

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
JULY 5, 2017**

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

Call to Order: Commissioner Shorey called the court session to order at 9:00 a.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Present with the Commissioners was Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell, who reported the following:

The Jail Checkbook balance is \$15,585.92.

The County Checkbook balance is \$63,386.75.

Tax Anticipation Note:

- \$1,550,000.00 has been borrowed on the Jail side.
- \$1,850,000.00 has been borrowed on the County side.
- The total borrowed as of June 13, 2017 is \$3,400,000.00.

County Appropriations:

48% of the budget has been expended and it could be 50% at this time of year. There was brief discussion of the high expenditure in the Communications Center budget overtime line. K. Trussell noted that this is historically the case so it is nothing new.

County Revenue:

51.48% of the 2017 County revenue has been received.

Corrections Appropriations:

59% of the Corrections budget has been expended when it would typically be about 50% and the reason it is higher than usual is because the quarterly payment was made to the Lincoln and Sagadahoc Multi-Jail Facility for Waldo County's inmate contract with that facility.

Corrections Revenue:

3.94% of the Corrections revenue has been received.

****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 30, 2017 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and June 1, 2017 payroll in the amount of \$366,753.59. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2017 Capital Active & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$19,902.45. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2017 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and June 1, 2017 payroll in the amount of \$450,602.12. Unanimous.**

**** B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2017 MCRRC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$63,845.12. Unanimous.**

K. Trussell noted that a check in the amount of \$3,000.00 was received from Efficiency Maine. K. Nealley was absent so she was not sure where it should go. The project came out of the Jail's Capital improvement reserve and the Commissioners agreed to put the funds into the Facilities, All Other Reserve.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to put the \$3,000.00 received from Efficiency Maine into the County side of the Facilities, All Other Reserve. Unanimous.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into executive session at 9:09 a.m. for discussion of duties as permitted by 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A). Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to come out of Executive Session at 9:21 a.m. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to continue with the cleaning service the County currently contracts with and review the status of the work during their next court session. Unanimous.**

FACILITIES REPORT:

Facilities Manager Keith Nealley was absent due to illness so there was no report.

SHERIFF'S REPORT:

Present with the Commissioners was Sheriff Jeffrey Trafton, who discussed the following:

1. Maine Pretrial Contract: This had expired and B. Arseneau became aware of it when the auditor requested all 2016 contracts. A new one is being drafted that will be in effect from July 5, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The Commissioners approved this.

2. Volunteers of America Contract: VOA is asking for a \$30,000.00 increase. The current budget line for this is high enough to handle this increase. July 1, 2017 this new account takes effect.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to sign the new contract with Volunteers of America. Unanimous.**

3. Domestic Violence Grant: J. Trafton reported that they just received notification last week that this grant opportunity is open and is due July 26, 2017. The problem is that the woman who wrote the grant last year resigned from New Hope for Women and her intention was to still help write it. She now has a new job and the grant application format has changed and has become more complicated so she is not able to spend the time doing it. New Hope for Women will try to find someone to write it but if they can't, the Sheriff said he will do it himself and hopefully obtain some help from one of the staff of New Hope for Women.

4. Legislature has been passed and conflicting reports have been coming in about the Jail budget. They don't know exactly how this will impact the County Jails. 1% has been added to the 3% for the CAP, so that is somewhat helpful to those Jails that are in debt and are underfunded.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into Executive Session at 9:36 a.m. for discussion of duties of the County 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 9:47. Unanimous.**
No action taken.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. An application to appeal the Town of Liberty Assessors and Liberty Municipal Officers' denial of four abatements has been received from Attorney Michael O'Donnell on behalf of Mark and Barbara Gendron regarding four pieces of property they own in Liberty, Maine. The Commissioners reviewed the documents and asked that the County Clerk request a delay in writing from the plaintiff permitting the hearing to be scheduled September 27, 2017 due to a very full schedule.

2. MOU Between the County of Waldo and The Administrative Office of the Courts:
B. Arseneau informed the Commissioners that State of Maine Facilities Director Jeffrey Henthorn telephoned her on July 3, 2017 and thanked the Commissioners for so kindly working with the State on the remaining time left leasing the Courthouse space from the County. They also thanked the County for drafting the MOU. The one request the State had was to change the days required to notify the other party of terminating the MOU from one-hundred and twenty (120) to sixty (60) days. The Commissioners felt that request was reasonable and agreed to change the wording.

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the change in the draft MOU to a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by either party to terminate the MOU. Unanimous.**

3. B. Arseneau received an email message from the Belfast City Manager's Assistant Manda Cushman regarding the tree owned by the County that sits between the City Hall and the Waldo County Superior Courthouse. Initially the City had proposed, at its expense, to take down the tree but after receiving a second opinion from an arborist, the City recommended that it prune the tree instead. The Waldo County Commissioners expressed their appreciation for this offer and agreed to support this new proposal.

4. B. Arseneau reminded Commissioners Fowler and Johnson that they are both signed up for the Substance Abuse Leadership Forum on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Commissioner Johnson asked that her attendance be cancelled due to a scheduling conflict beyond her control.

5. Update Human Resources Director Job Description: B. Arseneau had submitted a redline draft of the updates to the Human Resources Director Job Description during the Commissioners Court session on June 21, 2017. When asked, the Commissioners stated that they had reviewed the changes and would approve the updated Job Description.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the updated job description for the Human Resources Director as presented. Unanimous.**

6. Maine Municipal Association has sent a check in the amount of \$3,042.00 to the County after completion of the 2016 audit as a return premium adjustment.

7. Midcoast Economic Development District (MCEDD) submitted its 2018 budget request for \$2,000.00 with Commissioner Johnson. B. Arseneau will file it with the other 2018 budget requests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

B. Arseneau requested that the Commissioners approve the minutes from the June 21, 2017 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as presented.

Commissioner B. Johnson asked that the wording of the vote taken on page 8 of the June 21, 2017 be replaced with the following: ****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to sign the application for the AARP network for Age Friendly Communities.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2017 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as amended. Unanimous.**

COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

There was brief discussion of the 2018 Budget schedule. The Commissioners decided they would like to meet with the Department Heads and possibly some agencies on September 27, 2017, so the budget will need to be prepared for them by the first court session in September, which is September 6, 2017. Any final decisions on the 2018 budget could be made by the Commissioners on October 4, 2017.

The Commissioners also briefly discussed that many towns either aren't aware or simply aren't taking advantage of the loans available to them through Eastern Maine Development Corporation and Midcoast Economic Development District. Commissioner Shorey said he hoped to call this to the attention of the towns in his district and possibly hold meetings to help people be aware of the loan opportunities.

NEXT COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION:

The next Commissioners Court Session will be on July 19, 2017 in the Probate Courtroom, 39A Spring Street, Belfast.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the court session at 10:17 a.m. Unanimous.**

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