PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 17, 2026

DOVER-FOXCROFT

Minutes

8:30 AM PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Piscataquis County Commissioner Chairman Paul Davis called the meeting into session at 8:30 AM in the Chambers. Commissioner Andrew Torbett and Commissioner Adam Coover attended. Commissioner Chair Paul Davis had Commissioner Adam Coover open the meeting with a prayer. The meeting was available online on Zoom.

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of the February 3, 2026 meeting. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

2. Piscataquis County Commissioners had no adjustments to be made to the agenda.

3. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the County expenditures in the amount of $46,111.65. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Jail expenditures in the amount of $35,055.46. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Unorganized Territory expenditures in the amount of $19,746.13. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Payroll Warrant for February 12, 2026 in the amount of $153,840.96. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

7. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Employee Benefit Warrant in the amount of $141,570.17. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

8. Piscataquis County Commissioners heard from Alan Burgess of the Recovery Wellness Community Center in Sangerville. We are a peer support non-profit program for addiction. Thank you to the County Manager Michael Williams, Commissioner Chair Paul Davis and Deputy Treasurer Johanna Turner for meeting with us to discuss the opioids settlement funds last week. Our Community Center really buys into the coaching services as a major part of the program for alcohol and drug abuse. You can just walk through our door anytime with no insurance needed. Our hours are Tuesday-Friday 9:00 AM–5:00 PM. Alan said he also works on Mondays doing recovery coaching and there is a 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. We also do prison recovery at the Piscataquis County Jail, Elaine's Bakery in Milo and at the Charleston Prison. We have daily meetings that are very well attended like Wednesday Alcoholics Anonymous at noon, All Recovery Circle at 2 PM and Safe Youth Program at 4 PM. Then Thursday is a craft and on Friday it is Alcoholics Anonymous at Noon and All Recovery Circle at 2 PM. The County Manager Michael Williams stated that we receive opioids settlement funds where the funds can only be used for specific things. We met last week and I would recommend giving this program $10k a year which costs the County nothing as we are just a pass through for the funds. We have used some of the funds for our Jail drug counseling and med tech services. Some of the payments stop in 2031, 2034, and 2035 but if we leave enough money in the budget line, we can help support the program a lot longer. Down the road if the County wants to continue to support this longer, the County can look for grants. Commissioner Adam Coover said he likes that the program supports multiple towns and the Jail. County Manager Michael Williams stated we are very limited on what the funds can be used for. Commissioner Andrew Torbet made the motion to approve the County Managers request to give the program $10k annually as long as can be funded with

Commissioner Chair Paul Davis seconding and it was unanimous. M: Andrew Torbett S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0. Commissioner Chair Paul Davis said we have a lot of drug addiction in our area. County Manager Michael Williams will get with Alan Burgess after the meeting.

9. Department Heads:
   a. County Manager, Michael Williams
      - The UT roads are getting a little rough. Use caution when using back dirt roads. The sun has been beating down on the roads making them very slimy. We will probably have a rough mud season especially with the deep frost.
      - At the annual MCCA meeting, it sounds like they are eventually going with another Executive Director like they had back in 2019 but the jury is still out on whether that will really happen or not. Personally, County Manager Michael Williams said he would have been more cautious when putting the budget numbers together as they went on the assumption of having the same numbers as last year but they may end up short on funds. Last year the funds were up 120-140% due to an increase in the convention sponsorships which may or may not be the case this year.

   b. County Treasurer, Trisha White-did not attend.
      - Deputy Treasurer Johanna Turner said we all worked with the auditors last week primarily on the Jail and UT. Next year, the Jails are being asked for a separate audit which isn't a problem for us because that is how it has been being done.

   c. Jail Administrator, Jean Larson
      - We are at 22 and lost the 3 from other Counties and have 8 FEDS.
      - We are looking to hire a part-time RN at the DOC's recommendation for 20 hours per week and also consult with another RN part-time/perdiem to train the person to check medical work to keep us on target with DOC standards. Chief Deputy Todd Lyford said they will consult with someone with DOC experience to do the training so we do not have any issues next time with DOC in 2027. They normally come every two years.

   d. Sheriff, Robert Young-did not attend.
      - Chief Deputy Todd Lyford said we had another accident with a cruiser and hit a pole in the snow. We are waiting on the other one from hitting the deer. We probably won't get a safe driving award this year.
      - Deputy Chris Cyr has started working up north.

   e. EMA Director, Debra Hamlin
      - Commissioners thanked EMA Director Debra Hamlin for the warmer weather.
      - The Bunker floor is a health hazard with asbestos and needs to be redone. We can save a lot of money with the Maintenance crew putting the flooring down right over what is already there. EMA Director Debra Hamlin passed the estimates out to the Commissioners. They agreed to go with the first estimate from Kings Appliance and Floor Coverings in Newport for the flooring at a cost of $9,366.58. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

   f. Probate Register, Donna Peterson
      - We are fine in Probate. No news is good news.

   g. Deeds Register, Gail Clark

- Nothing new to report. The LD2124 work session is today. Just working on putting the numbers together.

h. District Attorney Office, Corina Rackliff (did not attend-excused)

i. Head of Maintenance, Joshua York
   - Talked last time about the cold and frozen pipes and we had another one at the Extension building that we are working to cover for better insulation.

OTHER BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION(S):

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM - M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0