

## **Penobscot County**

### **Unorganized Territory Budget Committee Presentation and Narrative**

#### **Introduction**

My name is Shaw Weeks and I am the Director of the Unorganized Territory. Working closely with our deputy director and road commissioner, George Buswell, we split responsibilities between the office and work in the field. The Unorganized Territory Administration provides municipal services to Penobscot County's 39 unorganized territories, which I will refer to as UTs. These services include summer maintenance on 44 miles of road and winter maintenance on just over 123 miles of roads which includes maintaining six salt/sand sheds. Together with municipal partners and others we provide Fire, Ambulance, Public Safety, and Municipal Solid Waste services to residents. We coordinate Animal Control for the UTs and nine other regional municipalities. We also support 7 cemeteries across the UTs with the help of our committed volunteers. Additionally, we serve the UTs for E911 Addressing and in managing the Tax Increment Financing district which provides funding for projects in the UT and currently has a balance of \$ \$2,555,712.

#### **Budget Discussion**

Our roads and bridges budget is only slightly increased due to public notice cost increases.

We had 4 new plowing contracts out to bid this year. Two contracts were significantly reduced, one moderately increased and one significantly increased.

Salt/Sand Shed maintenance remains flat funded.

Fire protection and ambulance services saw a modest increase in contract prices with municipal partners this year and are reflected in next years budget.

We had a substantial increase in our solid waste bid this year despite soliciting bids twice for a contract covering a large portion of the northern and eastern UTs. We anticipate another increase from a contract going out to bid in Spring 2022.

All other service accounts remain flat funded except a modest \$304 increase in cemetery requests to keep up with mowing costs.

#### **Capital Accounts**

We purchased a new UT truck this year at a very agreeable price and will continue adding to the capital account over a six-year period, at a reduced amount.

George Buswell is overseeing a soon to be completed road gravel project, approximately 2 miles, on the Scraggly Lake Road in T6 R7, with an approximate cost of \$65,000. We anticipate a similar project next summer on the Bryant Ridge Road in Grand Falls.

This summer George also oversaw a paving project on the Lord Brook Road in Grand Falls, just over 2 miles in length, at a total cost of \$204,261. We anticipate paving projects of a similar scope next summer in Kingman and Prentiss Townships.

Salt/Sand Shed capital account remains flat funded to keep up with major repair costs in the future.

### **Department 14 Budget**

1. Payroll is up 2% with cost-of-living increase
2. Benefits have increased 4.32%
3. Computer and legal assistance services are flat
4. Meals and Lodging budget is down \$100, 13%
5. Telephone is down \$100, 10%
6. Office services are down 35% with a zeroing out of the advertising budget
7. Our training registration budget is up \$100 totaling \$500
8. Equipment and office supplies budget is flat funded at \$1,200
9. Periodicals and subscriptions have been reduced by \$100 to \$350
10. Overall increase in Department 14 budget is 1.98%



## Penobscot County Emergency Management Agency

Bradley Nuding, Director  
97 Hammond Street, Bangor, ME. 04401  
(207) 945-4750

### Executive Summary

### Accomplishments of the past year

#### Operations

- Operated the county emergency operations center managing COVID-19 with support by the Civil Air Patrol. Assisted in the coordination of public safety vaccinations, as well as the FEMA Mobile Vaccination Unit visit to the City of Old Town. Supported 179 entities in N95 mask fit testing, testing supplies, and personal protective equipment (PPE) requests through June – at which time operations were turned back over to the Maine CDC.
- Upgraded our mass casualty trailer and medical supplies.
- Upgraded our radio communications equipment in the office.
- Upgraded the data, cellular, and radio communications equipment in the EMA vehicle.

#### Planning

- Revised the Penobscot County Emergency Action Plan
- Revising the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (FEMA Approval)
- Supported Bangor Water District Contingency Plan
- Supported Bangor Nursing and Rehab Emergency Plan

#### Grants

- Provided \$148,490 in Homeland Security monies to 10 municipalities this federal fiscal year.
- Provided \$58,000 in Department of Justice, COVID-19 monies to 6 municipalities this federal fiscal year.
- Provided \$22,190 in Hazardous Materials training monies to 9 fire departments this state fiscal year.
- Recouped \$30,384.55 in COVID-19-related expenditures through FEMA's Public



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### Assistance

- Generated \$92,988 in Emergency Preparedness revenue this federal fiscal year.

