OXFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2021

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, May 18, 2021 being a regular session, there were present:

Timothy Turner Chairman
Steven Merrill Commissioner
David Duguay Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Adopted
The agenda was adopted with the addition of an executive session under the Sheriff’s Report to confer with counsel. It was noted that Executive Session Abby Shanor posted advance notice of the additional executive session in case action needed to be taken.

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

May 6 approved with amendments

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
Sheriff Chris Wainwright spoke with the Commissioners regarding departmental matters.

The Commissioners authorized the renewal of a contract to provide law enforcement services to the US Forest Service.

The Commissioners authorize the promotion of Corrections Officer Trenton Rand to Corporal effective May 18 at the rate of $17.93/hr (1st year step).

The Commissioners authorized the hiring of Parker Lessard as a full-time Corrections Officer with the following confirmed:

- Effective Date: May 18, 2021
- Wage Rate: $16.42/hr (entry)
- Special Conditions: none
The Commissioners authorized the hiring of Kaitlin Armstrong as a full-time Assistant Jail Administrator with the following confirmed:

- Effective Date: May 30, 2021
- Wage Rate: $60,000/yr (45 hours per week)
- Special Conditions: 3 weeks of vacation time per year

It was noted that the executive session to discuss wages was not needed.

It was also noted that the new Assistant Jail Administrator position holds the rank of Lieutenant.

The Commissioners then accepted the resignation of full-time Sheriff’s Deputy James McLamb. It was noted that McLamb is leaving his position to serve as the Town Manager in Dixfield. Both the Sheriff and Commissioners expressed their well wishes for him.

The Commissioners authorized the hiring of Justin Cummings as a full-time Sheriff’s Deputy with the following confirmed:

- Effective Date: May 23, 2021
- Wage Rate: $22.33/hr (3rd year step)
- Special Conditions: none

The Commissioners authorized the hiring of Tyler Fournier as a full-time Sheriff’s Deputy with the following confirmed:

- Effective Date: May 24, 2021
- Wage Rate: $22.33/hr (3rd year step)
- Special Conditions: none

The Commissioners entered an executive session (1 M.R.S.A. § 405-6 A) to discuss a grievance. They returned to open session and determined no action was needed at this time.

The Commissioners entered an executive session (1 M.R.S.A. § 405-6 E) to discuss a legal matter with Attorney Amy Dieterich of Skelton Taintor Abbott by phone. They returned to open session and determined no action was needed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

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

The Commissioners authorized Treasurer Calhoun to borrow up to $1.5 million from the casino funds to avoid accruing interest on the TAN. It was noted that the funds would be paid back in full by November 15 once tax revenue has been caught up.

**Personnel Updates and Actions**

The Commissioners authorized interim County Administrator Donnie Durrah to make changes to the emergency policies as needed in order to keep up with CDC guidance changes.
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.
2. Tabled Correspondence from Senator Lisa Keim re Maine Food Sovereignty Act until new legislation passes as advised by Attorney Jim Pross. It was noted that Attorney Pross would keep watch on the bill and notify the Commissioners when it has passed so that this item can be revisited.
3. Authorized liquor license application renewal submission for Cupsuptic Lake Campground

Interim County Administrator Donnie Durrah noted that he met with a commercial realtor and have listed the Deeds West building in Fryeburg at $195,000.

Administrator Durrah also noted that he is working on several various contracts for municipal services in Magalloway Plantation in preparation for the de-organization.

Adjournment

The Commissioners adjourned at 11:36am.

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.