

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
OCTOBER 13, 2016**

PRESENT: Commissioners William D. Shorey (Chairman), 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Present with the Commissioners were Treasurer David Parkman and Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell. D. Parkman reported the following:

County Checking Account Balance: \$1,219,143.40.

Corrections Checking Account Balance: \$746,859.71.

Tax Anticipation Note: Borrowing stopped on September 7th for the County and July 26th for the Jail.

Borrowed to Date: \$3,550,000.00.

PROPERTY TAXES RECEIVED:

K. Trussell reported that 36.76% of taxes has been collected, totaling \$2,705,510.02.

County Appropriations:

The County budget is 74% expended. It could be 79% at this time of year.

County Revenue:

County revenue received is 94.20%.

Corrections Appropriations:

The Jail budget is 86% expended due to contract with Two Bridges, but would ordinarily be 79%.

Corrections Revenue:

Corrections revenue received is 102.49%.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to file the Treasurer's Report. Unanimous.**

WARRANTS:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 30, 2016 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and September 22, 2016 payroll in the amount of \$260,581.20. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 30, 2016 Capital & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$28,910.66. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 30, 2016 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and September 22, 2016 payroll in the amount of \$420,819.30. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 30, 2016 MCRRC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$4,113.62. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 13, 2016 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and October 6, 2016 payroll in the amount of \$236,485.65. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 13, 2016 Capital & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$52,789.36. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 13, 2016 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and October 6, 2016 payroll in the amount of \$101,037.38. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the October 13, 2016 MCRRC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$1,244.91. Unanimous.**

2017 BUDGET FINALIZATION:

K. Trussell presented the Projected Revenue for 2017.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Projected Revenue as presented. Unanimous.**

PHONE HACKING BILL:

J. Arseneau suggested requesting that the Commissioners add the amount to the Deeds and D.A. Budget so that they can pay. The bill had totaled \$63,704.51 April 21, 2014. He has been working on getting FairPoint to reduce this. They finally reduced it to \$2,772.47. Since the hacking occurred through the Registry of Deeds and D.A.'s Office, the recommendation was for those departments to pay the invoice. Initially, FairPoint wanted it paid in 10 months but agreed to allow it to be paid in 12 months. The thought was that both of those budgets would likely have enough funds over the course of the year to pay for it.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to pay the \$2,772.47 invoice in the 12-month period as recommended through the District Attorney and Registry of Deeds telephone budgets, at \$120.00 per department, per month. Unanimous.**

MCCA CONVENTION PLANNING:

D. Parkman brought up an idea related to Waldo County hosting the next annual MCCA Convention in 2017. He suggested inviting Islesboro to be involved in taking people on cruises around the island. There would need to be discussion on the logistics of taking the ferry. The Commissioners thought that this was a great idea and perhaps there could be done something on the beach such as a clambake.

FACILITIES REPORT:

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

1. The dead trees at the bottom of the District Courthouse parking lot were removed last Saturday for \$800.00 less than budgeted and the company did an excellent job.

2. Rick Kersbergen at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension has requested that a handicap door opener that is estimated at \$2,500.00 be installed at the building. R. Kersbergen asked if this could be addressed in the current year budget. The Commissioners recommended using funds from Facilities, All Other.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to fund the automatic door opener at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension from Facilities, All Other. Unanimous.**

3. Generator Replacement at the Communications Center: K. Nealley received a bid from Haley Power Systems in Herman at about \$16,500.00 and another from Central Maine Diesel MD at \$12,000.00. It is a Cummings Propane Commercial-grade generator. K. Nealley said he hoped to address it before winter. The Commissioners felt that they needed to wait until the end of the year and look at funds then. K. Nealley said there is nothing wrong with the current 30 KW generator other than its age. He has received an estimated that the old one is worth about \$3,000.00 to sell. Some “feelers” had been put out there, but nobody has expressed interested as yet.

4. K. Nealley found money to do LED lighting at the Communications Center, so that is all done and will result in great money savings. The only other things left to do are the improvements to the Sheriff’s Office – a half door at the Sheriff’s Secretaries Office from the Sheriff’s Reserve. The Commissioners authorized that to be done immediately.

