

Penobscot County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes January 14, 2026 #2523
10:00 AM Commissioners Daniel Tremble, Andre Cushing and David Marshall

Roll Call -

Commissioner Cushing opened the meeting at 10:00 AM with Commissioner Tremble, Commissioner Marshall, Interim Administrator Lamb and Treasurer Mower present in the Probate Courtroom.

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Tremble led the Pledge.

A moment of silence was held for Maine State Representative Cathy Javner who passed on Saturday.

Commissioner Cushing announced agenda changes to delete NWDB and EMDC and to include a Grant Manager Update.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the January 7th, 2026 meeting minutes. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.

Public Comment -

Peter Velanzon, Resident of Argyle came before the Commission to discuss poor road conditions namely Route 116 in Argyle that is not being properly maintained in the winter months. Mr. Velanzon presented a petition with 62 signatures that is requesting “it be properly plowed, sanded and salted within a reasonable time after and between, each snow and ice storms as long as icy/slushy/snow remains on the road as agreed and signed in contract with Reinzo and Company”.

Mr. Velanzon discussed a situation with UT Director George Buswell, as he feels as though a set up when brought into a different office to download a video to be presented to the Commissioners. In that office, he feels as though there was a conspiracy to create a false narrative.

IT Update –

Director Tenney reported the following:

- Discussion of the 2024 / 2025 work orders for Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties.
- Discussion on Probate and Maintenance new computers with an updated quote with pricing that will be good until January 19, 2026. Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the bid of \$18,278.18, but not the purchase at this time. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Motion moved 3-0.
- Discussion of a new server quote of \$39,998.99 over a 5-year lease. Commissioner Tremble moved to waive the bid process. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Motion moved 3-0. Commissioner Marshall moved to accept the lease quote which is good until January 19th, as presented; but hold off on the purchase. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.
- A demonstration of the new website which is currently still under construction. This should be online by the end of February.

Grant Update –

Grant Manager Dana reported the following:

- As requested by the Commission, Grant Manager Dana will provide the end-of-year report identifying completed projects and those that remain outstanding.
- Grant Manager Dana has been working with the offices of Senator Angus King and Senator Susan Collins to secure funding through the energy grant.
- The Interim Administrator has submitted a draft (“skeleton”) opioid contract and is awaiting legal review and finalization.
- Grant Manager Dana reported that she continues to actively seek new grant opportunities most especially for the jail. She noted that some grants previously utilized are no longer available, as several funding programs have been closed. It was reminded that grants need to have matching funds and County audits need to be up to date.

Finance Update –

Finance Director Palmer presented the following:

- There were no TAN bids received due to the quick turnaround.
- There will be a contractor assisting with the 2023 audit starting next week.
- Director Dyer will assist in setting up the new time clock system

HR Update –

Director Dyer presented the following:

- After discussion on the Maine State Retirement Plan Change for FOP Contracts, Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the language as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.

Administrative Update –

Interim Administrator Lamb presented the following:

- Administrator Lamb, along with Commissioner Marshall attending via zoom attended the nomination of Peter Pray in Augusta for LUPC.
- Blair Tinkham, our new County Administrator may be starting as soon as next week.
- Commissioner Cushing, Commissioner Tremble, Interim Administrator Lamb, and incoming Administrator Tinkham attending the Maine Sheriff’s Association meeting yesterday in Augusta.

Approval of Warrants-

Payroll Warrant	01.09.26	\$ 378,318.37
A/P General Fund	01.13.26	\$ 190,383.72
A/P PRCC Bond	01.13.26	\$ N/A
A/P Unorg Terr	01.13.26	\$ 8,207.05
A/P UT TIF	01.13.26	\$ N/A
A/P ARPA	01.13.26	\$ 132.56

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the warrants per Item J on the agenda. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.

Payroll status changes signed for: None

Commissioner Tremble made a motion to go into Executive Session at 11:33 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) / Personnel Matter. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Interim Administrator Lamb, Treasurer Mower, Director Dyer, Director Lavoie and Deputy Fitzgerald. Session ended at 11:45 AM

Action Taken in Open Public Session – Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the PRCC personnel recommendation. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.

Commissioner Tremble moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:46 AM . Commissioner Marshall 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