

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION  
JULY 9, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners William D. Shorey (Chairman) Amy R. Fowler and Betty I. Johnson. Also present was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau to take minutes.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Shorey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Present with the Commissioners was Treasurer David Parkman and Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell. D. Parkman reported the following:

**GENERAL ACCOUNT BALANCE:**

There is \$48,790.21 in checking account. The County will need to borrow on the Tax Anticipation Note next week for payroll.

**JAIL GENERAL ACCOUNT BALANCE:**

There is \$55,731.49 in the Jail General checking account.

**TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:**

D. Parkman reported that there is \$950,000.00 left on the Tax Anticipation Note; adding that it will be "tight", but this was anticipated.

**COUNTY REVENUE:**

The County Revenue is at 59.17%.

**COUNTY BUDGET:**

All budget lines look good. The total expenditure is 52% and could be 55% at this time of the year.

**CORRECTIONS REVENUE:**

The Jail Revenue is 101.03%.

**CORRECTIONS BUDGET:**

The Corrections budget is 99% expended and \$24,000.00 remains.

**CORRECTIONS RESERVES:**

There was brief discussion with the Commissioners regarding the situation with the County Jails likely returning to individual County control. W. Shorey asked if the Jail budget could be put back on a calendar year with the rest of the budget. D. Parkman felt that it might be possible. He agreed with it coming back to a calendar year and be a regular County department as it used to be. He cautioned the Commissioners about the 6-month gap in funding. K. Trussell explained that if the Budget Committee approved \$2,832,252.00 (CAP) next year and the Commissioners voted to make the current year budget be from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, the funding should be alright. Right now that budget is about \$900,000.00 in the "red". This would need to be explained to the Budget

Committee. If it is kept to the \$2.8 million, this should be agreeable with the Budget Committee. By then they will know how much Community Correction money will be allotted to Waldo County.

**2014 AUDIT:**

The Treasurer submitted the 2014 Audit for the County of Waldo.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to file the Treasurer's Report. Unanimous.**

**WARRANTS:**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 26, 2015 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and June 18, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$223,047.45. Unanimous.**

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to authorize payment of the June 26, 2015 Capital and Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$17,364.86. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 26, 2015 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and June 18, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$163,324.55. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2015 MCRCC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$4,500.00. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2015 Final Reentry Accounts Payable warrant FY2015 in the amount of \$81,440.90. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2015 Final MCRRC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$1,129.24.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 9, 2015 General Fund Accounts warrant and July 2, 2015 Payroll in the amount of \$192,220.45. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 9, 2015 Capital & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$8,261.74. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 9, 2015 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and July 2, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$49,900.47. Unanimous.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:22 a.m. for discussion of protected information as permitted by 36 M.R.S.A. §841(2). Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of Executive Session at 10:16 a.m. Unanimous. No action was taken.**

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFFING CHANGES:**

Present with the Commissioners was Sheriff Jeffrey Trafton, who reported the following.

1. The request for proposals for new corrections vans had to be postponed until the next regularly scheduled Commissioners Court Session because the dealerships don't have any 2015 models and the 2016 models are not available yet.

2. P/T Deputy John Shaw has been selected to fill the soon-to-be-vacant full-time position effective August 20, 2015 at the non-certified level of \$19.35 per hour.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to hire John Shaw as full-time Deputy Sheriff.**

3. Chief Deputy Scott Story's last day of employment is August 19, 2015 as he will be retiring from the Waldo County Sheriff's Office. There will be a small gathering that afternoon in the EMA conference room so that people can visit with S. Story and wish him well.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to recognize Former Sheriff and current Chief Deputy Scott Story for his years of service and to accept his retirement date effective August 19, 2015. Unanimous.**

4. Miller Drug has been providing for pharmaceutical supplies for the Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center/Jail. They now, however, prefer to have a contract.

**\*\*B. Johnson, A. Fowler seconded to contract with Miller Drug for pharmaceutical supplies. Unanimous.**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Present to report correspondence was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau as follows:

1. The Commissioners noted pay step increases for the following employee: Register of Probate Sharon Peavey sent a letter stating that she has satisfactorily completed seven years of employment as Register of Probate and requested that her rate of pay be adjusted according to the County of Waldo Elected Officials 2015 Pay Scale at the seven year level of \$52,446.72.

2. B. Arseneau asked the Commissioners if they wished to submit any news item for the August Maine County Commissioners Association Monthly Newsletter. Commissioner Shorey stated that he would be submitting a piece on the Waldo County Garden Project, noting expansion of the garden size, some photos, etc.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2015 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session with amendments including as presented. Unanimous.**

#### **COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

1. B. Johnson reported regarding MCEDD that the General Assembly met and they will stay as MCEDD and the representation will remain the same. Two towns will represent and there can be two Commissioners' representatives. One of those towns is automatically put on the Board of Directors. The Northport and Lincolnville representatives plan to attend. B. Johnson currently serves as Secretary.

2. B. Johnson reported that she has been attending Coastal Counties Workforce meetings. She expressed interest in serving on the board but the opportunity will not be open until next year.

