

Penobscot County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes April 2, 2023 #2468 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 Administrator Adkins and Deputy Administrator LaBree present.

Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Treasurer Mower.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the March 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve 3-0. Signed.

Public Comment –

Larry Dansinger – Resident of Bangor recounted the Brewer incident last week of police officer killing man who appeared to be reaching for a weapon. Mr. Dansinger doesn't feel safe going to Brewer. The group against the PCJ expansion continues to meet- too many arrests, not yet convicted and making worse for individuals. Suggest looking for solutions i.e., programs. Will oppose any expansion of the jail.

District Attorney Update –

DA Almy reported there is still lack of defense counsel to help with the backlog of cases. When in custody there is a court review every 7 days. At times a victim witness advocate that goes to court to listen to the bail review with the victim when there is a possibly of lowering bail.

Office Manager Higgins presented the following criminal forfeiture transfers to be reviewed and authorized.

- State of Maine vs Lyons / \$201.60 Cash / G2-996-10 – DA Forfeiture
- State of Maine vs Randall \$138.45 Cash / G2-996-10 – DA Forfeiture
- Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the 15% County share of the criminal forfeiture request as presented. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.

Franklin Street HVAC Replacement Bid Opening

Director MacDonald reported that there were no bids for this RFP. Commissioner Baldacci suggested to get a quote from Mechanical Services as they are our current service provider. Administrator also commented to get a price on this building as well. Brian will proceed on getting quotes.

Update:

- Y Demo is making progress- middle section came down unplanned yesterday. Debris removal will take 3-4 weeks but the hope is the building will be down this week, unless the weather forces a delay.

UT Update –

Director Buswell and Deputy Morrison presented the following:

- Presented for approval and signatures was the TJ Glidden Logging snow removal contract addendum for the Millinocket Lake Road; had been previously discussed at the March 5th meeting. Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the addendum as presented. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Discussion on the replacement of the tanker truck for the Kingman Fire Station. George is in talks of trading in the current truck and replacing with a new one. More information to come.
- Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the Vinal Applebee – Rocky Mountain Trail Riders Community Services Project Certification. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Gander Road & Scraggley Lake Road will have road signs posted “Local Traffic Only” before eclipse.

Public Hearing –

Chair Cushing opened the hearing at 9:29 AM for the 5 Lakes Lodge Special Amusement Permit. The lodge is located in South Twin Lake in IP3. Director Buswell commented that has been no issues at the place of business. No public comment. Public Hearing closed at 9: 30 AM. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the request for the Special Amusement Permit for 5 Lakes Lodge. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.

Small Business Administration –

Monica Myles, Public Affairs Specialist from the US Small Business Administration presented information to the Commission about the low interest rate economic injury/disaster loans that are available to eligible small businesses and non-profit organizations in Penobscot County. The declared disasters occurred from December 17 – 21, 2023 and from January 9 – 13, 2024. As a result of one or both of these disasters, small businesses and most private non-profit organizations in Penobscot County that incurred an economic injury (reduction in revenue) as a direct result can apply for an economic injury disaster loan if they are not able to pay their ordinary and necessary expenses as a result of the disaster(s). For questions and/or additional information- Lending@sba.gov

ARPA –

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

- District One –
 - The Brick Church – Pastor Leon Licata & Tina Jakacky - \$22,000
 - Wabanaki Public Health – Lisa Sockabasin & Andrea Sockabasin - \$20,000
- District Two –
 - Corinna Water District - Jim Louder - \$16,455

Grant Manager Dana presented the five sub-recipient applications:

- Heart of Maine Resource Center located in Dexter. Commissioner Cushing was invited to the site and was provided a tour. Commissioner Cushing made a motion to approve \$275,000 to the Heart of Maine Resource Center. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Patten Veterans Memorial Library- Request was tabled.
- Save-A-Life – Laura Sanborn & Councilor John Trask were present to discuss Save-A-Life. Some improvements discussed with the bathroom & ramp ADA accessible- helps improve the community of Lincoln with drug and mental health issues. The deed of property has been furnished to the Commission and the previous contingency question has been cleared up. After discussion, Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve \$149,850 for Save-A-Life. Commissioner Baldacci seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Penquis - Jason Bird reported to the Commission an update to the 2 ARPA requests by Penquis as previously discussed with the Commission. Jason is requesting the Commission fund the current gap for Milford place which is \$660K. After discussion, Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to approve \$650K for the Milford Place Project to Penquis for the Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Administration Update –

Administrator Adkins and Deputy Admin LaBree presented the following:

- Discussion on the reduction in the costs/change order on the Y demo.

Approval of Warrants-

Payroll Warrant	03.22.24	\$ 334,547.84	03.29.24	\$ 321,238.44
A/P General Fund	03.26.24	\$ 1,039,250.33	04.02.24	\$ 80,301.19
A/P PRCC Bond	03.26.24	\$ 136,171.48	04.02.24	\$ 230,913.97
A/P Unorg Terr	03.26.24	\$ 101,585.18	04.02.24	\$ 123,322.93
A/P UT TIF	03.26.24	\$ 165,002.42	04.02.24	\$ 1,500.00
A/P ARPA	03.26.24	\$ 4,000,000.00	04.02.24	\$ 1,299,155.00

Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to approve the warrants as presented as Item L listed on the agenda. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve 3-0. Signed.

Payroll status changes signed for: G. Higgins, M. Day, J. Snow, C. Bazinet, K. Grant, M. Bryer, E. Petterson, I. Libby, A. McCarron, M. Morin, M. Domenech, A. Rounds, C. Watson, S. Veilleux & J. McEwen.

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:25 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matter / Grievance #179. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Treasurer Mower, Administrator Adkins, Deputy Administrator LaBree. Session ended at 10:38 AM

Action Taken – None

Executive Session---Commissioner Baldacci made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:38 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) Contract Matter / Labor Negotiations / AFSCME. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Treasurer Mower, Administrator Adkins, and Deputy Administrator LaBree. Session ended at 11:10 AM.

Action Taken – None

Commissioner Baldacci moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 AM with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Certified By:

Administrator, Scott Adkins

Andre E. Cushing, III, Chair

Peter K. Baldacci, Commissioner

David S. Marshall, Commissioner