

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
(SPECIAL SESSION)
DECEMBER 28, 2010**

PRESENT: Commissioners Amy R. Fowler, Donald P. Berry and William D. Shorey. Also present was Commissioner-Elect Betty I. Johnson, and County Clerk Barbara L. Arseneau to take the minutes.

Call to Order: Commissioner Berry called the court session to order at 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Communications Director Owen Smith came before the County Commissioners and requested an Executive Session for a personnel matter regarding a request he had received for leave of employment.

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to enter Executive Session according to M.R.S.R. Title 1 §405 6 (A) for a personnel matter regarding leave of employment at 12:33 p.m.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of Executive Session at 12:40 p.m. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey, A. Fowler seconded to approve the request for paid Leave of Absence for an employee. Unanimous.**

NEW HIRE:

Present with the Commissioners was Register of Probate Sharon Peavey to make a recommendation for hire to fill the vacant Probate Clerk's position. W. Shorey asked for an Executive Session and asked that Commissioner-Elect Betty Johnson be allowed to stay in for any remaining Executive sessions that afternoon.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to go into Executive Session for consideration of employment related to a potential new hire in the Probate Registry according to M.R.S.A. Title 1 § 405(6)(A) at 12:43 p.m. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to come out of Executive Session at 12:54 p.m.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to table a decision on hiring a new Probate Clerk to fill the vacant position in the Registry of Probate for thirty (30) days until a study has been performed on the labor pool in that department. Unanimous.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to enter Executive Session according to M.R.S.A. Title 1 §405(6)(D) for discussion of Support Staff and Deputies Association Negotiations at 12:55 p.m. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to exit Executive Session at 1:09 p.m. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, D. Berry seconded to designate Commissioner Shorey as the Union Negotiator for the County Team after Commissioner Berry's term is completed. Passed by two; W. Shorey abstained.**

PROPOSED EOC/SHERIFF'S BUILDING UPDATE:

W. Shorey said that the proposal is coming together well. He noted that the plans for the furnace need to be restructured. He stated that he hoped the request for bid proposals would go out the middle of February.

BRIEF TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer David Parkman, who was present during this portion of the court session, informed the Commissioners that, while not official, it appeared that the 2010 County Budget would be about \$83,000 "in the black." He explained that he had been very, very worried that the budget would be coming up in the minus, but he was pleased to report that this would not be the case. He noted, however, that this is the "tightest" the County has been since about 2005. He concluded by stating that this money could be used to help fund any reserve accounts that needed it, referencing the Severance, Technology and Employment Security Reserve accounts that could use some funding. "We're going to need a lot of cash here in another year," he cautioned.

The Commissioners commended D. Parkman for carrying the 2010 budget through a difficult process and thanked him for his hard work.

BRIEF CORRESPONDENCE:

Presenting correspondence to the Commissioners was County Clerk Barbara L. Arseneau as follows:

1. Health Insurance 2011 Renewal: B. Arseneau referenced an E-mail message dated December 23, 2010 from Health Insurance Administrator Malcolm Ulmer regarding the Meritain Health 2011 renewal proposal to the County of Waldo, in which he noted that there were changes required by PPACA. Otherwise the current coverage and specific stop loss levels would be maintained. In this message he recommended that the County select Renewal Option #1, which anticipates savings of 10% (when compared against the maximum liability figure for 2010) and limits the maximum liability for 2011 to a 6% increase (based on the anticipated employee participation levels). He noted that "the attached proposal represents another excellent renewal proposal from Meritain Health, particularly when compared against the 15% to 25% increases that are routine in the marketplace, and the 10% to 20% increases that the County routinely received during the ten-year period preceding its transition to the Meritain Health program in 2008." Commissioner Berry stated that he had responded by E-mail to M. Ulmer that same day, indicating that the County wished to renew and wished to select Option #1.
2. Completion of EMA Training: B. Arseneau informed the Commissioners that she had completed the two final EMA NIMS-compliance training courses.
3. B. Arseneau informed the Commissioners that the Sheriff had submitted bids for cruisers and these would be received in time for the January 11, 2011 Commissioners Court Session.
4. Amendment to October 5, 2010 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session minutes: B. Arseneau noted that it had been brought to her attention that on page 4, under the section "1090 AUDIT BUDGET", it did not specify that "zeroing out the budget" referred specifically to the Federal audit budget and also did not specify that the Federal audit was to be paid immediately from the Facilities All Other Reserve. The Commissioners voted to amend the minutes as follows:

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to amend the October 5, 2010 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session on page four, under "1090 AUDIT BUDGET" to read as follows: "There was discussion of the Federal audit budget and the decision was made by the**

Commissioners to “zero” that account and to pay for the Federal audit immediately from the Facilities All Other Reserve, as this would be the appropriate place to do so.” Unanimous.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the October 5, 2010 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as amended. Unanimous.**

5. MINUTES APPROVED:

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to accept the minutes from the December 9, 2008 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, D. Berry seconded to accept the minutes from the December 17, 2008 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to amend the minutes from the December 14, 2010 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session with page four being fixed.** Discussion: A. Fowler noted that there was a decrease of \$4,772.00 from two years ago in the revenue brought in by the Registry of Deeds and that there was an increase in Probate revenue in the amount of \$1,285.00 from two years ago. She asked if there were any other changes. B. Arseneau explained that the Deputy Treasurer had assisted her this morning with making sure figures were accurate in the financial report, that the Deputy County Clerk had fixed some minor grammatical errors. B. Johnson inquired about the corrections and whether amendments were made during Commissioners Court Sessions or not. The Commissioners explained that amendments are made during Commissioners Court Sessions. **Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to accept the December 14, 2010 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session minutes as amended. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, D. Berry seconded to accept the minutes from the December 30, 2008 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session. Unanimous.**

B. Arseneau stated that she was pleased to inform the Commissioners that all previous years' minutes were now transcribed and the only minutes left to transcribe from 2010 were the Budget Public Hearing Minutes from December 17, 2010 and the Lucco vs. Palermo tax abatement hearing that was held on December 14, 2008. The Commissioners expressed their relief and pleasure that the minutes were caught up. B. Arseneau thanked the Commissioners for their support in this effort, noting that the semi-weekly day spent in the quiet of the Archive made it possible for her to get those minutes completed. She explained that she would continue this practice in order to keep minutes transcribed in a timely manner and to also perform records preservation and records management work at the Archive that needed to be done.

The Commissioners thanked Commissioner Berry for his hard work and wished him the best on his retirement from County service.

***A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to adjourn the special Commissioners Court session at 1:30 p.m. Unanimous.**

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