OXFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES

April 19, 2022

Meeting Convened
At the Court of Oxford County Commissioners begun and held at Paris, Maine within and for the County of Oxford at 9:00 am on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 being a regular session, there were present:

Timothy Turner Chair
Steven Merrill Commissioner
David Duguay Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes Approval
The following action occurred regarding sets of minutes of previous meetings:

April 7 approved
April 15 approved

Agenda Adopted
The agenda was adopted with the addition of reviewing the draft minutes of April 15.

Public Comment
None.

Department Heads
Department heads met with the Commissioners to discuss a variety of topics, some being unique to specific departments and other topics being of concern to several or all departments.

Sheriff's Report
The Sheriff's Office had no updates. It was noted that the Sheriff was out due to a medical reason and the Chief was dealing with a personnel matter.

Treasurer's Report
Treasurer Beth Calhoun provided written reports and updated Commissioners on the County’s financial status.

Treasurer Calhoun also stated that she feels very confident with the County’s current financial position and that the County will likely not need to seek a tax anticipation note (TAN) this year.

Presentation from Representative of Seniors Plus
Betsey Sawyer-Manter and Heather Davis gave a presentation to the Commissioners about the agency’s plans to construct a bigger facility to meet their growing needs. The agency is requesting $1.5 million from the federal government, $500k from Androscoggin County, $250k from Oxford County, and $125k from Franklin County to help cover the cost.
It was noted that Oxford County is currently assessing several projects that will utilize a large portion of the ARPA funds but will keep their request in mind once it’s clearer how much of the funds have actually been allocated.

Presentation from Representative of the OPTIONS Program
Glenn Gordon gave a presentation about how the program provides direct and immediate support to people dealing with substance addiction. Rumford Police Chief Tony Milligan spoke in support of the program, detailing that the program so far has a 100% success rate and stressed how important the services are to the County. At this time, the program is not requesting funding from the County, but rather asking for support in requests to other resources.

Personnel Updates and Actions
The Commissioners adopted a policy re political activity.

The Commissioners authorized the transfer of Hope Wilson from a Full-Time Victim Witness Advocate to a Full-Time Probate Clerk with a wage rate of $17.00/hr effective April 28. They then authorized the posting of the open Victim Witness Advocate Position.

The Commissioners entered an executive session (1 M.R.S.A. § 405-6 A) to discuss a personnel matter. They returned to open session and authorized a one-time net payment of $1,000 each for Probate Register Jennifer Dilworth and Deputy Probate Register Diana Messina for their extra duties due to a long-term vacancy in their office.

The Commissioners entered an executive session (1 M.R.S.A. § 405-6 D) to discuss union contract negotiations. No action was needed upon returning to open session.

Items for Discussion and Action – Considered as Time Permits Throughout Meeting
The Commissioners discussed the following and acted only as underlined.

1. Received update from Maine County Commissioners Association.

Adjournment
The Commissioners adjourned at 1:50pm

Timothy G. Turner, Chairman

Steven M. Merrill, Commissioner

David A. Duguay, Commissioner

Notes:

1) These minutes are intended to be a brief description of meeting actions to provide, in a general sense only, an account of what was discussed.

2) Unless otherwise noted, all votes taken by the Commissioners were unanimous.