

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020**

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

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

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell reported the following:

The County Checkbook balance is \$16,509.22.

The Jail Checkbook balance is \$141,092.64.

County Appropriations:

57% of the 2020 budget has been expended and it should be 67% at this time.

County Revenue:

63.06% of the 2020 County revenue has been received.

Corrections Appropriations:

59% of the 2020 Corrections budget has been expended and should be 67% expended.

Corrections Revenue:

79.39% of the 2020 Corrections revenue has been received. The CCA funds came in, which explains the increase.

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:

\$2,950,000.00 has been borrowed from the TAN by the County and \$1,800,000.00 by Corrections. The balance is \$750,000.00. K. Trussell said she believes that there will be about \$500,000.00 left in the balance, similar to last year at this time.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to file the Financial Report. Unanimous.**

WARRANTS:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the August 28, 2020 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant including the August 20, 2020 payroll in the amount of \$151,496.28. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the August 28, 2020 Capital, Active & Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$28,528.17. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the August 28, 2020 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant including August 20, 2020 payroll in the amount \$53,941.97. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the August 28, 2020 MCRRC Restricted Reserve in the amount of \$2,921.46. Unanimous.**

A. Fowler asked about the invoice for a new clutch for the gator and asked if there was a warranty on this. W. Shorey said it was no longer under warranty and so many springs were broken that it wouldn't have been anyway. It was an operator issue and has been resolved.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT:

Present was IT Manager J-sun Bailey who reported the following:

1. He told the Commissioners he had sent them some quotes for Spillman servers, monitors for the Comm. Center, help desk software, and has been working on inventory. W. Shorey said he liked the software and would like to do it this year rather than next year. A. Fowler agreed with the software, but wondered if they could hold off on the equipment until they can see what the finances were. J. Bailey said that is fine; he just wanted to make the information available to them.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to purchase the software that was recommended by J. Bailey. Unanimous.** J. Bailey said he will order that today, as he already has a trial of the software installed, so it shouldn't be too hard to move forward with that.

2. W. Shorey thought the quote on the servers was also good. B. Johnson and A. Fowler agreed.

3. B. Johnson mentioned that a very inappropriate email came through to the Commissioners and asked if J. Bailey could look at the spam filter to see why that came through. J. Bailey asked for the email to be forwarded to him so he could take care of it.

DESK SERGEANT HIRE:

Present was Chief Deputy Jason Trundy, who apologized on behalf of the Sheriff, who couldn't attend. J. Trundy reported that the Sheriff's Office has gone through the interview process and recommended Nicholas Oettinger to fill the new Administrative Sergeant position. The Road Sergeant position will now be vacant, so that will need to be filled. A. Fowler asked if MDEA had selected one of the officers yet. J. Trundy said they have chosen someone, but it is not official yet.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to approve the move of Nicholas Oettinger to fill the new Desk Sergeant position at the same rate of pay. Unanimous.**

BUDGET COMMITTEE BALLOTS RECOUNT:

B. Arseneau explained that she had mixed up the date the Budget Committee ballots were due back and submitted to the Commissioners what had arrived by August 19th when it should have been August 31st. She apologized. All the ballots returned by August 31st are now tallied. The totals are as follows:

District 1:

- Islesboro Selectman Gabriel Pendleton received a total of 5 votes.

District 2:

- Searsport Selectman Linda Payson received 1 vote from the Town of Searsport for the open 3-year term. She was already nominated during the Budget Caucus on August 5th to fill the last year of the term left vacant by Richard Desmarais. The Commissioners acknowledged that this vote does not apply to the open 3-year term, but to fill the Searsport term vacancy.
- Stockton Springs Selectman Melissa Moody received 1 vote from the Town of Stockton Springs as a write-in candidate for the open 3-year term. She was already nominated during the Budget Caucus on August 5th to fill the remaining 2-years of the term left vacant by Peter Curley. The Commissioners acknowledged that this vote does not apply to the open 3-year term, but to fill the Stockton Springs' term vacancy.
- Prospect Selectman Calvin Cooper of Prospect received 1 vote from the Town of Prospect as a write-in candidate for the open 3-year term.
- Winterport Councilor Tammy Higgins received 1 vote from the Town of Winterport as a write-in candidate for the open 3-year term.

Discussion: B. Arseneau explained that a similar situation occurred in 2017, and explained that it was handled according to statute by weighing the population of the towns involved to determine the winner. B. Johnson said that she felt that this differed from 2017 because there were more towns involved, which was fairer. This time there are only two towns.

****B. Johnson moved to break the tie in the budget committee membership between Winterport and Prospect by coin toss. Unanimous. The coin toss went to the Town of Winterport.**

District 3:

- Palermo Selectman Bob Kurek received 7 votes for the open 3-year term.

B. Arseneau reminded the Commissioners that Freedom Selectman Ronald Price telephoned in August, stating that Freedom Selectman Elaine Higgins is interested in serving as the replacement for Brian Jones, who had one year remaining on his term on the Budget Committee.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to accept with gratitude the members who will be serving on the Waldo County Budget Committee. Unanimous.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Present to report correspondence was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau, and Human Resources Director Nicole Hubbard was also present.

1. Handling Human Resources-related Attorney Invoices: B. Arseneau had asked if the Commissioners wanted all attorney invoices to continue coming to her, or if they should be sent to H.R. to sign and code. N. Hubbard had expressed that she didn't object if the Clerk continued to sign, code and send those to accounts payable, as many of the invoices lump together personnel and other legal matters such as union negotiations that she was not involved with. After brief discussion, the Commissioners decided that invoices could continue to be received as they are, the County Clerk would forward any

involving personnel to the H.R. Director to sign, and vice versa, and then they would be coded and forwarded to accounts payable.

2. Spirit of America Foundation Tribute President Bruce Flaherty sent an email reminding the Commissioner that they can choose recipients of the 2020 award for their district if they wish. He also made several suggestions for handling recognition this year. The Commissioners opted to wait until 2021 and hold a joint ceremony for both 2020 and 2021 awardees. B. Arseneau will notify B. Flaherty.

3. Deputy Register of Probate Judy Nealley contacted B. Arseneau to say that Attorney Martin Crowe visited the new Law Library, and offered his set of the Maine Reports to the County. His set is complete, and in better shape. The Commissioners stated that they would like very much to have this set for the Law Library, and said to contact Attorney Crowe to accept and thank him for his generous offer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

B. Arseneau requested that the Commissioners approve the minutes from the August 19, 2020 court session as read.

****B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2020 Waldo County Commissioners Court Session as read. Unanimous.**

COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. A. Fowler reported that a replacement sewing machine was needed at the Reentry Center. The residents and staff have been making protective cloth masks for several months. The sewing machine died, Corrections Officer Carlene Thornton had tried to find another, and couldn't. A. Fowler finally found one for \$129.00, but it didn't work, and later she found another for around \$380.00 including the machine and some fabric. A. Fowler also donated some fabric that she wasn't using. Residents and staff at the Reentry Center have made over 3600 face masks so far, which are being donated to the schools, staff, TRIAD, other groups, and citizens. A. Fowler recommended submitting this to the local paper to write an article about. B. Arseneau was asked to contact the local newspaper.

(The Commissioners took a 3-minute recess before going into executive session.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The following was reported by Human Resources Director Nicole Hubbard:

****The Commissioners went into executive session around 9:50 a.m. for discussion of a non-public personnel matter as permitted by MRSA Title 1§405(6)(A).**

****The Commissioners came out of executive session at 10:16 a.m. No action was taken.**

The Commissioners adjourned the court session at 10:20 a.m.

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