

WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
APRIL 23, 2009
(Special Session)

PRESENT: Commissioners Donald P. Berry, Sr. (Chairman), Amy R. Fowler and William D. Shorey. Also present were H/R Payroll Director Michelle Wadsworth, Register of Deeds Deloris Page, Legal Secretary Carla Rogerson and D.A. Assistant Eric Walker with Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover taking the minutes.

SHORT-STAFFING ISSUE IN DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:

Present for this discussion was Register of Deeds Deloris Page, D.A. Assistant Eric Walker and Carla Rogerson.

D. Berry started the discussion off by saying that the reason for the meeting was to solve the situation over at the District Attorney's office due to an employee being out on extended leave. M. Wadsworth said that the worst case scenario would be an absence of twelve (12) weeks. D. Berry said that they cannot keep pulling an employee from the Registry of Deeds department and they need to do something different. His thought was to bring in a temporary person to fill in for the person that will be out on leave. He suggested Karen Clark [who filled in during an employee's leave at the Commissioners Office in 2007] as she had worked for a law firm before. A. Fowler asked how this position would be paid, which was Commissioner Berry's concern too. D. Berry said that it was a "fact of life" that the District Attorney's Office does not have any extra money. E. Walker mentioned that the month of June is a "crunch time" for him as Superior Court starts up May 23rd. There was further discussion on what the part time person would be paid. There was a discussion of when Deeds Clerk Amy Keller would be needed to be borrowed from Deeds to work in the District Attorney's Office again. It was decided that she would work in the District Attorney's Office May 26th – June 26th. The Commissioners thanked D. Page for her flexibility in loaning this employee to the D.A.'s Office.

E. Walker explained that he would need a temporary person from May 4th – May 22nd and then from June 29th through end of July. A. Fowler agreed that it would be good to have a floater person. D. Berry suggested putting money in the Commissioners Budget under Part-time for a float person and that it was evident that this was needed. H.R./Payroll Director M. Wadsworth agreed that there was definitely a need. After D. Berry suggested again funding this float position from the Commissioners budget, W. Shorey suggested funding it at \$10,000.00 in that budget.

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve hiring temporary help to fill in for the Legal Secretary position. Unanimous.**

COMMISSIONERS BUSINESS

A. Fowler made the suggestion of calling the Budget Committee members together to have an informal meeting with the Commissioners to give them a "heads up" on the budgets. All Commissioners agreed that there needs to be better communication between

the Budget Committee and the Commissioners. There was a brief discussion of what happened at last year's budget meetings. A. Fowler said, "We are all a team going for the same goal." W. Shorey brought up oil prices and how they are like a "see-saw." There was more discussion on the oil prices.

There was a discussion on the County buildings and how the Sheriff's office is falling down, as well as the need to look at potential empty buildings in the County where different county departments could go.

W. Shorey mentioned that he was asked by Mayor Walter Ash whether or not the County owns bridges. A. Fowler explained that the Commissioners no longer own the roads or bridges. W. Shorey said that he wanted to make sure that the Commissioners had no involvement in the roads and bridges and both Commissioners assured him that it correct.

PAY SCALE FOR DE-CERTIFIED CORRECTIONS SUPERVISORY UNIT EMPLOYEES:

The Commissioners discussed the need to establish a pay scale for Corrections Supervisors, who had disclaimed the Corrections Supervisory unit effective April 17, 2009, and who had not had a pay increase since 2007.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to allow the employees formerly in the Corrections Supervisory Unit a 4% COLA on their current rate of pay effective retroactive to January 1, 2009. Unanimous.**

The Commissioners called Sheriff Story and Jail Administrator Jason Trundy to meet with them to discuss the pay scale further. After additional discussion on this matter, the Commissioners withdrew their motion for the previous vote and then voted as follows:

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve a 7% increase on the wages for former Corrections Supervisory Unit employees retroactive to January 1, 2009. Unanimous.**

FACILITIES VAN:

D. Berry informed the Commissioners that the 1993 Dodge Van in the Facilities Management department had a number of issues and would no longer pass inspection.

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize Commissioner Berry to purchase a vehicle for the Facilities Management department in the amount of less than \$8,500.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 P.M. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by Veronica Stover
Veronica Stover, Deputy County Clerk