

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
JULY 3, 2019**

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

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

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Present were Treasurer Peter Sheff and Finance Director Karen Trussell. K. Trussell reported the following:

Discussion of CCA money according to Public Law 343 (LD 1001). K. Trussell confirmed that the figures for Waldo looked good and it is her understanding that the funds will start being distributed possibly as early as July.

The County Checkbook balance is \$34,914.16.

The Jail Checkbook balance is \$14,447.33.

County Appropriations:

48% of the 2019 budget has been expended and it could be 50% at this time.

County Revenue:

54.49% of the 2019 County revenue has been received.

Corrections Appropriations:

55% of 2019 budget has been expended and should be 50% expended.

Corrections Revenue:

3.81% of the 2019 Corrections revenue has been received.

\$3,650,000.00 has been borrowed from the Tax Anticipation Note; \$1,900,000.00 for the County and 1,750,000.00 for Corrections. The balance remaining is \$1,650 million.

PL 343, Part WWW and BARS inmate reporting for "county of origin" bed days has been received. The Maine Coast Regional Reentry Center bed days are 6,929 and the Total FY20 County Jail Distribution will be \$184,643.00. For Waldo County, total bed days are 13,363 and the Total FY20 County Jail Distribution will be \$356,095.00.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to file the Financial Report. Unanimous.**

WARRANTS:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 28, 2019 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant including the June 27, 2019 payroll in the amount of \$224,599.85. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 28, 2019 Capital, Active & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$21,668.54. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 28, 2019 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant including June 27, 2019 payroll in the amount of \$327,863.19. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 28, 2019 MCRRC Restricted Reserve in the amount of \$34,257.32. Unanimous.**

PAYROLL OPTIONS:

L. Patten explained that Bangor Payroll offers a Self Service Login for all employees. Any employee can have a user name and password to log into it. Bangor Payroll does charge for W-2's and this will permit the ability for employees to go online to access their own W-2's, and also to login and look at their pay stubs.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded that the County sign up with Bangor Payroll Self Service Program as long as paper versions are still available. Unanimous.**

FACILITIES REPORT:

Present with the Commissioners was Facilities Manager Keith Nealley who reported the following:

1. The Superior Courthouse pay phone is not used and is costing \$75.00 per month.

****B. Johnson moved, B. Johnson seconded to permit removal of the pay phone. Unanimous.**

2. Work up in the new Probate Court space area is going well. One of the very talented residents has built some drawers for the office upstairs.

3. Interior French doors are being ordered to separate the Probate section of the upstairs space from potential rental space. This will be about \$2,000.00, which was the best price he could find.

4. K. Nealley requested using a list that had been provided to the Commissioners for technology work still needed in the new Probate area and permission to ask SJ Rollins to perform that work. The Commissioners authorized that request.

DRAFT EMA LEGISLATION:

Present was EMA Director Dale Rowley, who reported the following:

1. D. Rowley submitted to the Commissioners a Homeland Security funds allocation application for \$59,512.13, and for funds for the Law Enforcement Prevention Program for \$19,837.37. This is guaranteed funding – it just needs to be requested and the requests need to meet the criteria for the funding. It requires the Commissioner Chairman's signature.

2. Upcoming MCCA Annual Convention: D. Rowley said that he believed the Commissioners asked him to do a training class. Ideas: Emergency Management and What It Does, or Legal

Requirements of EMA, or Continuity of Government Functions After a Disaster. The Commissioners thought any of those topics would be excellent.

3. Draft Legislation: An Act to Establish the Ability to Declare a State of Emergency by Local Political Subdivisions. This draft legislation would allow elected officials of counties and municipalities the authority to declare a state of emergency rather than waiting for the Governor to do that. D. Rowley reported that he is trying to meet with Fire Chiefs, Police Chiefs, MEMA, MCCA, etc. in order to get their feedback before even considering going ahead to the legislature with this so that everyone can have an opportunity to express any concerns or ideas for the language. 30 of the 50 states have this type of arrangement already.

SHERIFF'S REPORT:

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

1. Inmate "bed days" have been down, which is good.
2. The details for Knox County and Waldo County Agreement for a shared Correctional Jail Administrator are finalized and the agreement is ready for signature. The Commissioners reviewed the agreement and voted as follows:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve and accept the final version of the Memorandum of Understanding between Waldo County and Knox County for a Shared Correctional Jail Administrator. Unanimous.**

3. Applications closed Monday for the two vacant deputy positions. There are a stack of applications to go through.
4. Interviews are nearly done for Pre-trial Division Case Worker.
5. A. Fowler inquired about the unspent homeland security funds from the previous year. J. Trafton explained that it has to be a joint effort between Waldo County, Belfast, Searsport and Stockton Springs agencies. Chief Trundy is in charge of this program and has been trying to work on this with the other agencies.