### Training

- ICS402 – Senior and Elected Officials
- ICS300/400 – Managing Large-Scale Disasters
- MGT450 – Bomb-Making Awareness

### Exercises

- Bangor International Airport – aircraft fire
- Bangor Nursing and Rehab – extended power outage
- Cumberland County/Maine Mall – bomb
- Lincoln/Howland Water District – contamination
- Milford Fire Department – search and rescue
- University of Maine System – cybersecurity
- US Coast Guard – Penobscot Bay oil spill

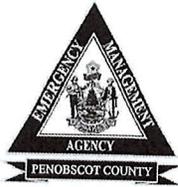
## Penobscot County Risks and Vulnerabilities

### **Maine Threats and Hazards Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) / State Preparedness Report (SPR).**

- Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in Homeland Security Grant allocations (Maine Emergency Management Agency, 2021).
  - Based on population, municipalities, and critical infrastructure.
  - One of eight regional response teams (Orono)

### **State Emergency Response Commission**

- Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Extremely Hazardous Material Facilities (State Emergency Response



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Commission, 2021).

- 283 total reporting facilities / 67 extremely hazards facilities

### Commodity Flow Vulnerabilities

- Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Short-Line Railway mileage (PanAm, CMQ, NBM) (Maine DOT, 2016).
- Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in I-95 mileage (Maine DOT, 2016).
- Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in highest number of critical infrastructures, and wildlife habitat acreage within half-mile hazard corridor (Maine Commodity Flow Study of Hazardous Materials, 2015).
  - *half-mile corridors around priority HazMat routes by mode to determine affected overall population, sensitive populations, critical infrastructure, and sensitive environmental receptors.*
- Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in highest population density, sensitive populations, and aquifers within half-mile hazard corridor (Maine Commodity Flow Study of Hazardous Materials, 2015).
  - *Sensitive populations include correctional facilities, employers with more than 250 employees, fire and emergency medical services, hospitals, nursing homes, public and private schools, police stations, and public gathering places with more than 250-person capacity.*

### Objectives and Goals for GIS Position

The primary mission for GIS will be geospatial contingency planning for natural hazards mitigation (flooding, drought, wildfires, remnants of hurricanes, snow/ice storms), disaster response (real-time natural and structural damages mapped against roadblocks, detour routes, vulnerable population locations), mass-gathering events (parades, graduations, concerts, festivals), commodity flow routes, hazardous material facilities plume scenarios, municipal and private sector infrastructure, and various other open-source data supporting emergency management.

Direct municipal support:

Tax parcel adjustments, zoning, utility infrastructure, historical/cultural assets, public works projects, E-911 address mapping, and school floor plans/safety plans into the public safety dispatch system, snowmobile trail mapping, broadband mapping, et cetera.

## PRCC

The Penobscot Regional Communications Center is the largest and busiest 911 Public Safety Answering Point in the State of Maine. In 2020, we handled 65,209 911 calls, nearly 8,500 more than Portland RCC. We took just over 275,000 business line calls and more than 1,160,000 radio transmissions. We do all of this with 39 employees.

Unfortunately, we face the same staffing, recruitment and retention issues as all of Public Safety. Currently, we are down 6 positions and finding qualified applicants proves to be more challenging each and every year.

In 2020, we went to referendum for a new radio system. So far, phase one of the project has been completed. All of the infrastructure at dispatch has been replaced with brand new equipment. The second phase is well under way. While the results cannot actually be visualized, there is a lot of behind the scene work to prep towers, tower sites, and getting FAA and FCC approval that needs to be completed first. We anticipate that Southern Penobscot County will be completed by late spring of 2022. However, due to shipping and manufacturing problems, this creates delays that are well out of our control. We continue to work diligently to complete this project in a timely fashion because our current infrastructure is not suitable for the needs of our Dispatch Center and our First Responders.

STATE OF MAINE  
**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
PROSECUTORIAL DISTRICT V

MARIANNE LYNCH  
District Attorney

MARK A. RUCCI  
Deputy District Attorney



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY  
(207) 564-2181  
Fax (207-564-6503

PENOBSCOT COUNTY  
(207) 942-8552  
Fax (207) 945-4748

PENOBSCOT COUNTY  
97 Hammond Street ♦ Bangor, Maine 04401-4990

The District Attorney's Office is the Chief Law Enforcement Agency for Penobscot County and is responsible for prosecuting all misdemeanor and felony cases for the Bangor, Brewer, Dexter, East Millinocket, Hampden, Holden, Lincoln, Maine State, Newport, Old Town, Orono, Penobscot Nation, University of Maine, and Veazie Police Departments as well as for the Maine Warden Service, Maine Forest Service and Marine Patrol. Our Office staff's courts in Bangor, Newport, Lincoln and Millinocket.

