

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

January 2, 2024

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 available online on Zoom.

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners elected Commissioner Andrew Torbett as Chairman for the year 2024.
M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
Piscataquis County Commissioners elected Commissioner Paul Davis as Vice-Chairman for the year 2024.
M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0
2. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of the December 26, 2023 meeting.
M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
3. Piscataquis County Commissioners had one adjustment to the agenda, adding the Canine Stipend to the County Warrant of \$400.
4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the County expenditures in the amount of \$32,241.51. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Jail expenditures in the amount of \$12,246.59.
M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0
6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Unorganized Territory expenditures in the amount of \$143,075.80. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
7. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Payroll Warrant for December 21, 2023 in the amount of \$122,625.97. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0
8. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Payroll Warrant for December 21, 2023 in the amount of \$1,050.81. M: Wayne Erkkinen S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0
9. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Employee Benefit Warrant in the amount of \$100,094.21. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
10. Piscataquis County Commissioners approved Deeds request to transfer \$1,750 from account E121-01-03-325 (Surcharge) to account E120-01-01-060 (Regular Part-time). M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
11. Piscataquis County Commissioners named a representative to the CLEO board for Northeastern Workforce Development System and Workforce Innovation for 2024. Commissioner Paul Davis made the motion to nominate Commissioner Chairman Andrew Torbett. Commissioner Wayne Erkkinen seconded the motion with it being unanimous. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0
12. Piscataquis County Commissioners named an ex officio representative to the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council Executive Committee for 2024. Commissioner Paul Davis made the motion to

nominate Commissioner Wayne Erkkinen. Commissioner Chairman Andrew Torbett seconded the motion with it being unanimous. M: Paul Davis S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

13. Piscataquis County Commissioners named a representative to the Eastern Maine Development Corporation Board of Directors for 2024. Commissioner Paul Davis made the motion to nominate Commissioner Wayne Erkkinen. Commissioner Chairman Andrew Torbett seconded the motion with it being unanimous. M: Paul Davis S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

14. Department Heads:

a. County Manager, Michael Williams

- The Hamm/County Road in Orneville is a mess. We lost the frost out of it completely and a dual-wheeled truck started it. Carl was unable to get across in his four-wheel drive truck. Yesterday, the ruts were 8-12 inches deep. The contractor will try to get some gravel hauled in to make it passable and for plowing. Commissioner Andrew Torbett said we may need to think about posting if we get any more warm weather. The Frenchtown Road mile and a half of ditching that was three feet deep is only a foot deep now with all the sediment running right down into the ditch. We will have to start over and ditch again. Commissioner Andrew Torbett asked about making diversion ditches for the sediment? County Manager Michael Williams said that won't really help with all the erosion from the side of the hill. We need a swale spot to catch the sediment so the culverts do not fill up. So, yes, if we get anymore warm weather, we will need to post the roads as there is just not enough frost to maintain them.
- I need to find out who is going to the MCCA Annual meeting next Wednesday for their head count. All three Commissioners said they would go.

b. County Treasurer, Trisha White-did not attend

c. Jail Administrator, Michelle Lacroix-did not attend

d. Sheriff, Robert Young-did not attend

e. EMA Director, Jaeme Duggan-did not attend

- Deputy Director Debra Hamlin stated they have been very busy with the storm. Piscataquis County has \$2.6 million worth of damages. EMA Director Jaeme Duggan has a meeting with FEMA and MEMA today to do four town assessments. We are waiting to see if the President declares a disaster and then we can put in for reimbursement.

f. Probate Register, Donna Peterson

- We are fine and it was a busy year. Hoping to post for a part-time position sometime early this year.

g. Deeds Register, Gail Clark

- Things are the same and we are doing okay.

h. District Attorney Office, Corina Rackliff

- I am just getting back from vacation. We are having a phone issue that I will be calling IT about today as we are not sure what the issue is. We had no internet for a week but that was because Augusta was down. We are a bit behind but doing good getting caught back up.

i. Head of Maintenance, Joshua York

- Nothing new to report, no complaints, and things are going smooth.

OTHER BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 am. M: Paul Davis S: Wayne Erkkinen V: 3-0-0