

Roll Call -

Commissioner Cushing opened the meeting at 10:02 AM with Commissioner Tremble, Commissioner Marshall, Administrator Tinkham, and Treasurer Mower present in the Probate Courtroom.

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Marshall led the Pledge.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the March 18th, 2026 & April 1st, 2026 meeting minutes. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.

Public Comment – None

Deeds Update –

Register Bulay presented the following:

- The document count from January through March 2026 was 6,977. This represents approximately 20% of the average annual document count, which is typical for the first quarter. The Airport Mall was the largest sale of the quarter.
- Revenue from January through March 2026 totaled \$309,375. This represents 25% of the projected annual revenue of \$1,250,000 and places revenue on pace with projections.

EMA Update –

The Commission reviewed a 2026 Mutual Aid Agreement presented by Director Fox via Zoom on behalf of the Maine Emergency Management County Director's Council. The agreement, which has been in place since the 1970s and was updated in early 2026 for review by all 16 county Commissions, was recommended for approval by Administrator Tinkham, who noted there was no risk because the county could withdraw within 30 days. After discussion, Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the agreement, Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion, and the Commission approved it by a 3–0 vote. The agreement was then signed.

UT Update -

Director Buswell and Deputy Morrison presented the following:

- After discussion on the Millinocket Ambulance 2-year Agreement, Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- After discussion on the Millinocket Fire Protections Agreement, Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.

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UT Update – Continued:

- After discussion on RFP bids to be solicited for the 2026-2027 Rock Salt Co-Op, Commissioner Tremble moved to approve this request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Following discussion regarding the Down East Lakes Region ATV Club's request to use Tar Ridge Road and Molly Osgood Road for a one-year trial period, Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.
- Following discussion regarding the Millinocket X-Stream Canoe Race Special Event Permit for June 6 and the waiver of the \$50 fee, Commissioner Marshall moved to approve the request as presented. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Signed.

On National Telecommunications Week, the Commission wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to the Penobscot Regional Communications Center for the exceptional work performed each and every day in service to our communities.

The dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment demonstrated by the staff are deserving of the highest respect. Their efforts to ensure timely, reliable, and effective communications for emergency response services play a vital role in protecting the safety and well-being of the public.

The Commission holds the Penobscot Regional Communications Center in the highest regard and is deeply grateful for the essential service they provide. Their continued excellence, often carried out under demanding circumstances, reflects great credit upon the department and the communities they serve.

Thank you for all you do!

Administration Update -

Administrator Tinkham presented the following for signatures:

- Koffman vs State of Maine
- Symonds vs State of Maine
- Keane vs State of Maine
- DeRoche vs State of Maine

A request for signature on the following forfeiture:

- Commissioner Tremble moved to approve the forfeiture in *Herbert v. State of Maine* in the amount of \$8,350, to be transferred to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0. Signed.

Commissioners reported the following:

- Commissioner Cushing reported on what transpired in Augusta this past week regarding Bill LD 2232. The bill proposed that a 20% funding contribution by the state would be both appropriate and necessary. Over the past three years, we have also received supplemental funding for MAT treatment; however, going into FY 2027, MAT funding would have dropped back to \$20.4 million.

Many counties, having already established their budgets, would have experienced an adverse financial impact. Once the bill reached the Appropriations Committee, it had to compete with many other bills requiring funding, all within a limited pool of resources.

Ultimately, we were awarded \$4 million for FY 2027. However, the bill did not include the language that would have increased future annual allocations to county jails to 20%, or approximately \$30 million, nor did it include additional language that would have adjusted that amount annually according to the CPI.

As a result, we will need to return to the table on this issue. We did receive verbal support from both the Speaker and the House Chair, who indicated that during the off-session they would like to continue working with the Commissioners and sheriffs on this matter.

This was, however, a positive year in terms of how effectively we were able to educate the Legislature. It was unfortunate that, given the limited amount of money available, they ultimately chose not to fully fund our request.

- County Day was held on Friday; however, the Legislature had canceled its session for that day. We will revisit and offer this event again next year, and we will also look to engage more of our municipal partners in the effort. Their involvement will be important, as this ultimately impacts the property tax base. Due to the lack of support from the state this has really put a serious financial hurt on the counties.
- Treasurer Mower and Commissioner Tremble attended a Chamber meeting on Saturday. During the meeting, they reported on the \$4 million allocation received from the State. Although the original request was for a larger amount, they noted it could have been significantly less and expressed satisfaction with the \$4 million allocation.

Approval of Warrants-

Payroll Warrant	03.20.26 \$ 330,691.84	03.27.06 \$ 328,797.98
	04.03.26 \$ 342,855.19	04.10.26 \$ 332,261.04
A/P General Fund	03.25.26 \$ 278,502.00	04.01.26 \$ 831,587.07
	04.08.26 \$ 89,841.22	04.15.26 \$ 770,013.68

A/P PRCC Bond	03.25.26 \$ N/A	04.01.26 \$ 6,294.28
	04.08.26 \$ N/A	04.15.26 \$ N/A
A/P Unorg Terr	03.25.26 \$ 139,608.55	04.01.26 \$ 146,926.62
	04.08.26 \$ 10,057.20	04.15.26 \$ 67,939.02
A/P ARPA	03.25.26 \$ N/A	04.01.26 \$ 420,789.44
	04.08.26 \$ 1,024.54	04.15.26 \$ 235,533.14
A/P TIF	03.25.26 \$ N/A	04.01.26 \$ N/A
	04.08.26 \$ 2,625.00	04.15.26 \$ N/A

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

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:44 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C) Contract Matter. Commissioner Tremble seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Treasurer Mower, Administrator Tinkham, Jason Sharpe and Director Palmer. Director Palmer and Dirigo Strategic Advisors Representative Jason Sharpe. Director Palmer and Consulting Representative Jason Sharpe left the meeting at 12:23 PM. Session ended at 1:30 PM.

Action Taken –None

Payroll status changes signed for: Johannah Sirois, Michaele Day, Catherine Bazinet, Job Johnson, Brandon Anctil, Christopher Bouchard, Jesse Johnston, & Daniel Saulnier

Commissioner Tremble moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:34 PM. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. A vote to approve passed 3-0.

Signature Page

Certified By:

Andre E. Cushing, III, Chair

Daniel J. Tremble, Commissioner

David S. Marshall, Commissioner

Administrator, Blair Tinkham