

**Roll Call -**

Commission Chair Cushing opened the meeting at 9:00 AM from the Commissioners Chambers with all Commissioners, Treasurer Mower and Administrator Adkins present.

**Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Marshall**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to approve the July 11th, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Voted to approve 3-0. Signed.

**Public Comment –**

Larry Dansinger, resident of Bangor spoke of an article he sent regarding releasing people and why pretrial services does not harm public safety. Participant feels keeping people in jail who are not yet convicted of a crime are having their lives damaged, along with the County spending a huge number of dollars. Participant hopes that Commissioners will rethink a strategy as to why people are being held unnecessarily.

Janet Drew, resident of York spoke of legislative actions this year and with the changes of the way we think about crime and punishment. Reports have it that 70% of the people in jail are awaiting trial. Even though the courts are slower, there are other options for them that will allow them to care for their families that do not include being incarcerated.

**Probate Update –**

Registrar Renee Stupak reported the following:

- Follow up conversation on charges for court appointed attorneys. After discussion, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve increasing court appointed attorney's rates on August 1, 2023 to \$100 per hour. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Updates on the Judge's Chambers: heat pump and flooring still need to be installed.

**PRCC Update –**

Director Lavoie and Deputy Fitzgerald reported the following:

- As previously reported, the tower in Dixmont has not passed inspections. Gray Media Group (WABI TV) has agreed to a 5-year lease effective August 1, 2023 with the County. The license fee will be \$2,000 per month which will include three-phase power, and hook up for a generator. After discussion, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the terms of this agreement for 5 years with Gray Media. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- A tenant who is leaving that tower has offered to sell their step-down transformer and transfer switch for the generator for modest \$1,200 fee which will be paid from the PRCC budget.
- Director Lavoie will be traveling to Aroostook County tomorrow to attend the Commissioners meeting.

**Sheriff's Update –**

Sheriff Troy Morton presented the following:

- Sheriff announced Lt. Jim Ellis passed away unexpectedly last evening
- Patrol vehicles processes are going fairly well; still some difficulty to get parts & pieces, but our local vendors are doing a great job getting cars lettered, radios and light systems into the vehicles
- After discussion on staffing in Patrol, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve a buy-out for a new deputy not to exceed \$26K with funds used from Sheriff's budget. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0.
- Sheriff reported the latest updated communication on resource sharing from Commissioner Sauschuck from the Maine State Police. The memo states that the current agreement is good through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- Due to the agreement with Maine State Police, the County will be able to move forward with our part time supplemental town contracts that had been placed on hold
- Jail count today is: 166 in-house, 81 boarded out to other facilities, 104 in pre-trial services & 9 on deferred disposition
- The 30-year jail barber has retired; at this time there are two people that have expressed interest for that position
- A great turnout at the recent job fair that was held last week on the third floor. Sheriff's Office has also been promoting hiring opportunities with Trade Winds in Veazie and Whitney's in Corinth
- Staffing for Correction Officer is down 20 personnel
- Board of Visitors toured the jail yesterday; comments were the structure of the facility is not advantageous for movement of inmates to programming with low staffing
- Two Bridges Correctional Facility has agreed to lock their costs for a three-year term; Somerset County has not yet finalized their agreement
- Commissioner Marshall wanted the Sheriff's input in establishing a committee to make recommendations to the Commissioners regarding the disbursement of our opioid funds that have been received. Sheriff has agreed to participate and believes that some of these monies should fund the MAT program that is held in the jail.

**UT Update -**

Deputy Director Tina Morrison presented the following:

- Ireland's Rubbish / Solid Waste Agreement for Drew Township Amendment was presented for approval and signature. This was discussed at the Commissioners Meeting of June 27<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve the agreement with Ireland's Rubbish Service for \$11,000 for curbside service for Drew Township. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed

**ARPA Discussion –**

Grant Manager Wendy Dana presented the following sub-recipient applications for review:

- Bangor Nursing & Rehabilitation - No decision will be made until further discussion with the City of Bangor if they would be willing to go in 50% / 50%.
- Fresh Start. After discussion, Commissioners agreed that no further funding will be awarded; however, the \$180K that was left from the last award can be used toward this application.

Grant Manager Dana then presented the following Commissioners Fund / Third Round applications for discussion:

**DISTRICT 1:**

- Bangor Masonic Foundation – this application was tabled until quotes received
- Christine B. Foundation - Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve \$25,000 award to the Christine B. Foundation for the Medical Nutrition Health Facility. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Food and Medicine - Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve a \$25,000 award not to exceed the \$49,999 total limit. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- PCHC - this application was tabled for further discussion

**DISTRICT 2:**

- Town of Hermon – Commissioner Cushing moved to approve \$49,500 to the Town of Hermon for First Response Equipment. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

**DISTRICT 3:**

- Katahdin Chamber of Commerce – this application was tabled for further discussion
- Katahdin Higher Education Center – Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$49,000 to Katahdin Higher Education Center for the installation of two outside playgrounds. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Town of East Millinocket – this application was tabled for more information
- Town of Lowell – Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$26,000 to the Town of Lowell for repairs to the town salt shed. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Town of Passadumkeag – Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$42,000 to the Town of Passadumkeag for capital improvements to move out of the old building into the new. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

**Deeds Update –**

Register Susan Bulay reported the following statistics of document and revenue counts:

- Document count for June 2023 recorded 3,273 documents
  - 5-year average – 4,150 (22% below)
  - 2015-2019 average – 4,100 (21% below)
- Revenue for June 2023 was \$89,303.19 turned over to the general fund
  - 5-year average - \$140,296 (37% below)

**Deeds Update – Continued:**

- 2015-2019 average - \$125,916 (30% below)
- Total Revenue first six months - \$631,969 – with projected revenue of \$1,200,000
- Working on temporary staffing

**Administration Update –**

Administrator Adkins presented the following:

- MCCA discussion on FY24 supplemental funding
- MCCA discussion on rural patrol with parameters
- HR Specialist Jennifer Snow reported on the joint Career Fair between the Sheriff's Office, PRCC and HR that was held last Wednesday. It was a great turnout with 16 people coming through the door, 11 filling out applications for corrections and were interviewed. After interviews, seven conditional offers of employment were given.
- After discussion on cash flow, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve a transfer of \$1.5M from ARPA funds over to the General fund. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

**Approval of Warrants-**

Payroll Warrant (07.14.23) ***\$342,856.15 & \$2,251.56***  
A/P General Fund (07.11.23) ***\$223,613.03*** (07.18.23) ***\$375,184.37***  
A/P UT (FY22-23) (07.18.23) ***\$6,878.05***  
A/P UT (FY23-24) (07.18.23) ***\$28,753.75***  
A/P UT – TIF (07.18.23) ***\$17,737.60***

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

Payroll status changes signed for: Jeremiah Campbell, Serena Dunroe and Derek Samoluk

Commissioner Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 AM with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

**Certified By:**

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Administrator, Scott A. Adkins

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Andre E. Cushing, III, Chair

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Peter K. Baldacci, Commissioner

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David S. Marshall, Commissioner