

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
AUGUST 1, 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 9:07 a.m.

FACILITIES REPORT:

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

1. The Probate Court move went fairly well. There were some glitches with the phone and computer drops but it is all working well now.
2. K. Nealley discussed plans for renovating the doorway separating Probate Offices from the main hallway.
3. There was brief discussion of which portraits of judges, artwork, maps, etc. could be hung in the hallway upstairs. The Commissioners requested that the County Clerk speak with Penny Sampson, get the dimensions of the County map that unity offered to loan to the County, and for K. Nealley to obtain a cost estimate to put it in a glass frame.
4. K. Nealley reported that the previous tenants left a rug shampooer behind upstairs, so K. Nealley will have the Custodian clean the rug in the former Probate Judge's Chambers downstairs. K. Nealley recommended painting both the chambers and the Commissioners Court Room with the same color as before ("Bunny Gray") because that color has also been used upstairs. The Commissioners agreed.
5. K. Nealley will clean the vacated Probate Registry space and refurbish it. After brief discussion, it was decided that K. Nealley will put out an advertisement for the space online and also put it on the County's web site, \$10.00 to \$12.00 per square foot. The Commissioners told him to speak with Assistant Clerk Nicole Hubbard as she would be able to assist him with putting that online.
6. The Commissioners stated that they would like to repurpose and re-use as much of the leftover District, Superior, and Probate leftover tables, chair and other furniture as possible rather than purchasing new furniture, and whatever couldn't be repurposed could eventually be sold. B. Arseneau noted that the chairs and table they were currently using at this session were left over from District Court and there were a lot of other shelves, desks and chairs that she had already put post-it notes on claiming them for the Commissioners Chambers and offices.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to go into executive session at 9:33 a.m. for consideration of employment 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 10:00 a.m. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to accept the resignation of Dispatcher Ellie Adams. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to go into executive session at 10:01 a.m. for discussion of use of real property as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1§405(6)(c). Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of executive session at 10:12 a.m. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to sign a letter to the new owners of Point Lookout. Unanimous.**

O. Smith asked for clarification about the minutes in which the Commissioners discussed diabetic testing strips. W. Shorey explained that the health insurance company is no longer covering any other diabetic testing strips but a certain type, which did not appear to work well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into executive session as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1§405(6)(c) at 10:26 a.m. for discussion of duties and compensation. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out 10:55 a.m.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded for the 1035 Technology budget to have \$75,000.00 in the personnel line for the IT Director position. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded not to renew with SJ Rollins at the end of the current contract. Unanimous.**

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Finance Director/Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell was on vacation and had requested that the County Clerk read the Finance report and go over the warrants with the County Commissioners. B. Arseneau reported the following:

The County Checkbook balance is \$17,979.02.

The Jail Checkbook balance is \$488,911.39.

County Appropriations:

55% of the 2019 budget has been expended and it could be 58% at this time.

County Revenue:

65.51% of the 2019 County revenue has been received.

Corrections Appropriations:

60% of 2019 budget has been expended and should be 58% expended.

Corrections Revenue:
106.69% of the 2019 Corrections revenue has been received.

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:

\$4,100,000.00 has been borrowed from the TAN; \$2,250,000.00 by the County and \$1,850,000.00 by Corrections. The balance remaining is \$1.2 million.

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

WARRANTS:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 26, 2019 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant including the July 25, 2019 payroll in the amount of \$764,613.55. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 26, 2019 Capital, Active & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$21,785.02. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 25, 2019 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant including the July 25, 2019 payroll in the amount of \$111,768.35. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 26, 2019 MCRRC Restricted Reserve in the amount of \$31,885.16. Unanimous.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. The City of Belfast sent notice that it will be considering a series of amendments to its Code of Ordinances, including but not limited to the following changes: Traffic moving north on Church Street will have a stop sign at the intersection of Miller Street and traffic moving south on Church Street would also have a stop sign at its intersection with Miller Street. This would effectively change the intersection of Church and Miller into a 4-way stop sign intersection.
2. B. Arseneau had not been sure that the Commissioners had signed the 2018 County Tax and Jail Tax Breakdown so she asked them to sign one for the 2018 Budget Year binder.
3. Sheriff Trafton sent a letter informing the Commissioners that Anthony Nucolo has been chosen to fill the permanent full-time deputy position at the Waldo County Sheriff's Office, effective June 23, 2019. He will move from a wage of \$21.15 per hour to \$21.35.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve hiring Anthony Nucolo to fill the permanent full-time deputy position at the Sheriff's Office, effective June 23, 2019 with an increase in pay from \$21.15 to \$21.35 per hour. Unanimous.**

4. Sheriff Trafton sent a letter verifying that Sergeant Cody Laite has been selected to fill the Temporary Acting Lieutenant position while Lieutenant Matthew Curtis is on vacation, effective July

19, 2019 and ending on August 11, 2019, with a pay increase during that time from \$27.90 to \$29.33 per hour. The Commissioners noted this.