Last year the Office prosecuted approximately 6,543 cases. The Office expects to prosecute similar numbers this year in addition to struggling with the historical backlog of cases due to COVID.

This office prioritizes cases involving public safety including Domestic Violence, Operating Under the Influence, motor vehicle fatalities involving intoxicants, and major drug trafficking cases occasionally resulting in one or more fatalities. Our Office utilizes diversionary programs such as drug court, and a monthly Prosecutorial Diversion Program in collaboration with the BARN.

In addition to the District Attorney, this office holds 13 prosecutors, one Assistant Attorney General who is assigned to Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, 10 support staff, 3.5 Victim Witness Coordinators and 1 investigator. The Office is currently the recipient of a domestic violence grant that supports Assistant District Attorney positions.

As a service to the victims of Penobscot County, our Office is also responsible for collecting and distributing restitution. Last year we collected \$201,387.87 in restitution and to date this year, we have collected \$164,275.40.

# SUSAN F. BULAY

## Penobscot County Register of Deeds

P.O. Box 2070  
Bangor, ME 04402-2070  
Telephone (207) 942-8797

The Registry of Deeds provides two main services for the people of Penobscot County. First, the Registry records all documents and survey plans that affect property lying anywhere within the boundaries of Penobscot County. All documents are security microfilmed for safekeeping and a copy is made available for public inspection. Similar steps are taken to ensure the security of the plans.

Secondly, the Registry of Deeds prepares and maintains an index of buyers and sellers names so that the documents and maps may be found easily. The records in the Penobscot Registry of Deeds date back to 1814 and currently comprise over 16,000 volumes, half of which have been created in the last twenty years.

In addition, the Registry of Deeds collects and disburses the transfer tax; sends copies of deeds to the different towns to assist the tax assessors in updating their records; and, although prevented by law from giving legal advice, answers questions from the public concerning the documents on record.

Below is a comparison between 2020 and 2021 of documents and monies collected. There was one transaction in 2020 for a very large sum of money that has thrown off the comparison somewhat.

	1/1/2020- 12/31/2020	01/01/2020- 08/31/2020	01/01/2021- 08/31/2021
Deeds	6,813	4,182	4,973
Mortgages	7,030	4,238	5,095
All other documents	29,642	19,213	20,155
Total	43,485	27,633	30,223
Recording Fees	\$1,070,622.00	\$673,276.00	\$752,406.00
Transfer Tax	490,625.08	345,468.53	245,181.09
Copies and misc.	78,181.97	36,347.23	48,580.20
Total to General Budget	\$1,639,429.05	\$1,055,091.76	\$1,046,167.29
Transfer Tax Total to State	\$4,415,625.72	\$3,109,216.77	\$2,094,941.97

I hope this is helpful and am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

SUSAN F. BULAY  
Register of Deeds



# Penobscot County Sheriff's Office

85 Hammond St. Bangor, ME 04401  
207-947-4585

Troy J. Morton  
Sheriff

## Corrections Division

### Facility Information

The Penobscot County Jail is located on the Penobscot County Government Campus (85 Hammond Street in Bangor, Maine). It was last renovated in 1988. The Penobscot County Jail (PCJ) is the largest division of the Sheriff's Office, employing two-thirds of the work force in the agency. It is the largest county correctional facility, in northern Maine.

The state rated capacity of PCJ is 157. Even with many jail diversion initiatives in place, the facility has remained in contingency status for years, due to overcrowding. In 2019, the average daily population for PCJ was 370. This includes, 194 inmates incarcerated at PCJ, 26 boarded out to others facilities and 170 monitored through pretrial service programming.

PCJ provides regional booking services for all state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies within the county. The facility completes approximately 5,000 booking processes a year. PCJ houses both male and female inmates, classified as minimum, medium and maximum security. Juveniles are booked at our facility but are conditionally released to a parent under authority of Probation and Parole, or are taken to Mountain View Juvenile Correctional Facility in Charleston.

PCJ is responsible for housing pretrial detainees and sentenced inmates who have a felony sentence of nine months or less or misdemeanor convictions of 364 days or less. The Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC) house sentenced inmates with a sentence greater that the above. Seventy (70) percent of the inmates incarcerated at PCJ are held in pretrial status.