(Addition to Agenda): COMMUNICATIONS CENTER CONTINGENCY ACTION PLAN:

O. Smith met with the Commissioners and thanked them for seeing him on short notice. For the past three years, Kathy from Lincoln County and Linwood from Knox County have been working on a contingency plan in case their centers go down. He explained which agency would serve as a back-up for the other. He presented the document to the Commissioners. Lawyers from Lincoln and Knox have both reviewed it. The document does not have a crossed out signature page because there are three pages. There are several originals so each county can have an original on file. Each will sign them and they will be returned to each county.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to sign the Communications Center Contingency Action Plan between Knox, Lincoln, Waldo, Sagadahoc and Brunswick Communications. Unanimous.**

DISCUSSION OF 2017 MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENTION PLANNING:

Present with the Commissioners were Deputy County Clerk Marilyn Saucier, Human Resources/Payroll Director Michelle Wadsworth and County Clerk Barbara Arseneau. The Commissioners discussed goals and ideas for Waldo County hosting the 2017 Maine County Commissioners Association annual convention at Point Lookout, Northport. There was discussion of potential courses, speakers, color guard, activities, who might serve on the local committee, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. B. Arseneau asked for clarification and direction on a memo the Commissioners requested be drafted instructing employees that the County Internet could no longer be used for personal/incidental use. The Commissioners directed that the memo indicate that this would take effect within fourteen days of being issued, and this policy will continue until further notice.

2. Budget Committee Chairman Bill Sneed has indicated that the preference would be to hold a meeting on a Saturday for the Budget Committee to hear from the Waldo County department heads and other agencies requesting funds for 2017. He had told B. Arseneau he is not available until after October 22nd. B. Arseneau noted that by statute the County Clerk must call an organizational meeting of the Budget Committee no later than 60 days before the end of the fiscal year, which would mean it must be held no later than October 31st. The Commissioners instructed B. Arseneau to contact Bill Sneed and try to set up an organizational meeting of the Budget Committee on October 27, 2016 during their next court session, either at 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

3. The Commissioners noted pay steps for the following employees:

- Human Resources/Payroll Director Michelle Wadsworth completed twelve (12) years of employment with the County on October 12, 2016 and will move to the 12-6314 pay step of \$49,601.33 annually.
- Patrol Deputy Cassandra McDonald reached the six-month pay step on October 4, 2016 and will receive an increase in pay from \$19.93 to \$20.12 per hour.

4. Sergeant James Greeley sent a copy of a commendation for Deputy Jordan Tozier for excellent handling of a threatening situation at Mount View High School and for visiting one of the students at the hospital well outside of school hours and into his own time.

5. Sergeant Nicholas Oettinger sent copies of Commendations for Courage to Deputy Kevin Littlefield, Deputy Darrin Moody, and Deputy Daniel Thompson for outstanding courage and tactical response to a domestic situation, at great threat to their own safety and gained control of the situation by taking two subjects into custody and directing fire units to the burning house.

The Commissioners expressed their gratitude and congratulations to these four officers for their heroic and compassionate handling of dangerous and delicate situations.

6. Aging Well in Waldo County has announced that AARP granted \$6,000.00 to their organization. The Commissioners were also reminded that they have been invited to attend a meeting of Aging Well in Waldo County on October 26, 2016, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Waldo Community Building in Waldo, Maine.

7. Maine County Commissioners Association issued a 5th place 201 Safe Driving Award to Waldo County in the amount of \$1,000.00 during the MCCA Convention in September.

8. Senator Angus King awarded Waldo County the Gold Distinction for honoring Waldo County with the Spirit of America's Gold Distinction for honoring the County's Spirit of America Awardees for their outstanding community service and for promoting the cause of volunteerism.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

B. Arseneau requested that the Commissioners approve the minutes from the September 8, 2016, September 20, 2016 and September 25, 2016 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as presented.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the minutes for the September 8, 2016, September 20, 2016 and September 25, 2016 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as presented. Unanimous.**

COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. B. Johnson asked to meet at 10:00 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m. on October 27, 2016. The session was rescheduled at that time, unless the Budget Committee could not meet until 1:00 p.m. that day.

2. A. Fowler has MMA's proposed legislation and will try to meet with MMA's Legislative Policy group and try to work with them.

3. A. Fowler briefly reported the process involved with selecting an architectural firm to work on the proposed new courthouse project. She had attended the committee meeting while B. Arseneau was out on vacation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to go into Executive Session at 10:55 a.m. for discussion of labor meetings as permitted by M.R.S.A. 1 §405(D). Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson came out at 11:24. Unanimous.** No action was taken.

NEXT COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION:

The next regular Commissioners Court Session is scheduled for October 27, 2016 starting at either 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. based on the availability of the Budget Committee to come in for an Organizational meeting to be in the Waldo County Probate Courtroom.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to adjourn the court session at 11:32 a.m. Unanimous.**

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