

Penobscot County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes May 17, 2022
9:00 AM **Commissioners Laura Sanborn and Peter Baldacci**
Commissioner Andre Cushing - Absent

2384
58°

Roll Call -

Commissioner Sanborn opened the meeting at 9:00 AM from the Commissioners Chambers with Commissioner Baldacci and Administrator Honey present.

Commissioner Andre Cushing and Treasurer John Hiatt were absent

Approval of Minutes –

Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the May 10, 2022 Commissioner Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0.

Public Comment –

Levi Ashley – Penobscot County Resident

Participant came before the Commissioners to voice his displeasure with the court system. Commissioner Baldacci advised Participant to get counsel since the Commissioners don't have jurisdiction over his cases.

Janet Drew – York County Resident

After listening to the other speaker, Participant questioned how many people are sitting in jail for nonviolent offenses, lack of bail money, and waiting for their court date. These people are dealing with the trauma of jail; isolated from their families, and the effects of understaffing.

UT Update -

Director Shaw Weeks presented the following contracts for approval:

- Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the Animal Control Officer contract for the Town of Milford. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0. Signed
- Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the Alton Fire Contract with a slight increase from last year and no call billing. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0. Signed.
- Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the Bangor Human Society animal control renewal contract. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0. Signed.

UT Update – Continued:

Director Weeks reported the following:

- Has been in communication with the Government Affairs Manager at Consolidated Communications regarding the Greenfield Broadband expansion. There is a meeting scheduled for the end of June when the engineering study is finalized.
- There will be a bid opening May 31st for the municipal solid waste for Argyle and Greenfield

EMDC – Katahdin Region Update –

Director Shaw Weeks introduced Amy Collinsworth as the new Economic Development Director for Katahdin Region.

EMDC CEO Lee Umphrey inserted that after an extensive search with several candidates, Amy came forward as somebody with roots in this area, and experience with marketing, communications and team building to make her the best candidate.

Director Collinsworth states that after discussing with the board, a top priority will be northern Maine areas such as Stacyville and Island Falls that could use a lot of our attention.

Commissioner Sanborn invited Director Collinsworth to the Mt. Chase town meeting that will be held the beginning of June.

CEO Umphrey stated that part of Director Collinsworth role will be to reinforce the good work being done in Millinocket and East Millinocket; along with looking at the entire region. There will be a lot to be worked on with broadband, roads and other infrastructures; as well as the possibility of the monument possibly becoming a park.

Sheriff's Update –

Sheriff Troy Morton reported the following:

- In-house jail population is 140; 6 inmates being held for MDOC; 1 inmate held for out-of-state extradition; 85 boarded out to other facilities at a reduced cost of \$65 per day and there are **93** inmates in pre-trial services.
- Will be participating with Administrator Honey in a labor management meeting this afternoon

Sheriff's Update – Continued:

- The jail tablet program has been pushed back to June or further into the summer
- The PACE program is running this weekend; PACE programs are booked until October with 50% of participants being sentenced from other counties
- A patrol cruiser was involved in a car-deer crash on the interstate that caused substantial damage
- Some of the new vehicles that were ordered are starting to come in
- Sheriff expressed the difficulty of outside organizations not able to come into the jail with COVID regulations

Administration Update –

Warrants:

- Payroll Warrant to be approved for 05.13.2022: \$ 258,641.32
- A/P Warrant to be approved for 05.17.2022: \$ 333,912.72
- UT Warrant to be approved for: NONE
- UT TIF Warrant to be approved for: NONE
- Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the warrants as presented. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0.

Payroll Change Notices signed for: Melodie Farren and Matthew Buck – Hired Full-time; Catherine Bazinet – Promoted; Amy McCrea, Darren Nadeau, Jaime Tibbets and Nicholas Hubert – Resignations; Diana Ronald and Ariel Tenney – Payroll Status Changes.

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:30 a.m., under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matter. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 2-0. Present were: Commissioners, Administrator Honey and Sheriff Morton. Session ended at 9:40 a.m.

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:41 a.m., under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matter. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 2-0. Present were: Commissioners, Administrator Honey, Office Manager Kristine Higgins and DA Marianne Lynch. Session ended at 9:54 a.m.

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:55 a.m., under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) Contract Matter. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 2-0. Present were: Commissioners, Administrator Honey, and Director Weeks. Session ended at 10:09 a.m.

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:10 a.m., under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matter. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 2-0. Present were: Commissioners and Administrator Honey. Session ended at 10:20 a.m.

Public Session/Action Taken -

Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to deny GCN #169 for reason of inability to show proper evidence to support sickness was work related. Information presented was speculative with no substantiated proof. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to deny passed 2-0.

Meeting Adjourned-

Commissioner Baldacci moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Sanborn seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0.

Certified By:

Administrator, Erika Honey

Laura J. Sanborn, Chair

Peter K. Baldacci, Commissioner

ABSENT
Andre E. Cushing, III, Commissioner