

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION  
OCTOBER 8, 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:

The County's checking accounts sits at over \$1,004,935.51 and the Jail checking sits at over \$600,000.00.

**TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:**

\$150,000.00 remains unused on the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). Without the saving accounts, this would be more expended. D. Parkman recommended that the TAN be higher next year and if it was not all needed, fine.

11 Towns that have paid property taxes so far:

Troy – 9/14 first to pay

Freedom – 9/18

Prospect - 9/18

Searsport - 9/22

Unity - 9/24

Winterport - 9/28

Burnham – 10/1

Montville – 10/1

Knox – 10/2

Searsmont - 10/2

Palermo - 10/5

Thank you letters will be going out from the Treasurer's Office to those Towns that have paid promptly and/or early, noting their sacrifice and that this saves the County from borrowing on the TAN due to saving on interest payments.

**COUNTY REVENUE:**

96% of the anticipated revenue has been received, and could be a little under 80% at this point in the year. When the County taxes are factored in, it drops it 38%.

**COUNTY BUDGET:**

75% has been expended, which the Treasurer noted as being a good number.

**CORRECTIONS REVENUE:**

Not discussed.

**CORRECTIONS BUDGET:**

39% has been expended. With the sixth-month budget, it actually could be 59% expended. It was noted that the County could increase the cap but Waldo is choosing not to for 2016.

**CORRECTIONS RESERVES:**

Not discussed.

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

**WARRANTS:**

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to authorize payment of the September 25, 2015 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and September 10 & 24, 2015 payrolls in the amount of \$887,386.11. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 25, 2015 Capital and Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$49,845.68. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 25, 2015 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and September 10 & 24, 2015 payrolls in the amount of \$670,015.05. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 25, 2015 MCRCC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$9,633.93. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 8, 2015 General Fund Accounts warrant and October 8, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$196,087.25. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 8, 2015 Capital, Active & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$29,606.61. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 8, 2015 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and October 8, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$89,089.04. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 8, 2015 MCRCC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$2,522.22. Unanimous.**

**2016 CORRECTIONS TECHNOLOGY BUDGET:**

Present with the Commissioners was Technology Consultant James Arseneau who discussed the following related to the 2016 Technology Budget:

With changes resulting from the Jails returning to the Counties, there may be some confusion in the budget template that was submitted by the Deputy Treasurer the previous week. The original amounts recommended to the Sheriff were cut in the previous year. There is a need for an additional \$25,000.00 for technology. This original recommendation was presented to the Commissioners a

while back and did not want the Commissioners to be blind-sided by the needs. He asked the Commissioners if they would like a copy of the original budget recommendation. The Commissioners recalled the original request and agreed that they would like another copy with the details. They felt that there would be no problem. The Commissioners explained to J. Arseneau that the Jail is now going back on a calendar year budget rather than a fiscal year.

#### **DISCUSSION OF SPILLMAN CONVENTION & RADIO TOWER UPDATE:**

Present with the Commissioners was Communications Director Owen Smith to discuss the following:

1. O. Smith showed the Commissioners the 10-year anniversary plaque received from Spillman Technologies that was awarded to Waldo County during the annual Spillman Convention last week.
2. RADIO – FIRE SOUTH: The challenges have been identified and solutions will be forthcoming. A little more money may be needed to complete the resolution. A meeting will be held during early November to work at resolving this. W. Shorey explained that it would be beneficial to have the people involved all in the room to provide information regarding the identified issues and the proposed solutions. Also to be discussed would be how many of these issues are related to pagers. This is a high priority because it involves public safety. The radio people would be included, the agencies, the Communications Director and Commissioners would be present. O. Smith has sent a request to Yankee Communications to meet November 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Once the date is confirmed, notification of this meeting will be sent out.

O. Smith reminded the Commissioners that the County last year paid \$20,000.00 to add the “I Am Responding” Program to enhance the communications for the agencies and that not all are utilizing this. The hope is that those who are not using this will come on board to benefit from it.

3. The Zetron radios have been at the communications center since 2001 when the center was built. O. Smith submitted a request for the Commissioners to set aside money in the Capital Reserve fund for Communications to purchase a new radio system in the next three to four years. Zetron no longer sells the system the County currently has. They will continue to provide service on this system indefinitely. Zetron is moving to the “MAX Pro System which is an IP system. Five positions will cost \$180,681.52 as quoted this month and he doubted that the amount would change much in that timeframe, as the last time he checked on it had not changed. The Commissioners stated that they support the Communications Director in finding and funding a workable solution; noting that it is not possible to produce something that works 100% of the time for everyone.

4. O. Smith also requested that funding be set aside in the Capital Reserve Fund for the Communications Center to replace the Microwave radios sometime in the next 2 to 3 years. There are a total of six and cost roughly \$28,000.00 a pair.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to change the name of the Capital Reserve account “Communications Equipment Improvements” to just “Communications Equipment”.**

**Unanimous.**

A. Fowler shared that Fire Chiefs Association President Bill Gillespie has informed her that all the fire agencies are very pleased with the “I Am Responding” program. He also had asked her if the County had a small office that the Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters associations could use to set up a desk, etc. A.

Fowler told him that it was highly unlikely and that the County had limited space now and that the Commissioners were not inclined to tell the other departments that they need to give up space for outside agencies, but she would bring it up to the other Commissioners for discussion. The Commissioners discussed this and concluded that there is no space available at this time. They will keep it in mind if space opens up in the future.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

1. The following updated pay scales were submitted to the Commissioners: The 2016 Sheriff's Patrol Lieutenant's Pay Scale, the 2016 Waldo County Commissioners' Office Administrative Staff Pay Scale, and the Waldo County Elected Official's 2016 Pay Scale.
2. The Public Meeting Notice for the Proposed U.S. EPA Brownfields-funded Cleanup Activities at the Old Waldo County Jail site is Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. and is being held at the EMA Conference Room at 4 Public Safety Way, Belfast.
3. Waldo County's 457 Plan with ICMA-RC has sent notice that effective November 20, 2015, the VT T. Rowe Price Small-CAP Value Fund will no longer be available as an investment option and will be replaced by VT Vantagepoint Discovery Fund. No action is required on the County's part if the replacement fund is acceptable. Alternatively, if the County would prefer another fund currently in the lineup, it may do so.
4. The Commissioners have no submissions at this time for the MCCA Newsletter but would like to submit an update article after the 2015 County Garden harvest is complete.

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

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve amending the minutes from the October 1, 2015 Waldo County Commissioners Special Court Session as read. Unanimous.**

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

1. A. Fowler informed the Commissioners that 8 counties have developed some proposed changes to the MCCA By-laws. She explained the proposed changes and asked if the other Commissioners were in agreement with Waldo County being included with these counties in presenting these proposals.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to authorize Commissioner Fowler to represent Waldo County's interests in the way she deems best in relation to the proposed MCCA By-laws. Unanimous.**

2. W. Shorey briefly discussed security measures at the Waldo County Garden site.

3. W. Shorey informed the Commissioners that some on the Freedom of Information Board would like to open their meetings up to be held by telephone, with voting rights and Executive Session discussions. He and Searsport Police Chief Richard LaHaye serve on that committee and neither one is in favor of this as they feel it is a poor way to run meetings. Commissioners Fowler and Johnson agreed with Commissioner Shorey.

4. The Commissioners decided not to have a workshop during October since they had already had two court sessions.

**NEXT COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION:**

The next Commissioners Court Session is a regular session scheduled for November 12, 2015 starting at 9:00 a.m. in the Waldo County Commissioners Conference Room.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to adjourn the court session at 11:02 a.m. Unanimous.**

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