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## Programs

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| • Maine Pretrial Services    | Diverting on average 105 individuals daily |
| • PACE day reporting         | Diverting 139 sentenced individuals        |
| • Educational Service        | River Side Adult Education services        |
| • Medical Services           | MedPro                                     |
| • Mental Health Services     | CHCS                                       |
| • Medical Assisted Treatment | MedPro                                     |

While we are proud of the programs and services at PCJ, the physical structure simply does not meet today's correctional needs. This very outdated facility is challenging for both staff and those incarcerated. Without need improvement, our mission of providing a safe and humane correctional facility will be in jeopardy.

Corrections is a very important piece of the criminal justice system. It also has a tremendous impact on local law enforcement through regional booking and court services. The challenges being experienced within the correctional facility are now impacting local police practices.

We welcome the budget committee to please come tour our correctional facility or present any questions you might have.

Capt. Richard Clukey

Sheriff Troy Morton



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## Law Enforcement Division



The Penobscot County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Division is responsible for law enforcement services for more than 155,000 residents and visitors in the 67 cities, towns, plantations and unorganized territories of Penobscot County. Patrol deputies are responsible for answering emergency and non-emergency calls for service, proactively patrolling the over 3,557 square miles of the county, investigating crimes, apprehending criminals, and working hand-in-hand with the community to keep Penobscot County safe. The patrol division provides primary law enforcement services in 54 communities which do not have their own police department. Patrol deputies also provide assistance as needed for the 13 organized municipal police departments throughout the county. PCSO deputies answer more than 18,000 calls for service annually.

The Penobscot County Sheriff's Office provides municipalities the opportunity to contract for supplemental law enforcement services. These contracts provide additional and focused law enforcement services to communities saving them time and money by eliminating the taxing administrative overhead of maintaining their own separate law enforcement agencies. Currently the communities of Carmel, Eddington, Glenburn, Hermon, Milford and Orrington have full time contracts whereas one to three full-time deputies are assigned to their community. Bradley, Clifton, Enfield, Greenbush, Howland, Levant, Passadumkeag, Stetson and Winn have part-time supplemental contracts whereas additional focused patrols are provided in those communities throughout the year.

Currently there are 30 uniformed deputies assigned to the Patrol Division. These deputies are divided among 3 patrol crews who work alternating night and day shifts. Each crew is lead and supervised by a veteran Staff Sargent. As part of a Resource Sharing Agreement with the Maine State Police Penobscot County is divided into 6 patrol zones encompassing 5 to 10 communities each. PCSO and the State Police alternate covering 3 zones each week.



The Criminal Investigation Division is the advanced investigative arm of the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office. While all patrol deputies are expected to conduct complete and thorough investigations for all incidents to which they have responded, many cases require a significant time commitment or additional resources and expertise. All detectives have previously been, patrol deputies and after 5 years of full-time law enforcement service, they are eligible for assignment into the Criminal Investigation Division. Currently there are (6) full-time detectives assigned to CID including a unit supervisor. The division has an additional (2) deputies assigned to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, MDEA. Each detective has a specialty, and while any detective may be assigned to any case, they each have primary oversight of cases involving their specialty, such as property crimes, domestic violence, crimes against persons, computer crimes and crimes involving firearms. One CID Detective is responsible for overseeing the department's responsibility to the community notification process when a sex offender moves into our jurisdiction.

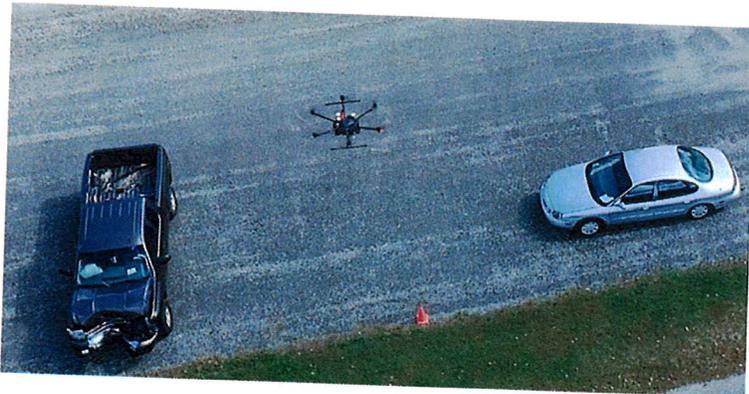
The Penobscot County Sheriff's Office has several specialty teams:



The Special Response Team consists of members from various divisions throughout the agency. The Special Response Team utilizes specialized training and equipment to provide an elevated level of response to threats that are beyond the capabilities of normally equipped department personnel. These situations include, but are not limited to, barricaded subjects, hostage situations, high-risk search/arrest operations, and terrorist events. The Special Response Team's primary goals are preventing loss of life and ensuring the safety of the community. Presently we have 12 deputies assigned to the Special Response Team. Crisis Negotiators work in parallel with the Special Response Team. Crisis Negotiators are useful when dealing with barricaded and suicidal subjects. Crisis negotiators also assist people and officers who have been subjected to violent or traumatic events. The Crisis Negotiators strive to resolve situations in a way that minimizes harm and risk. We currently have 2 crisis negotiators.



