

Penobscot County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes January 24, 2023 #2419
9:00 AM Commissioners Peter Baldacci, Andre Cushing and David Marshall

Roll Call -

Commission Chair Cushing opened the meeting at 9:10 AM from the Commissioners Chambers with Commissioner Marshall, Treasurer Mower and Deputy Administrator LaBree present. Commissioner Baldacci attending via zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance – Treasurer Mower

Approval of Minutes –

Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the January 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Public Comment –

Janet Drew – Citizen of York

Participant requested what data is used to calculate and decide on plans for potentially a new jail.

Larry Dansinger – Citizen of Bangor

Participant requested a moment of silence for an inmate who recently passed. Discussion on a FOAA request to the Sheriff and concerns on the recent ACLU questions.

Probate Update –

Registrar Stupak reported the following:

- The Probate Office and Administrator Adkins to discuss Judge Brandmeir's Chambers
- Attorney fees may increase for indigent cases -additional information will be provided as requested by the Commission

Deeds Update –

Register Susan Bulay reported the following:

- Document count for December was 20% below average with 2,514 documents
- Revenue was 15% above average with \$141K turned over to the general fund
- Document count for the Year 2022 was 10% below average with 37,139 documents
- Revenue was 2% above average at \$1,440,741
- Spacing discussions are taking place with Administrator Adkins

ARPA Grants –

Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$15,500 to Lincoln Regional Food Cupboard. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

ARPA Grants – Continued:

Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the release of funds for the building acquisition of Fresh Start; the remaining awarded funds will be released at a later date. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

UT Update –

Director Buswell presented the following:

- TIF agreement for the East Millinocket Fire Department for \$183,000. Signed.
- Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the Mattawamkeag Fire Contract as presented. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Met with Mike Michaud and Amy Collinsworth in East Millinocket to discuss all the exciting changes taking place
- Sunday, February 12th at 9:00 AM, UT Administration will meet at the Kingman Fire Station to have a discussion with the Mattawamkeag and Springfield Fire Chiefs along with Kingman Fire
- A verbal notice from Lee Fire Chief that they will no longer responded to Kingman or Prentiss through mutual aid.

Wolfden Mt. Chase Mining Discussion –

Director Buswell stated after review of the LUPC application from Wolfden Mining to change the zoning, he recommends a public hearing take place up in that region. Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve sending letters of a formal request that a public hearing be held on the Wolfden Mount Chase, LLC rezoning application. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-0. Commissioner Cushing recused himself due to a conflict.

Sheriff's Update –

Sheriff Morton presented the following:

- Many thanks to Director MacDonald and his crew for working on the parking lot during this major storm event
- Welcome to the newly elected officials, Commissioner Marshall and Treasurer Mower; Finance Director Bragdon and Grant Manager Dana
- Mr. Dansinger and his group should refrain from spreading inaccurate information during public comment. Mr. Dansinger specially cited the wrong cause of death of an incarcerated individual during the Fall of 2022. Sheriff Morton felt Mr. Dansinger owed an apology to the individual's family and friends for his inaccurate statement. Mr. Dansinger's inaccurate comments disregard a concern for the stigma associated with mental health and substance abuse.
- Today's count in the jail is 149 inhouse; 80 inmates boarded out to other facilities and 100+ in Maine Pre-trial
- Jail Occupancy License has been approved

Sheriff's Update – Continued:

- The jail body scanner project needs to be expedited
- After discussion on the purchase of patrol vehicles:
 - Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the purchase the Tahoe from Quirk Augusta for \$38K. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion.
 - Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve purchase of four Tahoe's at \$44,089.75 per vehicle from McGovern's in Framingham, MA. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
 - Sheriff requested permission to go out to bid for additional cars in July for the 2024 vehicles
- Great work by Deputies, Special Response Team and Negotiators on two recent incidents involving barricaded persons
- Thanks to EMA for assisting us in the grant funding for the drone team. This team has been utilized for different things and has far exceeded our expectations on the work accomplished
- 2022 end of year admissions were 3,056

Administration Update –

Deputy Administrator LaBree presented the following:

- The Efficiency Maine rebate check in the amount of \$30,500 was received. Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve placing that amount in the Facilities Capital Improvement Escrow account. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Warrants:

- Payroll Warrant / (01-13-23) - \$ 335,991.80
- Payroll Warrant / (01-20-23) - \$ 292,633.15
- Accounts Payable / (FY 2022 01-18-23) - \$ 128,986.38
- Accounts Payable / (FY 2023 01-13-23) - \$ 996.52
- Accounts Payable / (FY 2023 01-18-23) - \$ 192,716.05
- Accounts Payable / (01-24-23) - \$ 489,861.80
- Accounts Payable / (01-24-23) - \$ 219,649.79
- UT / Accounts Payable / (01-18-23) - \$ 60,849.75
- UT / TIF / (01-18-23) - \$98.66
- UT /TIF (01-24-23) - \$183,000

Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the warrants as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Payroll Change Notices signed for: Evgeni Aleksiev, Dalton Dunnells, Peter Garland, Patricia McLaughlin, Cassandra Morris, John Neff, Graham Pearce, and Roy Peary.

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:15 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C) Contract Matter. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Deputy Administrator LaBree, Sheriff Morton, Treasurer Mower and Director Bragdon. Session ended at 10:36 AM

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:37 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C) Contract Matter. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Deputy Administrator LaBree, Sheriff Morton, Director MacDonald, Treasurer Mower and Director Bragdon. Session ended at 11:05 AM

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 11:06 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C) Contract Matter. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Deputy Administrator LaBree, Treasurer Mower and Director Bragdon. Session ended at 11:27 AM

Action Taken –

Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to adjust the wage scale for the current corrections clerical position to the designated corrections officer wage scale. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to allow Director MacDonald authorization to sign the three HOK contracts as presented earlier (Design and Concepts and two (2) land/sites) and approve the expenditures. Administrator Adkins will provide Commissioners the actual account the expenditures will be charged against. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve hiring Diane Kirby as Assistant Finance Director effective February 19, 2023 to include approval of considerations. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned-

Commissioner Baldacci moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 AM with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Certified By:

Administrator, Scott A. Adkins

Andre E. Cushing, III, Chair

Peter K. Baldacci, Commissioner

David S. Marshall, Commissioner