PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

April 7, 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 asked Sheriff Robert Young to open the meeting with a prayer. The meeting was available online on Zoom.

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of the March 17, 2026 meeting. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

2. Piscataquis County Commissioners did not have any adjustments to be made to the agenda.

3. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the County expenditures in the amount of $94,722.86. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Jail expenditures in the amount of $21,834.53. 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 $162,323.81. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Payroll Warrant for March 26, 2026 in the amount of $164,208.55. 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 $137,534.11. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

8. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the renewal liquor license for Kokadjo, Frenchtown TWP and operated by Marie Candeloro. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

9. Piscataquis County Commissioners heard an update from Alan Burgess Program Manager of the Recovery Wellness Community Center in Sangerville. Thank you for the check which will go a long way for our programs. Also, thank you so much for the public support. The public support is wonderful in helping people in the community to know what we are about and how to connect with us. We were featured on the front page of the Piscataquis Observer and that has helped with more people reaching out. We are expanding in the County Jail as well. Commissioner Chair Paul Davis said thank you for all you are doing.

10. Department Heads:
    a. County Manager, Michael Williams
        - The UT Roads are not too bad. They are starting to breakup and are typical spring Maine roads.
        - Passed out the Piscataquis County Appropriations letter for signature which most of the Counties are doing. We stand to lose about $31,500 in Jail funding and are trying to get more support or we will have to use some of our opioid settlement funds. This is why we could only setup Allen Burgess of the Wellness Recovery Program with the $10k in case funds are needed for something else. Commissioners agreed to sign the support letter for the County Delegation. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

- Passed out the Letter of Support for NPS Land Acquisition Opportunity for the Blanchard donation which Commissioner Chair Paul Davis signed.
- Passed out the County, Jail and UT budgets as of 04/06/2026 to the Commissioners so they could see where we are at budget wise for the first quarter.
- Commissioner Chair Paul Davis and I have MCCA and Risk Pool Zooms tomorrow.
- County Manager Michael Williams has been working with the Safety Committee and EMA Deputy Director Maureen Conley on getting push to talk radios. They cost $399 for 2 with a sim card and then you pay $50 a year for an unlimited usage sim card. I did a test and went all through the County complex and the only area with any difficulty hearing was when I was in the bubble for the Jail. It even worked in the vault in Probate and in the DA's Office which used to be a vault. Last Thursday I was in Monson and could talk very clearly with the EMA Deputy Director Maureen Conley. Blanchard was a problem area with the Russell Mountain but had good reception by the new cemetery. Tried calling in some known dead spots and worked fine. But we did find out it does not work in a car wash. We will move forward with getting these in case we ever have an evacuation in the building. They do packages of 4 or 6 and it is cheaper the more you buy. I plan to get 12 more so we would have a total of 14. We would put one at the Guilford building and have a couple extras here. To purchase the other pager system was very, very expensive like $20-$25k. This way we only pay $50/each per year.

b. County Treasurer, Trisha White-did not attend.

c. Jail Administrator, Jean Larson
- The Jail has 19 with 8 FEDS.
- We are starting with Diamond Pharmacy May 1st and will save about $10k.
- Jail Administrator Jean Larson thanked Allan Burgess, Program Manager of the Recovery Wellness Community Center and Crystal Hoffman the liaison for DHHS for doing such a great job in the Jail.

d. Sheriff, Robert Young
- Jail Cook Alden Tibbetts sent over muffins for everyone to try and they are very good.
- We have been carrying an open position in patrol and think we have found a very good applicant who has been a Sergeant for the military and is building a home in Abbot. Will keep posted.
- On April 21, there will be a major active shooter exercise at Foxcroft Academy that EMA is financing and we thank them for that. It is a large-scale plan for Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement. We have been planning this since last summer. It will help our command structure to see where we have any mistakes.

e. EMA Director, Debra Hamlin-did not attend (excused).
- EMA Deputy Director Maureen Conley said we are busy but all is well. We have some big events coming up.

f. Probate Register, Donna Peterson
- We are busy. February had $5,000 which is up from our usual $3,000.
- There is still a bill pending to incorporate us into the State. It did not pass but will come up again and eventually eliminate us to reduce the judges and rotate between Piscataquis, Penobscot and Somerset.

g. Deeds Register, Gail Clark-did not attend (excused).
- Deeds Register Gail Clark provided County Manager Michael Williams with Deeds data that he shared. The first quarter of 2026 shows an increase. Documents up by 213 (16.8%) and fee

revenue up $15,579.45 (46.9%). Transfer tax collections increased by $209,213.70. The County's share of that went up by $18,346.65 (162.9%). When you combine registry fee revenue and the County's portion of the transfer tax, total revenue for the quarter was up $33,926.10 (76.2%). March comparison numbers also showed an increase in all areas. Document recordings increased by 114 (21.0%), registry fee revenue up by $7,118.96 (53.6%) and the County's portion of transfer tax increased for the month by $830.46 (23.8%). Altogether March revenue rose $7,949.42 (47.4%). Commissioner Chair Paul Davis said we have escaped LD2124 for the time being.

h. District Attorney Office, Corina Rackliff

- Our numbers are down which is fantastic but intake is picking up.
- The conversion project is going well. I like it and it seems user friendly. We will be the last one with the State toward the end once everything is figured out about February 2027.

i. Head of Maintenance, Joshua York

- The guys should have the Bunker flooring and painting done this week and can start focusing on other stuff.
- Commissioner Chair Paul Davis congratulated Maintenance Head Joshua York on his election to the SAD 4 School Board as Representative for Sangerville.

OTHER BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION(S):

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 AM - M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0