

Roll Call -

Commissioner Baldacci opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. from the Commissioners Chambers with Commissioner Sanborn present; Commissioner Cushing attending via Zoom

Commissioner Baldacci had a moment of silence in memory of former County Treasurer Ann Dowd. Commissioner Baldacci stated he had the pleasure of serving with Ann when she was County Treasurer several years ago and was sad to hear of her passing.

Approval of Minutes –

Commissioner Sanborn moved to approve April 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Public Comment -

Janet Drew – resident of York

Participant presented the following:

- Elliott police department and NAMI will hold via zoom tonight on combination of policing and social service teams.
- During our meetings here, there have been identified a need for help and alternatives for the Sheriff and towns to use besides jails. It looks as though county budget requests and approvals, things you sign off on, are money to go to courts, prosecutors, and most recently a request for law enforcement to have cameras.
- Last week there was talk of opposing legislation about having social workers on call in emergency response. We need these different skill sets and presentative services; the county has money now. There's an opportunity to establish those kinds of partnerships and eligibility for grants that can give people shelter and opportunity.
- Last week the DA's office mentioned trafficking prosecutions. I don't know what amounts these people were accused of. Maybe they were real traffickers, but trafficking is a threatening thing that is used for people who aren't trafficking.

Public Hearing – Unorganized Territories Local Liquor Option

Chair Peter Baldacci opened up the public hearing for a local liquor option ordinance for the unorganized territory. Commissioner Baldacci read the authorization details to approve the following:

Public Hearing – Unorganized Territories Local Liquor Option – Continued:

1. Sale of liquor for consumption on the premises on days other than Sunday,
2. Sale of spirits and fortified wine for consumption off the premises on days other than Sunday.
- 2-A, Sale of malt liquor and wine for consumption off the premises on days other than Sunday.
3. Sale of liquor for consumption on the premises on Sundays,
4. Sale of spirits and fortified wine for consumption off the premises on Sundays
- 4-A, Sale of malt liquor and wine for consumption off the premises on Sundays.
5. Operation of state liquor stores and agency liquor stores on Sunday.
6. Sale of spirits to be consumed on the premises on Sunday.
7. Sale of malt liquor and wine to be consumed on the premises on Sunday.
8. Sale of malt liquor and wine for consumption on the premises on Sunday,
9. Operation of bottle clubs.

There was no discussion. Commissioner Sanborn made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Commissioner Sanborn moved to approve the ordinance for the unorganized territory as presented. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Probate Update –

Register Renee Stupak provided the following:

- Staffing
 - Probate will be fully staffed Tuesday, June 1
- Legislation
 - The MAR association is requesting extensions for amendment rule 92 – regarding electronic filing. Because our current system (ICON) is unable to process those changes. Last week our rules and tech committee met to discuss recommendations. We're currently working with a vendor to either amend those rules and/or change the program. There has been some frustration for the Registers and attorney offices. We're meeting again to discuss changes on June 18th.

UT Update –

Director Shaw Weeks reported the following:

- On the Northern UT, Kingman, Prentiss Solid waste bid from last week, it is our recommendation to accept Danny Ireland's, DBA Irelands Rubbish Service Inc, bid. Commissioner Sanborn moved to approve DBA Irelands Rubbish Service, Inc as the vendor. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Commissioner Sanborn moved to approve the solid waste agreement with Old Town for Argyle and Greenfield. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Commissioner Sanborn moved to approve the Bangor Humane Society Contract as presented. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Kingman Cemetery – We have identified new members for the Kingman Cemetery Association. Heather Whitney to serve as new president of the association; Belinda Raymond of the Prentiss Cemetery association will be mentoring this new group. The bank account has been set up as of yesterday. We should be able to send the association a check to that bank account in July. The cleaning and mowing is on track for Memorial Day weekend.
- West Seboeis Rd - The State of Maine Bureau of Parks and Land is having issues with property owners and road access on the West Seboeis Road in Long A Township. Land Owners abutting the road have taken issue with State access to the West Seboeis Road just before the rail road crossing. Gating the road would prevent the public access to the Seboeis Lake Public Boat Launch, the ATV trails connections from Brownville to Millinocket, Passamaquoddy Tribal Land Access and impend the flow of millions of dollars of wood products being hauled in that area. Owner of parcel in question has informed Bureau of Parks and Lands he will be gating the road July 1st. His property only extends to the middle of the road so it's unclear how he is able to gate the road. Bureau of Parks and Lands has asked (the Commissioners) that we take over 50–60-yard section of the road, south of our current ownership if they acquire the section of the road in question.
 - Commissioner Baldacci stated that the land owners have no right to gate the road; if they don't have ownership of the road. The Bureau of Public Lands could use the attorney general's office to prohibit them from doing it. There should be a way to address their concerns.

UT Update – Continued:

- LD 1209: This bill establishes municipal cost components for state and county services provided 33 to the unorganized territory that would normally be paid for by a municipality. The 34 municipal cost components constitute the property tax for the unorganized territory. Taxation Committee voted ought to pass on May 13th and reported out
- Special Projects – We are having the cooperative salt purchase bid next week. There will be multiple bid openings at our June 15th meeting for snow removal contracts.
- Financial Standing – Everything looks great with exception of the fire protection which is over \$3,666. However, we sold the 1992 Spartan firetruck for \$6400.

