 20 years experience as administrative assistant for Verso Paper in Bucksport and she was highly recommended by the company. The hiring committee stated because of her years of experience, they recommended the position's hourly wage rate be on pay grade F with 3 years experience. M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0
9. Piscataquis County Commissioners discussed and approved the recommendation from the Head of Maintenance, Josh York on the hiring of the County's new custodian. Josh informed the Commissioners they received 16 applications and interviewed 6 individuals. The interviewing board consisted of County Manager Thomas Lizotte, retired Head of Maintenance David Ronco and Head of Maintenance Josh York. It was the board's recommendation that the County Commissioners accept the nomination of Kevin Ronco (no relation to David Ronco). Kevin was a former employee for the County as the Jail's Head of Maintenance and is currently employed by the Town of Dexter. The hiring committee stated because of his experience, they recommended the position's hourly wage rate be on the on pay grade B with 2 years experience. M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0.
10. Piscataquis County Commissioners discussed and approved the unpaid leave of absence for corrections officer Deborah Flagg. Deborah is currently on FML until August 8<sup>th</sup> , but will not receive the release from the Doctor's to come back to work until September 12<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner James White stated if it goes beyond the given date, the Commissioners will re-evaluate the situation. M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0
11. 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.
12. Department Head:
  - a. Interim County Manager, Thomas Lizotte –
    - Penquis has two vacancies on its Piscataquis County Steering Committee and has requested that the County Commissioners appoint two members for terms of three years. To be eligible for appointment, candidates should be elected or appointive public officials with general governmental responsibilities. Commissioners were asked to suggest the names of appointees by the Sept. 6 meeting.
    - Quotes have been received from two contractors for mowing the roadsides of county roads in Orneville and Williamsburg; \$1,450 from Jeremy Ham of Lowell, and \$2,210 from Vance Lambert of Charleston. It was agreed that Commissioners would award the work to the low bidder Ham. M: Annis S: White V: 3-0
    - Wellman Brothers on July 27 completed county paving projects on roads in Orneville, Ebeemee and Barnard. Paving consultant Roger Picard was on site to represent the

County and commented how pleased he was with the result. The 2017 UT paving work is planned for Elliottsville, from the Willimantic town line to the Borestone Mt. parking area.

- Requests for proposals from Maine civil engineering firms will be mailed out this week for planning of bridge rehabilitation work on the Whetstone North and South bridges in Williamsburg Twp. The RFPs are scheduled to be opened on Sept. 20, when Commissioners will award the engineering work. Construction is planned for the summer of 2017.
- August is enrollment month for the County employees' health insurance plan offered through Harvard Pilgrim. Employees have received the annual Summary of Benefits and Coverage and an explanatory memo from the County Manager.
- The Town of Atkinson has scheduled a special town meeting for Aug. 16 for a formal vote on going forward with the deorganization procedure.
- b. County Treasurer, Johanna Greenfield
- The office is getting ready for budget time
- c. Jail Administrator, Maria Landry – not comment
- d. Sheriff, John Goggin – did not attend
- e. EMA Director, Tom Capraro
- Working on the new communication trailer. It will be used at the radio hamfest in Milo
- Submitted an application for the 2016 homeland security grant. If it is approved, EMA will receive \$63,930.22 of which \$17,600 of the funding has to be used for law enforcement
- Using funds to send Seth Burnes to N.H. for active shooter training. Seth is an officer with the Town of Brownville police department. After his training in N.H. he will then conduct classes to train local officers
- CMD is working on solving the problem pertaining to the connection with the State portion of the building and the generator.
- One of the employees from the State got stuck in the elevator and because of Tom's training he was able to get her out.
- The American Red Cross will be coming to Dover-Foxcroft, going to house to house checking fire alarms and giving out new ones to residents in need
- f. Probate Register, Donna Peterson – no comment
- g. Deeds Register, Linda Smith – did not attend
- h. DA Administrative, Chris Almy – did not attend
- i. Head of Maintenance, Josh York – no comment
- j. Telecommunication Dispatch Sergeant, Gary Grant – did not attend

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Meeting adjourned @ 9:30

M: James White S: James Annis V: 3-0