

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

March 7, 2023

DOVER-FOXCROFT

Minutes

8:30 am PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Piscataquis County Commissioner Chairman Andrew Torbett called the meeting into session at 8:30 am in the Chambers. Commissioner Wayne Erkkinen and Commissioner Paul Davis were in attendance. The meeting was also available online on Zoom.

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of their February 21, 2023 meeting.  
M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
2. Piscataquis County Commissioners made the adjustment to remove item #9 and add it to the next agenda as an Executive Session to give the Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer and Auditor more time.
3. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the County expenditures in the amount of \$57,235.76. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0
4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Jail expenditures in the amount of \$36,604.76. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Unorganized Territory expenditures in the amount of \$126,581.08. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0
6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Payroll Warrant for March 2, 2023 in the amount of \$124,567.86. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
7. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the Employee Benefit Warrant in the amount of \$92,011.12. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0
8. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the liquor license renewal for Libby's Sporting Camps, Inc., located at Millinocket Lake Oxbow Rd, T8R9 and owned by Matthew J. Libby.  
M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
9. Piscataquis County Commissioners heard from County Manager Michael Williams with regards to the County HVAC needs. County Manager Michael Williams stated that Maintenance Head Joshua York was unable to attend today but he has lots of information and a rough draft from when it was discussed earlier. We are using a Jail chiller from 1987 and a refrigerant that they do not make any longer. I would like him here to have a full discussion. One piece of equipment, he was quoted back in 2021, was about \$275-280k. We would need to go back out to bid. We have an old compressor from probably the same time frame that runs constantly using up a lot of electricity. The December Jail electric bill was about \$5k and in January was about \$7k. I used an average of \$3k for the budget. So, this HVAC project may be a lot of upfront money but over the course of time, it will save us money. The Jace unit in the Court Building will help take care of some of the problems there and the Court is paying 50% of those bills. The \$18k to replace the control unit

was money well spent. We will discuss this at the next meeting with Maintenance Head Joshua York who has more particulars. The other thing the County Manager wanted to look at was the cabling here at the County. We have cooper to fiber to cooper which isn't good, as it should all be the same. When we talked about this earlier, the cost was \$58k for everyone all the way to the garage on one system. I would like to talk about this further. It qualifies under ARPA. Commissioner Paul Davis asked about the Communication remodel project. County Manager Michael Williams said it is put on hold until later in the year. Bids came in at \$730/square foot for remodeling the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Chairman Andrew Torbett said we are waiting and hope to get better bids in the fall for their winter work.

#### 10. Department Heads:

##### County Manager, Michael Williams

- One department head has asked if we would accept an anonymous \$100 donation for the shield/logo contest for a prize for the winner? Commissioner Paul Davis made the motion to accept the donation with Commissioner Wayne Erkkinen seconding the motion with it being unanimous. Commissioner Chairman Andrew Torbett asked the County Manager Michael Williams if the County had any funds to put towards it and he said he would look into it.
- Talked with the Road Commissioner Carl Henderson and overall, the roads are good. The northern part of the UT has large snowbanks. The Frenchtown Road on the south side of Roach has five-to-six-foot snow banks. This spring the melting will cause the water to be in the roads which makes things muddy. Lots of the roads down this way, like Barnard, Williamsburg, Elliotsville, and Blanchard look the best they have in a couple of years.

County Treasurer, Trisha White-did not attend.

Jail Administrator, Michelle Lacroix-did not attend.

Sheriff, Robert Young-did not attend.

- Chief Deputy Todd Lyford said we do not have much to report, things are good. The Fed Court is about average at 12.

##### EMA Director, Jaeme Duggan

- We are busy. Been delivering the AEDs from the 2022 Homeland Security Grant. Three went to the Sheriff's Office/cruiser and one to their Guilford Office. Some of the towns receiving the AEDs have never had them before.
- We are preparing the congressional spending application which goes through Senator King and Senator Collins' offices and closes next week.
- Busy with other meetings as well.

Probate Register, Donna Peterson-did not attend.

Deeds Register, Gail Clark-did not attend.

##### District Attorney Office, Corina Rackliff

- We finished our court session last week ahead of docket call. Traverse jury trial is coming and we are busy, busy. We are trying to keep up with every day things and we are back to full staff.

Head of Maintenance, Josh York (did not attend, excused.)

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned 8:53 am. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0