

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION  
FEBRUARY 17, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Amy R. Fowler (Chairman), William D. Shorey, and Betty I. Johnson. County Clerk Barbara Arseneau took the minutes. The court session was conducted via teleconference due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Finance Director Karen Trussell reported the following:

The County Checkbook balance is \$195,948.46.

The Jail Checkbook balance is \$86,276.14.

County Appropriations:

11% of the County 2021 budget has been expended and it could be 13% at this time.

County Revenue:

18.98% of the County revenue has been received at this time.

Corrections Appropriations:

9% of 2021 budget has been expended and could be 13% expended.

Corrections Revenue:

1.13% of the Corrections revenue has been received at this time.

**TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:**

\$50,000.00 has been borrowed by the County and another \$100,000.00 by Corrections to help cover payroll. The balance borrowed is \$50,000.00 for the County and \$400,000.00 for Corrections.

No other questions.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to file the Financial Report. Unanimous.**

**WARRANTS**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to authorize payment of the February 11, 2021 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and February 4, 2021 payroll in the amount of \$278,165.99. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to authorize payment of the February 11, 2021 Capital, Active & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$29,704.91. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to authorize payment of the February 11, 2021 MCRRC (Corrections) Accounts Payable warrant and February 4, 2021 payroll in the amount of \$57,810.26. Unanimous.**

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to authorize payment of the February 11, 2021 MCRRC (Corrections) Restricted Reserve in the amount of \$134.75. Unanimous.**

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

Present was Information Technology Manager J-sun Bailey, who reported the following:

1. One laptop has been completed for the District Attorney's Office to work remotely. The second one is almost finished.
2. New, free, upgraded cell phones have arrived and are being set up. After brief discussion, J. Bailey will make a list of old cell phones indicating what the County can use and what would be available to donate to some organizations mentioned by B. Johnson. He's also utilizing a management piece of software on County-issued cell phones that will allow a phone to be "wiped and locked" if it is lost, which will also be in compliance with SEGIS standards.
3. Preparation is underway for the Spillman Conversion that will start next Tuesday.
4. He has finished the Spillman training, and will take the test late this week or next week.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

Present was Human Resources Director KelLee Gray, who reported the following:

1. A letter of retirement has been received from Probate Clerk Elaine Russell, whose last day of work will be March 12, 2021.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved to accept, with regret and congratulations, the retirement of Probate Clerk Elaine Russell effective March 12, 2021. W. Shorey seconded. Unanimous.**

2. Deputy Lucas Potts has completed his Maine Criminal Justice Academy training and has moved to the status of "Certified" effective December 22, 2020, with a pay increase to \$22.38 per hour.

### **COMMUNITY MURAL PROJECT**

Present was Louise Marks, Restorative Justice RP Coordinator at the Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center. A. Fowler thanked L. Marks and B. Johnson for their involvement and work with the community mural project.

Regarding how this mural may be mounted, L. Marks said she consulted with her father, who helped her set this up two other times, and he suggested metal frames and mortar to hold it away from the brick so that if they take it down someday, it can be removed without damaging the building. It was agreed that a spring installation would be the goal. L. Marks said she will do more research and will speak with Keith Nealley and Kyle White, who works with RJP now.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to allow the mural created by Restorative Justice Project to be hung as stipulated by Louise Marks in the spring of 2021. Unanimous.**

### **COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS/COMMITTEE ROLES**

The Commissioners reviewed the 2020 list of committees served on, made some changes in format, and updates in current committees and functions.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nobody from the public was present.

IT Director J-sun Bailey asked if he could speak and was given permission. He reported that the wiring is all completed at the new Waldo County Archive space.

### **ORTHOIMAGERY PLANNING**

Present was GIS Planner Rob Hoey to report the following to the Commissioners:

He spoke with Claire Kiedrowski earlier this morning and has forwarded to the Commissioners three different documents to follow along with. He reviewed several pages as comparisons in resolution between 18", 6", and 12".