5. Sheriff Trafton sent a letter verifying that Corporal Darrin Moody has been selected to fill the Temporary Acting Sergeant position while Sergeant Cody Laite is serving as Temporary Acting Lieutenant, effective July 19, 2019 and ending August 11, 2019 with a pay increase during that time from \$26.35 to \$28.58 per hour. The Commissioners noted this.

6. Full Time Corrections Officer Chad Corbin reached the 12-year step on July 22, 2019 and received a pay increase to \$21.46 per hour. The Commissioners noted this.

7. After brief discussion with the Commissioners, it was decided to obtain a retirement plaque from Maine County Commissioners Association and to invite retired Treasurer David Parkman and his wife to receive the plaque and to have dinner Friday night at the upcoming MCCA Convention.

8. The Commissioners recommended that Waldo County create centerpieces for the Convention, with small squashes, small pumpkins and other fall vegetables.

9. B. Arseneau asked the Commissioners if they wanted to continue or discontinue coordinating with the State regarding closing offices during inclement weather. The Commissioners chose to operate the County independent of the State in times of inclement weather now that the Judicial Center is operating.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

B. Arseneau requested that the Commissioners approve the minutes from the June 18, 2019 Waldo County Commissioners Court Sessions as presented.

**** B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2019 Waldo County Commissioners Court Sessions as presented. Unanimous.**

COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. A. Fowler announced that she and EMA Deputy Director Olga Rumney have started a preparedness project called "Meals in Jars". On Saturday, September 7, 2019, the Waldo County Emergency Management Agency will be hosting a Preparedness Fair at the YMCA. Commissioner Fowler and Deputy Director Rumney are using an EMA freeze-drying machine to prepare County Garden vegetables for long term storage. Each jar contains an entire meal. The project will use County garden produce and locally purchased chicken, herbs and celery. The only thing required for each Meal-in-a Jar is boiling water. The plan is to provide one free jar to each Preparedness Fair attendee and one to each County employee. The Project Budget estimated cost is \$800.00, broken down as follows: Ingredients - \$230.00, 288 quart canning jars - \$300.00, and 288 pint canning jars - \$270.00.

Some of that has been cooked for today's luncheon for the 2020 Budget Committee.

CAUCUS:

Present were Town of Waldo Selectman Katharine Littlefield, Stockton Selectman Peter Curley, Searsport Selectman Richard Desmarais, and Palermo Selectman Robert Kurek.

District 1:

****K. Littlefield nominated Herb Harnden to serve in the vacant three-year term in District 1. Nominations ceased.**

District 3:

****Robert Kurek nominated Penny Sampson from Unity to serve in the vacant three-year term for District 3. Nominations ceased.**

District 2:

****Richard Desmarais nominated Peter Curley to serve the vacant three-year term for District 2. Nominations ceased.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to accept the nominations for Waldo County Districts 1, 2 and 3.**

W. Shorey complimented Major Raymond Porter for now being the source of the highest revenue in the County in the way that he runs the Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center.

There was brief discussion of Brownfield grant process with Peter Curley for the old schoolhouse. The Commissioners attributed much of the County's success to Belfast Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge and instructed B. Arseneau to provide his contact information to P. Curley, as he might be a helpful resource.

Those in attendance were told that EMA Deputy Director Olga Rumney and Commissioner Amy Fowler preserved some of the garden vegetables and made some food for the luncheon today.

W. Shorey mentioned that 27 boxes of produce were delivered to the YMCA and one day and one half later all the produce was gone. He mentioned that many of the food pantries can only take produce certain days. There is 4 miles of squash growing this year, 1 mile of corn, and the potato harvest is anticipated at being around 50,000 lbs. This is all funded with state correctional funds, and the reentry residents are benefiting by learning skills.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the court session at 11:58 a.m. Unanimous.**

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