(BREAK)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson to go into executive session at 10:07 a.m. for discussion of non-public information as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1§405(6)(f). Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of executive session at 11:07 a.m. Unanimous.**

No action was taken.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Present to report correspondence was Human Resources Director Lynn Patten and County Clerk Barbara Arseneau as follows:

1. Lynn Patten reported that Delta Dental enrollment premiums will remain the same for period 9-1-2019 through 8-31-2020, as follows:

Employee:	\$ 41.33
Employee/Spouse	\$ 75.63
Employee/Family	\$131.63
Employee/Child	\$ 75.63
Employee/Children	\$ 131.63

2. Coastal Counties Workforce Board will hold a public comment period regarding the matter of local plan revision for the six counties of Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Cumberland, York, and Waldo. Comments must be made in writing and received by July 16, 2019. B. Johnson stated that all the counties involved had approved it already.

3. The Commissioners need to decide who will serve on the Commissioners Negotiating Team for the newly formed Correctional Unit. After brief discussion, the Commissioners voted as follows: ****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to keep the team the same as it has been with Commissioner Shorey as Chief Negotiator, and to include the Sheriff, Chief Deputy, County Clerk and Human Resources Director as part of the team. Unanimous.**

4. The Commissioners noted pay step increase for Dispatcher Stephanie Lunt, who will complete 8 years of employment on July 26, 2019 with a pay increase from \$22.55 to \$23.54 per hour.

5. The bowling trophies have been ordered and received. After brief discussion with the Commissioners, the \$24.54 expenditure will be paid from Convention Hosting line 1020-4900, which will be a little overdrawn, but the rest of the budget is well in line.

6. Spirit of America Ceremony 2019: After brief discussion, the County Commissioners decided they would like to hold the 2019 Spirit of America Foundation Ceremony at the Belfast Boathouse in the evening of either October 3rd or October 10, 2019 and to serve some evening snacks.

7. B. Arseneau reported that, as directed by the Commissioners, she and EMA Director Dale Rowley met with the Belfast Planning Board to review the proposed reuse of the Old County Jail as a County records storage facility. She was very pleased to report that it passed unanimously after only a few questions.

8. A company called INYS Therapeutics has filed for bankruptcy and a fair amount of paperwork has been, and continues to be, sent to the Commissioners Office. B. Arseneau checked with all the County departments and nobody has used them as a vendor, so she believed that there is no reason for the County to act on this in any way.

9. After speaking with Attorney Matthew Tarasevich about the State of Maine Governor's decision to close some of the State offices on July 5th after the July 4th holiday, it was understood that the Governor did not declare it a holiday, so the County is not closing its non-essential offices on July 5th.

10. On July 2, 2019, Attorney John Wall, who is representing the County of Waldo, telephoned to notify the County that the Maine Human Rights Commission has dismissed the case of Mr. Sean Floyd vs. Waldo County. If there is any more action in the future, the County will notify Attorney Wall.

11. B. Arseneau reported that she attended the July 1, 2019 meeting of the Maine Association of County Clerks, Administrators and Managers and there was discussion regarding the behavior of some of those members at the last Maine County Commissioners Association. The consensus of those present was that it was an embarrassment to MACCAM, that MACCAM had lost some of the respect and credibility it once had, and all agreed that it should not happen again. If someone has an issue with anyone, it should be handled privately and not as a public display. B. Arseneau reported that the association as a group felt that Commissioner Fowler, as a County Commissioner, was not treated with the proper respect. Some of the Commissioners were so offended by the behavior that some of the Managers and Administrators were told that if this problem was not addressed, they would not allow their Administrator or Manager to attend MACCAM Meetings anymore. Some stated that they were in danger of losing their jobs if they had been involved in it, and they were glad that they had not been involved, nor aware this was going to happen. B. Arseneau stated that she had informed the group that what she has heard is that many Commissioners feel that MACCAM oversteps and tries to be too involved in Commissioner-related decisions. It was noted, however, that some county commissioners prefer, and have designated, for their administrator or manager to attend MCCA meetings and vote as a decision maker. MACCAM is in agreement that they are not definite about what their position is with the Commissioners in the MCCA setting at this point.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2019 and May 14, 2019 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as presented. Unanimous.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into executive session at 10:40 a.m. for discussion of non-public information as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1§405(6)(f). Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of executive session at 11:04 a.m. Unanimous.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to go into executive session at 11:05 a.m. for discussion of compensation as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1§405(6)(a). Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of executive session at 11:29 a.m. Unanimous.**

NEXT COURT SESSION:

The next Commissioners regular afternoon court session is scheduled July 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

None.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler adjourn court session at 11:30 a.m. Unanimous.**

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