

OXFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2025

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, July 15, being a regular session, there were present:

Timothy Turner	Chair
Lisa Keim	Commissioner
Sawin Millett	Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes Approval

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

July 10 approved with amendments

Agenda Adopted

The agenda was adopted with the addition of discussing the county's contract with Skelton Taintor Abbott for general legal services.

Public Comment

Tamra Benson and Catherine Madosa of the Community Resilience Partnership explained that there are grants up to \$75,000 per township for resiliency projects and asked for a letter of support from the Commissioners which will start the process of applying for those funds, noting that the funds would be provided up front if awarded. The Commissioners authorized participation in the program on behalf of Albany Township and Magalloway Township and will sign letters of support by August 1.

Ben McKenney of Stoneham Rescue expressed his concern for increased expenses that are not being recouped. He noted that in 2024 the agency provided \$161,000 worth of services but had to write off \$63,000 due to non-payments. Oxford County has been paying \$10,000 for ambulance coverage in Albany Township for quite a while, and Mr. McKenney noted that there needs to be a reasonable increase in the future. It was noted that the Unorganized Territory (UT) budget is dependent on legislative approval and that the current (FY26) budget was just recently approved. County Administrator Zane Loper provided Mr. McKenney with his contact information to continue this discussion with UT Supervisor Tony Carter and Finance Director Lindsay Kay to discuss funding going forward and to reconcile a possible missed payment.

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.

Deputy County Administrator Abby Shanor reminded department heads about personnel files and the importance of following statute regarding proper documentation and management of those files.

There were several kudos shared, including from Commissioner Keim, for Administrator Loper who successfully processed payroll while the Finance Director was out of office.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Christopher Wainwright updated the Commissioners on departmental matters.

The Sheriff and Jail Administrator Dana Dillingham expressed their frustration with a significant increase in documentation requested by the DA's Office and defense attorneys and suggested that the county may need to explore creating a position solely for data collection. It was noted that Administrator Loper would work with the affected departments to start tracking the number of hours being allocated to those requests.

The Commissioners authorized the termination of Corrections Sergeant Beth Frisbie effective today, July 15, due to a medical condition preventing her from performing her duties and exhausting all available leave. Oxford County thanks her for her service and she is eligible for reemployment in the future.

The Commissioners authorized the opening of a full-time Corrections Officer position.

Treasurer's Report

Finance Director Lindsay Kay updated the Commissioners on financial matters and provided written reports.

The Commissioners briefly discussed the cost of the Sheriff's Office vehicle fleet. Commissioner Keim questioned the number of spares that get carried in the fleet count. Treasurer Bath Calhoun cautioned about tightening the fleet count too much to avoid suddenly having to replace a high amount in one budget cycle. Commissioner Turner pointed out that the vehicles don't all get purchased at the beginning of the year and that the vehicles can quickly rack up mileage and therefore decrease value for trade-in. It was noted that they would finish the discussion at a future meeting so that the Sheriff could participate in the conversation.

Presentation from the Oxford County Opioid Response Committee (OCORC)

Chair Kari Taylor and Glenn Gordon, of OCORC and MacKenzie David of the MOSS Center spoke with the Commissioners and presented a PowerPoint on the four pillars of spending in relation to Oxford County's portion of Opioid settlement funds.

Airport/UT Supervisors Report

The Commissioners authorized the grant application submission of a FAA grant for storm water diversion system. Project cost share estimate breakdown: FAA = \$47,065, MaineDOT = \$1,239, and Oxford County = \$1,239

The Commissioners accepted an estimate from Pike Industries in the amount of \$27,000 to finish the Tyler Road project.

The Commissioners accepted an estimate from Pike Industries in the amount of \$201,801 for paving on Vernon Street.

The Commissioner accepted an estimate from Pike Industries in the amount of \$67,650 for paving on Meadowbrook Bridge Road.

It was noted that the discussion re Stoneham Rescue was no longer needed as the matter was brought up during public comment.

Building Improvements

These items were tabled to the next Commissioners meeting.

Items for Discussion and Action – Considered as Time Permits Throughout Meeting

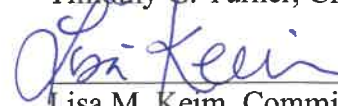
1. Adopted Administrator's report.
2. It was determined that the follow up on the RCC restructuring plan was no longer needed.
3. It was determined that the follow up on the email correspondence re Liberty Mutual was no longer needed.
4. The Commissioners entered an executive session (1 M.R.S.A. § 405-6 F) to discuss a contract. No action was needed upon returning to open session.

Adjournment

The Commissioners adjourned at 1:19pm.



Timothy G. Turner, Chair



Lisa M. Keim, Commissioner



H. Sawin Millett, 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.*