

Penobscot County Commissioners' Workshop Minutes December 16, 2025 #2518
8:00 AM Commissioners Daniel Tremble, Andre Cushing and David Marshall

Roll Call -

Commissioner Cushing opened the meeting 8:30 AM with Commissioner Tremble, Commissioner Marshall, Interim Administrator Lamb present in the Third Floor Great Room. Director Palmer arrived 8:45 AM and Attorney Tim Pease arrived at 9:00 AM.

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Marshall led the Pledge.

Public Comment – None

Commissioners Budget Discussion -

Budget discussion of the meeting of December 11th where the Budget Advisory Board was requesting the commission to reduce the budget \$1M in expenditures and not to include any new revenue as part of the \$1M. The committee wanted to approve an expenditure budget of \$35,153,902 in which they wanted the Commission to make the cuts to get there.

Attorney Tim Pease joined the discussion and passed on the options for the motion made by the Budget Advisory Committee. Attorney Pease wants the Commission to figure out if they were given enough guidance in what is being asked of them. An option would be that there be another meeting with the budget advisory committee to pass a budget, the commissioners can move forward based on the figures in the motion or the commission can vote unanimously.

Further discussion on the time frame in order to complete work by the end of the year. There is a fail-safe if there is not an approved budget before the start of the fiscal year, in that the county must operate on an interim budget that does not exceed the previous year until the final budget is adopted. There was discussion on how the County can go out for a TAN (Tax Anticipation Note).

After discussion on Dept 34 – Program Donations, Commissioner Tremble requested it be tabled at tomorrow's meeting. (Discussion on Together Place and BARN going to Opioid Funding total of \$30K.)

The following were approved for reductions:

- Dept 4 – PRCC (\$40,000)
- Dept 8 – Buildings (\$32,500)
- Dept 6 – Commissioners (\$7,000)
- Dept 12 – Sheriffs (\$97,700)
- Dept 15 – IT (\$40,000)

The following were approved for changes:

- Dept 3 – EMA – Moving Orono Haz Mat \$27K over / with reductions a total net change \$14K)

Departments 36 (Penquis) and 30 (EMDC) were discussed with no decision. Commissioner Tremble is requesting to keep them at a 20% reduction. Will table until tomorrow's meeting.

Further discussion on Dept 9 (Jail) – Sheriff is willing to drop boarding costs.

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:57 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) / Personnel Matter. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Interim Administrator Lamb, and Director Dyer ended at 4:30 PM

Commissioner Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:31 PM. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.

Signature Page

Certified By:

Interim Administrator, Gary Lamb

Andre E. Cushing, III, Chair

Daniel J. Tremble, Commissioner

David S. Marshall, Commissioner