

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
AUGUST 18, 2022**

PRESENT: Commissioners Amy R. Fowler (Chairman), William D. Shorey, and Betty I. Johnson (via video teleconference.) Also present was Freedom Selectperson Elaine Higgins, and County Clerk Barbara Arseneau to take minutes.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Finance Karen Trussell reported the following:

The County Checkbook balance is \$48,065.13, and the Jail Checkbook balance is \$24,337.19.

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:

The total Tax Anticipation Note is \$5,500,000.00. \$4,270,000.00 has been borrowed; \$2,525,000.00 by the County and \$1,745,000.00 by Corrections. Interest owed as of yesterday is \$14,858.05 and it will go up because of the total amount borrowed.

County Appropriations/Revenue:

57% of the County 2022 budget has been expended and could be 63%. 85.20% of the County revenue has been received at this time.

Corrections Appropriations/Revenue:

55% of the Corrections 2022 budget has been expended and could be 63% expended. 18.69% of the Corrections revenue was received at that time.

ASSESSED TAXES PAID TO DATE:

The Town of Troy paid its assessment in full on August 12, 2022. This made it possible not to borrow from the TAN for payroll this time.

****W. Shore moved, B. Johnson seconded to file the Financial Report. Unanimous.**

WARRANTS

****B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to authorize payment of the August 11, 2022 General Fund Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant and August 4, 2022 payroll in the amount of \$224,649.89. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to authorize payment of the August 11, 2022 MCRRC (Corrections) Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant and August 4, 2022 payroll in the amount of \$103,858.37. Unanimous.**

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Human Resources Director KelLee Gray reported the following.

1. While doing the budget prep for 2023, she was in contact with Maine Municipal Association Workers Comp and the County passed through the Tier III review from July. The County will now get 10% off Workers Compensation through 2023.

2. Facilities Technician Gary Daigle has resigned, and his last day is August 31, 2022. K. Gray is reviewing and updating the job description and will likely post the position tomorrow for two weeks. A. Fowler asked if employees do exit interviews, and K. Gray said employees may if they agree to. ****W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to accept the resignation of Gary Daigle effective August 31, 2022.**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

IT Manager J-sun Bailey reported as follows:

1. He has finished the EMA computers and the HAM radio room is being set up with computers. He is also working on printers.

2. He and Comm. Center Director Mike Larrivee have met with a vendor regarding furniture M. Larrivee is looking at and reviewed the wiring needed, etc.

3. The Corrections department still has some computers running Windows 7 and he will be replacing a few computers there.

4. He has sent the Cell Phone Policy to the Commissioners. A. Fowler said she hadn't read it thoroughly, understands that security is necessary, but she doesn't expect the taxpayers to buy a Commissioner a separate phone. She believed only certain positions need County cell phones. J. Bailey said his main concern is Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) policies. If anyone has CJIS data on their personal phone, by policy that personal phone must be trackable and erasable if lost. A. Fowler said she didn't object to the policy but doesn't want to spend money on unnecessary cell phones. J. Bailey explained that it is "a balancing act." If there is going to be County email on a personal phone, management software needs to be installed on that phone. B. Johnson said she had no questions on the policy, and reported issues with her County cell phone, which J. Bailey is working on. B. Johnson also mentioned she cannot print from her County iPad and must send some things to her personal email to print. J. Bailey reiterated that the policy he's discussing is just related to addressing CJIS concerns.

****W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to approve the new policy regarding CJIS data on personal devices. Unanimous.**

5. A. Fowler inquired about receipts for the Motorola conference J. Bailey attended. He said he turned them in already. His 2023 budget will cover the next conference. He's still dealing with Motorola to break out other invoices by agency, and they have not done that, so the invoices haven't been sent to the County. He keeps emailing and calling Motorola and told them the County will pay these invoices when they've been sent with the details by department, and he also told them the County won't be paying any late fees while waiting for this information.

CORRESPONDENCE

County Clerk Barbara Arseneau reported correspondence as follows:

1. 2023 Budget Committee ballots will be tallied for the September 15, 2022 court session.

2. She updated the Commissioner on purchases that need to be made for the new records archive from the Records Preservation budget. She is also working with the Facilities Manager and Detention Manager to get help from the Reentry Residents to move the records over from the Old Archive after the Garden work is finished.