3. A. Fowler reported that LD 186 (Jail legislation) has gone before the Governor and that he will likely veto it, but the Counties are already following it as if it were law. She noted that the Waldo County Commissioners are not waiting to see what happens. They have been working with Two Bridges Regional Jail and there will be a written contract to house Waldo County's inmates there. Waldo County is much more fortunate than many of the Jails. The best of programs are available to Waldo County inmates at Two Bridges. At a time when many Jails will be discussing boarding rates, Waldo County will not have to. She commended Two Bridges for always taking Waldo County's inmates even while under the BOC and when finances were not known. Waldo County will continue to be capped and should be able to live under that cap initially. Eventually the caps will be lifted. When asked by a local reporter what her understanding of the law was, A. Fowler explained that the cap for inmate boarding fees is \$108.00. Waldo's five-year average population is 45 inmates and Two Bridges has agreed to take an infinite number of inmates for \$1.2 million for one year. The reallocation of the CCA funds and the formula that is going to be changed will benefit some counties and harm a lot of counties. Anyone on pretrial can be counted as an inmate. There is good potential that Waldo's numbers could go up. The past 20% of the CCA money had to be utilized for programs in the Jail. That number is going up to 30% for jail programming and the remainder can be used to run the Jail and be used in the County budget.

W. Shorey said there are about 30 clients in the Reentry Center now and with a few more dollars, he understands from Correctional Administrator Raymond Porter that lawyers and others are calling to see if some of the inmates can come directly to the Reentry Center rather than be incarcerated so that they can be released sooner. W. Shorey expressed his view that how people are incarcerated needs to be changed – not so much in supervision but in rehabilitation.

A. Fowler expressed that some people have made poor choices and it has been noted that some of these folks were simply not taught basic principles in their youth and the goal is to instill this via the reentry programs.

W. Shorey said that 64% coming out of the state jail system reoffend whereas about 31% from the Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center reoffend, which is a significant difference.

#### **MMA GRANT AWARDED:**

Present with the Commissioners was Register of Deeds Stacy Grant to share an update regarding the Maine Municipal Association Safety Enhancement Grant she had applied for. Out of about 200 applicants, the Registry of Deeds was awarded \$1,782.00 to replace two of the desks in the registry. The Commissioners commended S. Grant for acquiring these grant funds.

S. Grant explained that in order to finish this project, one additional desk is needed and the security wall will need to be completed after the desks are in place. She requested authorization to order all three desks at once, which may be a better deal. She explained that the way the grant works, the County pays up front first and is reimbursed with the \$1,782.00 in grant funds. It takes four to five weeks for the desks to be ordered and to arrive. The Commissioners agreed to fund the difference in order to order all three desks and complete the project in a timely manner.

The cost for the project is \$4,009.50, minus the \$1,782.00 in grant funds awarded; leaving a remainder of \$2,227.50 to complete the project.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to fund the remaining amount of the Registry of Deeds upgrade project after the grant reimbursement from the Facilities, All Other Reserve. Unanimous.**

#### **NORTHERN DATA SYSTEMS UPGRADE:**

Present with the Commissioners was Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell and Technology Consultant James Arseneau to discuss the following:

1. The County has been contacted by Northern Data Systems (NDS), which is the Treasurer's financial software. NDA would like to upgrade to newer software and hardware. J. Arseneau explained that he had been under the impression it would be seven years between upgrades. In this case, it's a combination of new software and new hardware. There were be a new tower, software to the Deputy Treasurer's computer, the Deputy County Clerk's computer and another back-up system. It has been about six years since the last upgrade and the one before that was 7 years earlier. 41% of the total software cost will be from the Jail budget. If the cost is split out of the reserves between County and Jail and if it purchased directly by the County through J&B Diversified Associates, it would be cheaper. It would include maintenance for one year, the hardware and software. The Commissioners agreed that it should be divided 60%/40% - 40% from the Jail reserve account and 60% from the Facilities, All Other reserve account.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to authorize the upgrade of the Treasurer's software and hardware with 40% from the Jail Technology Reserve and 60% from the Facilities, All Other Reserve. Unanimous.**

2. There is an installation needed in Probate that allows people to dial in by FACE TIME to be part of adoption proceedings, etc. It is hoped that it will be accomplished via wireless connection since it doesn't happen very often. If it doesn't work, then we will need to install a hard data drop from the location in the court room to data room and get a better internet connection for the building.

3. Most of the departments are upgraded with the new computer equipment.

#### **2016 PART-TIME PAY SCALES:**

Human Resources/Payroll Director Michelle Wadsworth met with the Commissioners to discuss the Part-time Patrol Officer and Part-time Dispatcher because they are tied to a union contract. Originally this was a good idea because they correspond with the equivalent full-time positions' starting pay. Because the Commissioners recently voted to set a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment increase for non-union employees, she felt she needed clarification on how to handle these part-time scales. After brief discussion, the Commissioners clarified that these part-time salaries were going to be treated the same as all other non-union employees and would receive a 3% increase.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to enter Executive Session at 11:04 a.m. for consideration of employment as permitted by 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A). Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of Executive Session at 11:25 a.m. Unanimous.** No action was taken.

The Commissioners spent some time talking with the press regarding Jail matters and ongoing discussions related to recent legislative hearings, etc.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to enter Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. for discussion of protected information related to health insurance as permitted by 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(F). Unanimous.**

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to come out of Executive Session at 1:16 p.m. Unanimous.**

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to add Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell as a replacement for the formerly authorized person with UBS Bank for the County's health insurance plan. Unanimous.**

**NEXT COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION:**

The next Commissioners Court Session is a regular session scheduled for August 13, 2015 in the Waldo County Probate Courtroom.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the court session at 1:19 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by *Barbara L. Arseneau*  
**Waldo County Clerk**