

**9:00 AM Commissioners Peter Baldacci, Andre Cushing and David Marshall**

**Roll Call -**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance – Administrative Assistant Mary Anne O’Kelly**

**Facilities Update -**

- Director Brian MacDonald discussed bids from the underground fuel tank removal that were opened last week. Of the six vendor bids, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve Brighter Horizons Environmental Corporation for \$35,000 with the understanding the project will be completed before the November 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Work will be finishing up on the M Block in the jail after a short delay. Waiting on contractor.
- Waiting on Haley Ward to finish our RFP work for the asbestos abatement on the YMCA. After discussion it was decided send out RFP for building demolition at the same time as asbestos abatement. The goal is that this project is completed before winter.
- Still waiting on the heat pump to be installed in the Judge’s Chambers so the carpet can go down
- More information next week on a proposal to upgrade access controls, card reader access and the camera systems

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to approve the August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Voted to approve 3-0. Signed.

**Public Comment –**

Larry Dansinger, resident of Bangor referred to the various pieces of communication that has been sent to Sheriff and Commission on how to reduce numbers in the county jail. Participant is looking for dialogue with the Commission to help “No Penobscot County Jail Expansion” group better understand what the County plans are to reduce numbers in the jail.

Commissioner Cushing responded that the Commission is happy to hear public comments, but the Commission will not engage in debate or discussion during those public comments

Discussion with the Commission included creating a Criminal Justice Advisory Council in each County. This council would involve courts, Commissioners, Sheriff’s, and defense to talk about how the criminal justice system is working. Also reported was a county in Minnesota that runs a Resource Center. Instead of incarcerating people related to mental health or substance abuse charges, they’re given a choice to either go into the Correctional Facility, or go to a Resource Center. The Resource Center provides resources and has multiple services on site to assist with their needs.

**ARPA Discussion**

Grant Manager Wendy Dana provided new Commissioners Fund/Third Round applications to the Commissioners.

- After discussion, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve \$45,000 to Friends of Dakin Pool. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- After discussion, Commissioner Cushing moved to approve \$24,500 to Design Wall Housing. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- After discussion, Commissioner Cushing moved to approve \$30,712 to the Town of Newburgh. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- After discussion, Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$47,053 to Millinocket Historical Society. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- After discussion, Commissioner Baldacci moved to approve \$35,000 to Northern Forest Center. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

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

- Acadia Hospital – Northern Light ask was for \$2M. Grant Manager will speak with Bangor City Manager Debbie Laurie. More information will follow.
- City of Brewer – This is for a Regional Training Facility Shooting Range in the amount of \$83,050. Grant Manager Dana will speak to the City of Brewer to see what they have contributed. More information will follow
- Community Care / Shaw House – after discussion, Commission requested that representatives from this project speak more to their ask at one of our meetings.
- Millinocket Regional Hospital – after discussion, the request for an additional \$514,141.20 will be tabled.

**ARPA / \$300K Commissioner Fund Awards –**

Commission and Grant Manager Wendy Dana presented awards to the following organizations. Each representative informed the Commissioners of their intentions for the award monies.

**District 3 –**

Katahdin Chamber of Commerce – Gail Fanjoy - \$5,000

Town of East Millinocket – Chief Rob McGraw and Deputy Director Fitzgerald- \$45,000

Town of Lowell – Brian Moura - \$25,942

Town of Passadumkeag – Jana Spencer - \$42,000

**Recess – 10:10 AM**

**Meeting Resumed – 10:26 AM**

**Administration Update –**

Deputy Administrator LaBree presented the following:

- Discussion on the MCCA Convention that will be held September 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> at the Poland Springs Resort
- Commissioner Cushing reported on meetings with EMS directors on the multiple challenges faced with workforce. Mentioned were equipping ambulances with real time tracking/interface that may take some pressure off the call centers. Commissioner would like to look to acquire funds whether by a grant or ARPA to place this piece of equipment in all EMS in the county.
- Commissioner Cushing reported on the ongoing discussion with Fire/EMS in the Howland area. Commissioner feels an RFP for a contractor to attend these meetings to provide county support should be considered
- Discussion on the nationwide, statewide and County housing crisis

**Approval of Warrants-**

Payroll Warrant (08.05.23) **\$ 308,670.89 & 1,028.21**

A/P General Fund (08.08.23) **\$501,862.12**

A/P UT (08.01.23) **\$35,337.86**

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: Benjamin Brown, Ryan Buck, George Buswell, Douglas Butler, Dianne Caine, Stephen Day, Kelly Fennelly, Peter Formanski, Kenneth Hill, Dayerrick Ireland, Corey, Ouellet, Carl-Heinz Pierre, Amy Polyot, Jason Raymond, Jovanni Shaw, Carrie Smith, Jeremiah Smith, John Stevenson & Sheila Wakefield.

Commissioner Baldacci moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 AM with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

**Certified By:**

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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

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Deputy Administrator, Michelle LaBree