3. She gave a brief report on recent FOAA requests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

B. Arseneau had emailed minutes from the July 21, 2022 Court Session to the Commissioners for review.

****B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2022 County Commissioners Court Session. Unanimous.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Present was Freedom Selectperson Elaine Higgins, who gave an update on the Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition. Four of the five towns have agreed to join the broadband utility district, and Montville is voting on August 27th. The name will change to "Waldo Broadband Corporation". There have been many documents, and they are working with Preti Flaherty. They hope to start running lines in 18 months to 2 years with the goal of being finished within 2-4 years. A. Fowler asked if other towns could join the corporation. E. Higgins said that the five original towns already used for the research phase \$9,000.00 of the \$20,000.00 awarded to each town by the County. The remaining \$11,000.00 from each of town will be used to set up the broadband district. Bylaws are being drafted that would permit other towns to petition WBC to join, with a fee to be determined. Things are falling into place, and everyone agrees with going "fiber to the premise". There are about 3,500 people in the five towns, and it is hoped that 1/3 of the people will take it, in which case they will break even. She believes more than that number will take it, as there are many more young people in the towns than originally thought. It is anticipated that within 2 to 5 years, things will be completely hooked up.

SHERIFF'S REPORT:

Present was Sheriff Jeffrey Trafton, who reported the following.

1. Restorative Justice Project 2023 Budget Request: R.J.P. submitted their 2023 budget request to him yesterday afternoon. He stated that he can't support a request that came in after the 2023 Sheriff's budget had already been submitted and he sent them a message stating that. D.A. Natasha Irving requested a meeting between the Sheriff's Office, the D.A.'s Office, and R.J.P. and after they meet, he may have a better understanding of what the request is for. A. Fowler said she hasn't seen any documentation from R.J.P., and the Sheriff said he would forward it to her. There was brief discussion of the history of R.J.P. at one time being part of the Jail budget and the County stopped paying that because, at that time, R.J.P. wasn't doing what was expected. There was brief discussion about the order in which budget requests should be made, starting with the Commissioners, not the Budget Committee. The Commissioners supported the Sheriff's decision not to include in the Sheriff's 2023 budget request.

2. The Sheriff's Office hopes to hire a Corrections Officer that once the officer has been certified at the Academy.

3. Jail consolidation is going well. The only problem developing is that Knox County continues to lose Corrections Officers. He has a call into Sheriff Polky, who only started a few weeks ago, and has named a new chief deputy. Waldo has 20 inmates incarcerated at Knox, and 15 at Two Bridges Jail. Waldo is sending staff down to Knox to assist. He has a meeting scheduled this afternoon with Corrections Administrator Porter and Chief Trundy to develop contingencies before things become critical. All but five of the officers hired at Knox have left already and some of the senior staff are submitting resignations. It's close to being a crisis. There are no Waldo corrections staff at Two Bridges. He reviewed the staffing back when Knox was putting the air handlers in. They have all of Waldo's female inmates and there are 1 or 2 that are currently in holding who will be sent down there. He just wanted to make the Commissioners aware of the situation and will keep them posted on this matter.

FACILITIES REPORT (not on agenda)

Facilities Manager Keith Nealley reported that he sent an email to Vina Lindley at the U. of M. Cooperative Extension updating her on the progress of mold remediation and repairs. The foundation was excavated and rubber-coated, perimeter drains were fixed, and is being filled in with crushed stone. Cracks were also found in the lower part of the foundation, so those have been repaired, and he believes all leaks have been addressed. Insulation and sheetrock work is being done inside. There was mold on the outside of the sheetrock, so that will be removed and replaced. The walls will need to be painted, and doors have been ordered. The carpeting needs to be replaced with inlaid flooring that has a rubbing backing, so he'll look at samples and good color choices to brighten it up. V. Lindley has an October 1st move-back date, and he believes there will be no problem being ready for that.

SWANVILLE BUILDING PROJECT:

Since the court session was running way ahead and the EMA Director was tied up in another meeting, the Commissioners postponed the Swanville Project update to a future court session.

****W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to adjourn the court session at 10:50 a.m.
Unanimous.**

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