IT Update -

Director Warren presented the following:

- Director Warren presented his new Systems Administrator, Brandon Tenney.
- Projects have been slower moving into. We currently are working on these projects.
 - Working on zero-day threat that occurred with our exchange. Taylor has spearheaded this project working with the EMA office. He has applied for a grant and looking to get it approved.
 - Deploy the new VMWare infrastructure and reutilize existing infrastructure as our offsite backup at Belfast Hall
 - Deploy new version of Exchange Server with enough licenses to cover all Penobscot County employees

Sheriff's Update -

Lt. Keith Hotaling presented the following update on behalf of Sheriff Morton:

- In-house jail population is 185; 19 boarded out to other facilities, no federal inmates, county swaps and there **205** inmates in Pre-trial Services. We have 15 inmates internally classified as mentally classified as serious mental illness. We have reduced that by one, as one has gone to the prison, and other one is being sent to Riverview in a couple days.
- Sheriff is communicating with the State regarding FOIA requests about average daily population at some of their facilities and their budgets for the mentally ill. They have acknowledged his request for information but have not provided any information at this time.

Sheriff's Update – Continued:

- Sheriff is inquiring if the Commissioners would like to add about what they are doing to help alleviate some of the mental illness problems in the county at the same time? Commissioner Baldacci responded that he will be meeting Friday morning with the head of the ED at St. Joseph's hospital; from his experience has worked in facilities and is familiar with facilities that offer police alternative to jails and emergency rooms. He definitely feels that what needs to happen as a facility needs to be developed with hospitals and the county that provides an alternative location for people to get medical care. I will share what his thoughts are.
- Lt. Hotaling brings the project updates at the jail. Director MacDonald is still working on projects for the control room and the elevator. Both of those projects have extreme ramifications to the daily operations of the facility and if either one of those go down, it creates a real critical effect in operations. Those are considered a real priority level.
- Lt. Hotaling introduced two new projects for your consideration.
 - Body worn cameras and in car cameras. We've have done some investigating into companies that provide that equipment. Most of the areas in the state are going with a Motorola solution because it integrates very seriously with our Spilman product.

Commissioner Baldacci injected that on the Body Camera/In-Car Camera request that there should be grant money available. Lt. Hotaling stated that the grant money that EMA has available, doesn't fit their description. Grant money does not permit funding for anything that will be leased. These will be a five-year lease purchase. Commissioner Baldacci recommends that Lt. Hotaling look into grants from Department of Justice, DOJ encourages police departments to have cameras (either dash board or body).

- Body scanner for corrections. We have talked to a company that two other counties have used their product. This would fit right in our jail with no physical alteration to the building. We have one room and not it would slide into with existing electrical. The prices are probably about half of what it used to be just a couple years ago. This product also fits the description for the COVID money. Commissioner Baldacci felt that if this piece of equipment does indeed qualify for the American Rescue Act funds, that would be beneficial to the county. Commissioner Baldacci is requesting verification and Lt. Hotaling will get back to the commissioners next week. Currently the price has come down dramatically since it was first requested. The current cost is sub \$175 K. Two other counties have made purchases of this piece of equipment.

Administration Update –

Administrator Honey reported on the following:

- Communication was placed in the Commissioners folders.
 - Projects going on West Enfield and North Twin Development
- Employment within the County:
 - Job posting for PRCC Call takers; there are four positions open at this time. There will be movement within the department. Currently, both the director and deputy have been picking up some shifts over the weekend to help alleviate force overs and overtime. We are grateful for their commitment to the department and their staff.
 - Chris Fox was promoted to PRCC Supervisor.
 - Meeting with the PRCC unit as their contract will expire the end of this year. Met with the new AFSCME staff representative Steven Lyons. We have set up negotiation dates.
 - Administrator Honey has been participating in some webinars and gathering information on the Rescue Plan funds. The treasury released an interim final rule on May 10th. There's a deadline to submit comments on the final rule July 9th. We received the first fund distribution last Wednesday. The second distribution will be a year from now.
 - The Sheriff's supervisor unit ratified their contract with the county last week, so that was great news; we will be signing the contract later in the meeting today.
 - Mask guidance was sent out last Friday to all staff. Visitors need to wear masks when coming into the building, along with staff in public places. If employees have been fully vaccinated, they can remove their masks when in their office places. We do ask, however, that they continue to wear masks when traveling in the public spaces. We are keeping a close eye on the progress and Maine CDC recommendations. The difficulty is obviously with the public coming into the building, we don't have any way of knowing if people have been vaccinated or not. With such small departments and somewhat vulnerability to possible exposures, we want to make sure that we're doing the recommended for all of our staff and our public to remain safe.
- Coming up meetings this week include:
 - Finance Director Judy Alexander and Administrator Honey will be meeting with the Sheriff's office this week to discuss payroll duties and a different approach to payroll and how that function will work going forward.

Administration Update – Continued:

- Monday is a holiday and the county building will be closed to all non-essential personnel.
- Next Tuesday will be our jail tour.
- Commissioner Sanborn moved to approve the warrants as presented. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Payroll Change Notices signed for: Ryan Auffant – Resignation; Christopher Fox – Promotion.
- Payroll Warrant to be approved for 05.21.2021: \$247,115.62
- A/P Warrant to be approved for 05.25.2021: \$73,213.53
- Unorganized Territory Warrant to be approved for 05.21.2021: \$14,203.24
- Unorganized Territory TIF Warrant to be approved for: NONE

FOP Supervisory Contract Signing –

Present for signatures were FOP Union Representative Joel Wilkerson, Det. Sgt. John Trask, SSgt. Roy Peary and Cpl. Stephen Marko

Commissioner Baldacci thanked them all for the productive negotiation; we look forward to continuing the relationship we have with the FOP.

Executive Session---Commissioner Sanborn made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:20 a.m., under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) Contract Matter. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Bill Collins, Director Alexander and Administrator Honey. Session ended at 11:24 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned-

Commissioner Sanborn moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Certified By:

Peter K. Baldacci, Chairman

Laura J. Sanborn, Commissioner

Andre E. Cushing, III, Commissioner

Administrator, Erika Honey