Add-on options were discussed with the Commissioners. R. Hoey explained the various options and which were not needed. He can do some modifications and re-projections with the aid of GIS.

When asked which add-ons he felt were important, R. Hoey said one item might be Tidal Coordination, which provides the ability to see most of the low tide ground. The slopes of the shoreline determine how much land is uncovered during low tide. At least 10 towns in Waldo County might find that of value. This would cost more because the conditions have to be clear and sunny, with no cloud cover or cloud shadow, and before deciduous trees leaf out. Tidal coordination will constrict flying even more.

Municipalities could opt to contribute financially, if they wanted. Each town is listed, the area, and how much extra it would cost for 12", 6" or 3" resolution. The City of Belfast recently had 3" resolution. They may want the Tidal Coordination option. Additionally, if any of the other coastal towns want that, they might want to chip in on that option. A. Fowler asked if the Tidal Coordination might be done down the road. R. Hoey explained that aerial photography is a "perishable product." He recommended setting aside funds so that every so many years, it can be done to keep it current. Most of the county is rural. He said he really couldn't recommend the 3" to 6" resolution for anyone other than Belfast. There may be a distinction between 18" and 12" resolution. If the County sticks to 18" resolution, the price is the same. If 12" resolution is chosen, it's another \$9,000.00. The Commissioners asked which was recommended. R. Hoey referred them to pages that showed the difference. He said he wasn't sure whether or not it's worth \$9,000.00. He said that perhaps this could be contracted with the individual towns. He noted the schedule page near the end of the document, said that it's very tight for this season, but according to C. Kiedrowski, there are two counties pending but not contracting. If Waldo tries to do it this year, it may be the third, but it needs to be scheduled soon.

The Commissioners discussed going with one year with what's offered, and then the next year they would know if they needed higher resolution, could plan for it and set funds aside, perhaps in the 0265 Technology Reserve. R. Hoey noted that this particular contract ends December of 2022, so if agreed, the work could be done either in spring 2021 and/or spring 2022. There's a lot of weather dependency with this. He recommended getting the ball rolling right away for the best environmental options, particularly since much of Waldo County is covered with trees. He said he could send it out to the towns to see if they are interested in doing the higher resolution, and those towns would have to make their own arrangements but at least they would have the opportunity to take advantage of this program. Regarding getting this project going, R. Hoey and the Commissioners are to be cc'd on all communication, and County Clerk B. Arseneau is to be cc'd on the administrative part.

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to go with the 18" resolution with the amount offered and the basic plan and to fund it from Technology 0265. Unanimous.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. Tax Abatement Appeal Petition 376 – T. Maccarone vs Town of Thorndike:  
The Commissioners briefly discussed the hearing scheduled for March 3, 2021. The plaintiff and defendant should be notified that since the hearing is being held by teleconference, any additional exhibits should be received by the County in time for them to be forwarded to the Commissioners and other party at least 5 days before the hearing, if possible. If any other exhibits come after that, the sender would need to have "share screen" capability, and the County IT Director would need advance notice to be prepared for that.

W. Shorey said that he believed before the Commissioners could hold this hearing, they need to know the date the taxes were committed in order to determine whether or not the initial request for abatement fell within the statutory timeframe. There was nothing on the documents indicating when taxes were committed. The Commissioners asked B. Arseneau to contact the Town of Thorndike for this information and report back to them.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

B. Arseneau requested that the Commissioners approve the minutes from the February 3, 2021 Waldo County Commissioners Court Sessions as presented. B. Johnson asked for a change under the discussion of the Belfast Soup Kitchen Grant. The Commissioners instructed B. Arseneau to strike the sentence with the \$125,000 in it.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2021 Waldo County Commissioners Court Sessions with the change as requested. Unanimous.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

W. Shorey said that he needed to hold off on the executive session for discussing the three union contracts, as there are still some unknowns at this time.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to adjourn the court session at 10:17 a.m. Unanimous.**

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