Crash reconstruction can be described as the process of determining the cause of a motor vehicle crash while using roadway and vehicle evidence along with physics. Forensic mapping is a process that is used to make an extremely accurate picture of the evidence at a crash, criminal or evidence recovery scene. Mapping and Reconstruction have several functions, to aide in identifying causation factors of a crash and thoroughly capture locations of potential evidence at a scene. We currently have 2 crash reconstructionist and 2 forensic mappers.



Our newest specialty team, currently in development, is our Drone team. With funding from a Homeland Security grant we will be obtaining drone aircraft, mapping software and training for several deputies to become drone pilots. This new technology will allow us to better and more efficiently map crime and motor vehicle crash scenes, search for individuals who have wandered away from their homes and search for evidence of crimes and suspects. We hope to have this team up and running

The Patrol, Criminal Investigation Division and specialty teams are all supervised by the Law Enforcement Lieutenant who reports directly to the Chief Deputy.



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## Civil Division – Year 2020 Summary

The Civil Process Division is responsible for the service of court documents within Penobscot County. These court documents include: landlord-tenant notices, law suits, small claims, civil disputes, family matters, etc.

### Employees:

- 2 Full-Time Civil Deputies
- 1 Clerical Specialist
- 4 (Active) Part-Time Civil Deputies
- 4 (Inactive) Part-Time Civil Deputies

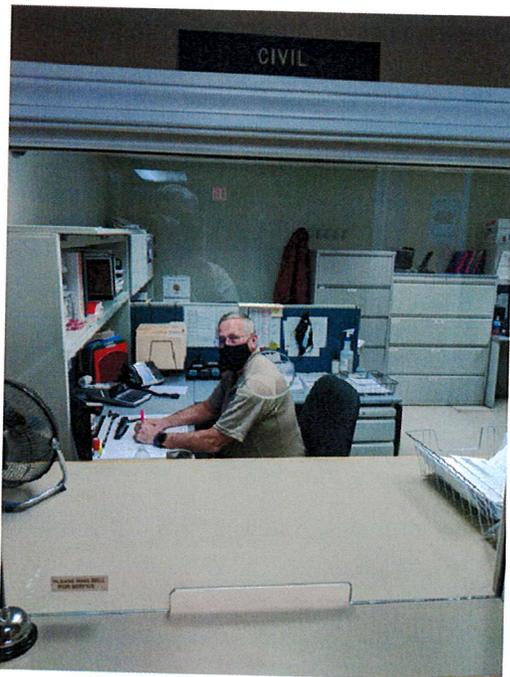
Note: We currently have inactive Part-Time Civil Deputies, because the two Full-Time Civil Deputies have extended their coverage areas to include the towns that these Part-Time Civil Deputies cover.

### Top (5) civil process documents for year 2020:

Summons & Complaint	906
Notice Regarding Electronic Service	794
Forcible Entry & Detainer	737
Statement of Claim	686
Subpoena	364

### Total documents served for year 2020:

5,852





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## COVID-19 Impact

Our 2020 service year was progressing well until the courts shut down due to COVID-19 on March 16th. From March 16th to May 15th our services were limited to emergency court services only. After May 15th we begin to serve more papers as the volume started to increase, but there were still many restrictions set by the court as well as restrictions on landlord-tenant matters set by executive orders of the Governor. The paper service volume slowly increased throughout the rest of the year as restrictions and executive orders ended.

The drastic reduction in paper service volume caused us to finish the year with a 32% decrease in paper service volume from the previous year (2019). Thankfully without the restrictions this year we are projected to equal if not exceed the 2019 paper service volume.

We have also maximized our revenue as much as possible this year by having the full-time staff cover wider service areas as long as possible as the service volume increases before returning any of those areas to the part-time staff, which diverts most of the revenue from those areas away from the county.

SSgt. Lewis Beal Jr.  
Civil Process Coordinator

Sheriff Troy Morton