PISCATAQUIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

July 21, 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 Chairman Paul Davis invited Reverend Ray Beless to come in and open the meeting with a prayer. The meeting was available online on Zoom.

1. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of their July 7, 2026 meeting and the minutes of the July 7, 2026 Property Abatement Public Hearing. Commissioners also signed the Property Abatement Decisions on Appeal. 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 $73,446.81. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

4. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Jail expenditures for 2025-2026 in the amount of $13,975.30. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

5. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Jail expenditures for 2026-2027 in the amount of $28,198.96. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

6. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Unorganized Territory expenditures for 2025-2026 in the amount of $13,036.42. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

7. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Unorganized Territory expenditures for 2026-2027 in the amount of $153,294.83. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

8. Piscataquis County Commissioners reviewed for approval the Payroll Warrant for July 16, 2026 in the amount of $185,144.16. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0

9. Department Heads:
   a. County Manager, Michael Williams
      - We received our Local Road Assistance Program notification for $135,396 this year which was less than last year's amount received at $137,456. The funds will basically be used for paving.
      - In the UT, the contractor is doing some cleanup work in the Lily Bay area and some of the shoulders are high that need work.
      - On the Mountain Road patching, we had someone to do the work that backed out. Will meet with the area contractor to find out what the cost would be to do the work. Commissioner Adam Coover asked about Wellman Paving and County Manager Michael Williams said he can ask them.
      - The lower part of the Shirley Road is prepared for fall paving.

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

c. Jail Administrator, Jean Larson-did not attend.

- Chief Deputy Todd Lyford said the jail was doing well with 16 inmates including 7 FEDS and one other County boarder

d. Sheriff, Robert Young-did not attend.

- Chief Deputy Todd Lyford said they want to hire Drew Hurst who has passed all of his background checks. He is going to the Academy on August 17 and has passed the physical. He is building a house in Abbott and is a retired Marine. We will be fully staffed. Commissioner Andrew Torbett made the motion to approve the hiring of Drew Hurst with Commissioner Adam Coover seconding the motion and it was unanimous. M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0
- Chief Deputy Todd Lyford stated that our EMA Director Debra Hamlin helped them to receive some funds for a hood filter system to use for protection for testing drugs like fentanyl and cocaine. It was $11k and we appreciate the work from EMA Director Debra Hamlin to help us receive these funds.
- Chief Deputy Todd Lyford said the Sheriff's Office will be providing security Labor Day weekend for the display of the Declaration of Independence at the field house.

e. EMA Director, Debra Hamlin-did not attend (excused).

f. Probate Register, Donna Peterson-did not attend.

- Deputy Register Corey Pearson said the office has been busy but nothing out of the ordinary.

g. Deeds Register, Gail Clark-did not attend (excused).

h. District Attorney Office, Corina Rackliff

- Office Manager Corina Rackliff said the NiCE kick-off went well and was good interaction. Transitioning to less paper at the end of the month and working with Penobscot County to stay on the same page. We are working on documents that will integrate.
- We have a new sitting Judge on a regular basis, Andrew Lizotte.
- Have had a higher than usual influx of cases. Tons of cases are coming in and the Sheriff's Office keeps sending a lot too.
- August and September will be busy with no jury session in November.

i. Head of Maintenance, Joshua York

- Maintenance Head Joshua York said we have had some nice improvements by the road with a hand-made County sign that my Assistant Joshua Cook has been working on for over a good solid year. It is all hand made. Also, my crew has worked on fixing the Extension sign, trimmed up the bushes and we added rocks to keep people off of the lawn.
- On the Courthouse retaining wall/granite, we did not get any bids but Maintenance Head Joshua York said he did get a quote. The quote is to reset half a dozen stones, grind and re-caulk with the exception of the stairs and platform which is in good shape. The quote is $49,785 for two guys, five days a week for five weeks. They are out of Gorham and we have not had any other interest. Maintenance Head Joshua York said he has the money in his capital account. Commissioner Andrew Torbett made the motion to approve the work get done with Commissioner Chair Paul Davis seconding the motion and it was unanimous. In Discussion Commissioner Adam Coover asked if the work was done by a local last time and the cost? Maintenance Head Joshua York said the work was done by a local last time and he reached out

to them with no response. The cost was probably under $10k the last time but this is more extensive work. Commissioner Adam Coover asked about a warranty? Maintenance Head Joshua York was not sure but can look into a warranty as they are not able to come do the work anyways for a couple of months. Once they begin the work, the stairs will need to be shut down on one side at a time. DA Office Manager Corina Rackliff said September is a good time since August will be so busy with Court. M: Andrew Torbett S: Paul Davis V: 3-0-0

OTHER BUSINESS

Manda Stewart from PACC thanked the Commissioners for their support. She said it is a hard time of the year because there are not as many using the pool, etc. during the summer months but they do have lifeguards at the beaches. We have a free summer camp finishing up that is sponsored by the Masons. Our swim lessons are full. Our Aquatics Director has started a swim program for the disabled. We have a life guard training coming up, doing painted handprints in August and have pickle ball, check it out. We have an on-going guitar raffle valued at $4,000. Lastly, we have new shower fixtures being put in.

Eric Boothroyd attended from the community and asked why we rarely see the Treasurer or the Assistant Treasurer at the Commissioner meetings and if the Commissioners feel confident of where the County sits with their finances? Commissioner Chair Paul Davis said he feels very confident and communicates with the County Manager and the Deputy Treasurer on a regular basis. DA Office Manager Corina Rackliff said the Deputy Treasurer is very responsive to Department Heads. County Manager Michael Williams said rarely a week goes by where he is not in contact with the Deputy Treasurer. Commissioner Chair Paul Davis said he met with the Deputy Treasurer just last week.

Recess 8:56 AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION(S):

Piscataquis County Commissioners entered executive session, per MRSA 1, section 405, paragraph 6 C., contract matter. M: Adam Coover S: Andrew Torbett V: 3-0-0

Time in: 8:59 AM

Time Out: 9:41 AM

Action: No action, for information only.

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 AM - M: Andrew Torbett S: Adam Coover V: 3-0-0