

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION**

**Special Session**

**AUGUST 17, 2023**

**(For more detailed information, see recording on [waldocountyme.gov](http://waldocountyme.gov))**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners William D. Shorey (Chairman), Amy R. Fowler, and Betty I. Johnson. County Clerk Barbara Arseneau was absent, so Commissioner Fowler took minutes.

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

**FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Director Kari Hunt reported the following:

A written-in ballot was received from the Town of Unity to a Budget Committee Member replacement. They noted that the ballot was unnecessary because Unity has a vacancy that they must fill, but this will serve as written notice of who that will be.

The County has received \$4,563.00 from Maine Municipal Workers Compensation in Member dividends. The account is reviewed once a year and the premium is based on salaries.

No other property taxes have been received from towns as of today. She is aware that reminder notices are typically sent in September, and B. Johnson explained that taxes are usually received in October.

The County's TAN amount is \$5.5 million dollars with \$191,000.00 currently available. No funds have been transferred over as yet for this warrant. There is enough in the General checking account to cover County bills. Funds will have to be transferred to cover MCRCC bills. YTD interest received from the First National Bank is \$67,342.28.

**WARRANTS**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve payment of the August 17, 2023 MCRRC/Corrections Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant with the August 17, 2023 payroll of \$46,074.70 and the August 17, 2023 accounts payable of \$78,945.42 for a total of \$125,020.12. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve payment of the August 17, 2023 General Fund Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant with the August 17, 2023 payroll of \$159,890.17 and the accounts payable of \$106,601.90 for a total of \$266,492.07. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to accept financial report. Unanimous.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into executive session at 9:09 a.m. for discussion of duties as permitted by Title 1§405 (6)(A). Unanimous.**

**A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to come out of executive session at 9:35 a.m. Unanimous.**  
No action was taken.

## HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Human Resources Director Annette McLaggan was present to report the following:

1. She requested approval to process the second and final payment of a sign-on bonus for Walter Corey in the amount of \$7,500.00, as he has completed one year. A. Fowler asked if the County would be able to recover that sign on bonus as he is MDEA. A. McLaggan said she doubted that but would check. She is also researching which fund account sign-on bonuses for Jail and Sheriff employees are paid from.

2. The former H.R. Director started the process of creating a Human Resources budget for 2024. A. McLaggan requested a motion for the Commissioners to approve the Human Resources Department to pull appropriate funds out of the Commissioners budget and create a separate budget for Human Resources. It would include one full-time and one part-time position. Human Resources is the only department that does not have its own budget. There was discussion that it would include postage, professional services for background checks, polygraph, etc. for new hires, etc. There was further discussion of how this budget could be set up. A. McLaggan proposed only using her cell phone and eliminate a desk phone. The Commissioners felt it should be both because someone will be filling in for her during long absences.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to create a Human Resources Department budget for 2024, possibly assigned budget number 1040. Unanimous.**

W. Shorey said he has requested numbers from A. McLaggan that need to be discussed in executive session.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

IT Director J-sun Bailey reported the following:

1. He has been setting up new hires at the Sheriff's Office and also finishing setting up new hires at the Communications Center.

2. He sent the commissioners a link by email so they can review a new prototype for the County Web.

3. Circuit locations are being clarified for the Financial Director on the Consolidated Communications bill. A. Fowler questioned the four lines that are dead at the Comm. Center and asked if there could be a phone line audit. J. Bailey said it's on his list of things to work on, although that list has recently increased greatly. A. Fowler requested that J-sun utilize the IT Technician as much as possible, and he said that is being done. Knox has become a priority with many meetings, preparation, etc.

4. J. Bailey held a meeting with Motorola yesterday at the EMA Conference room for mobile software, and the City of Belfast, Waldo County Sheriff's Office, Waldo Communications Center and Stockton Springs were in attendance. The City of Bangor did not come. Eight to ten people attended. He had a meeting with the Sheriff's Office, Belfast and Stockton Springs afterwards. They all seemed to think it was a good product and still want more information on the price. The system is Spillman Mobile. A. Fowler asked if the County could utilize another county's system. J. Bailey said that some

information can be obtained from them, but his understanding is that it is licensed on a per-county basis. It allows deputies to assign themselves to calls and update their call status. Regarding officer safety, it has a feature so that Dispatch can see where an officer is in real time. An officer can assign a call if they are in the area. It will save on work Dispatch is doing, radio traffic, and allow more time for additional 9-1-1 calls. He believed some of this discussion needs to be in executive session. J. Bailey and M. Larrivee have seen this system in person at the Summit and felt it would be helpful if the departments that would utilize it also saw it in person, as they would be able to tell if it would help a department or not. It also logs in evidence and saves time copying the information. He will send reminders out for the September meeting to the user group, which includes Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, which should be a bigger turnout.

5. Ray Monreal has been at EMA working on a punch list including the new TV, sound bar, monitor stand, radio room, trying to consolidate computers, etc. In the future he will be at Deeds working on wiring. He has also been working on Help Desk tickets and assignments.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

1. Commissioner Fowler may drive to the Risk Pool Meeting, and B. Johnson may attend the MCCA Board of Directors Meeting and may to stay overnight.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded for B. Johnson to attend the Convention to represent Waldo County. Unanimous.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to go into executive session at 10:05 a.m. for discussion of non-public information as permitted by MRSA Title 1§405(6)(F). Unanimous.**

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to come out of executive session at 11:25 a.m.**


**Unanimous.** The following action was taken: The Commissioners, Finance, and Human Resources Offices will now be open to the public on Wednesdays.

No overtime will be allowed in the Commissioners Office unless it has been approved prior by at least two commissioners.

A third notice will be sent to municipalities regarding the need for Waldo County Budget Committee members.

The Commissioners will also be working on crafting legislation.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to adjourn at 11:27 a.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by  Waldo County Clerk  
Barbara L. Arseneau