

October 8, 2014

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
held October 8, 2014
in the Commissioners' Conference Room
Machias, Maine**

**Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.
Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administration
Richard Curtis, Edmunds Twp.
Jennifer Curtis, Edmunds Twp.
Ken Daye, SCEC
Sharon Strout, Deeds
Carlene Holmes, Probate
Donnie Smith, Sheriff
Chris Donahue, Chief Deputy
Jill Holmes, Treasurer
Judy Alexander, Treasurer's Office
Darlene Wallace, Deeds
Tim Cox, Bangor Daily News
Dean A. Preston, U.T.
Commissioner Gardner was not present.**

The meeting for Unorganized Territories business was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Approval of the September U.T. meeting minutes of September 10, 2014
(Crowley / Cassidy, 2-0)**

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

Unorganized Territories Supervisor Dean Preston provided his monthly written report. (See attached)

Dean reported that he has completed his assessment of winter road maintenance preparation.

Dean has informed the eleven snow removal contractors of the salt bid results.

Dean requested that the Commissioners sign and approve the extension of the snow removal Contract #5 with Mr. Barry Gillis with a cost of

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\$23,760. The cost remains the same and will be in effect through 2016.

***MOTION* Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve the extension of snow removal contract #5 for \$23,760 through 2016. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed 2-0.**

The contract was sign as presented.

Dean stated that the U.T. continues to work with the State GIS department collecting data for the mapping program. U.T. has begun to collecting data for the largest area left in the UT without 911 addresses.

Dean presented the U.T Shellfish Conservation Ordinance to which he recently made revisions. The DMR has reviewed and accepted the revised ordinance. Dean requested the Commissioners to review and acceptance the amended ordinance.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the U.T Shellfish Ordinance with the amendments. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 2-0.**

The document includes the Aquaculture Permit Policy, application for a Shellfish Aquaculture Permit and the Aquaculture Permit Renewal application.

Dean reported that the fall Shellfish Conservation meeting will include a discussion on the U.T Aquaculture-leasing program. U.T. would be the first in the State to run this program. The date of the Shellfish Conservation meeting has not been set.

Dean has been working on developing a long-term lease with Marion Transfer Station for the use of one bay of the UT garage in Marion Twp. He will submit it to the County Attorney for a final review before submitting it to the Marion Transfer Station for their acceptance. Dean plans to have it ready for the Commissioners' review at the November Commissioners' meeting.

There has been an adjustment made to the design for the installation of the dry hydrant in Cathance Twp. The adjustment moves the hydrant away from the boat ramp leaving a 9' lane for the pumper truck so that it will not affect the use of the boat ramp while those operations are

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on-going. Dean has contacted LUPC to determine what permits or addendums to the existing permits need to be obtained to move this project forward. He is waiting to hear back from Nick Livesay. Dean hopes the project will be completed prior to the winter season.

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update

A report was submitted and is attached.

UT TIF Administrator Ken Daye stated that there were details relating to the grant and loan approved in the June meeting for Coastal Bait that needed to be reviewed with the Commissioners. Before the grant and loan was processed, it was found that the piece of property being used to collateralize the TIF loan was already being used for collateral on two other outstanding loans. When the Commissioners approved the TIF loan, it was with the understanding that the County held the 2nd position for that property. The finding from the title search put the County at the 4th position. After discussing this issue with both the borrower and the bank, the bank agreed to subordinated 3rd and 4th position; this would keep the County at the 2nd position as collateral holder. The TIF Grant Committee is satisfied with this arrangement but felt it prudent to bring to the Commissioners' attention. Commissioner Crowley stated that as the County position for the collateral has not changed, he is still alright with approval of the TIF loan. Commissioner Cassidy agreed. By consensus, the Commissioners reaffirmed the approval of the TIF loan request, #MG-TIF-05-28-14, for Coastal Trap Shop for \$45,000.

A TIF grant and loan request that was proposed during the September meeting was presented for reconsideration. TIF Administrator Ken Daye introduced Richard and Jennifer Curtis of Belyea Farm. The request was tabled last month because of concerns that insufficient land owned by the Curtis' would hinder future growth of the business. Mr. Curtis was not present at last months' meeting to address any concerns. He clarified that the small parcel of land referred to in the business plan is only the amount cleared. He owns an additional 15 acres that could be used to expand if necessary. Ken noted that they do have a clear business plan. Commissioner Crowley asked if Mr. Curtis intended to clear more land. Mr. Curtis responded that he did. Mr. Curtis fielded several other questions pertaining to the function and size of the farm. Commissioner Crowley stated that he would be in support of approving the loan and grant request based on the information received.

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MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the grant request of \$13,500, Grant # 1409-12-CP, for Belyea Farm.
Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the loan request of \$13,500, Loan # RC-TIF-09-03-14, for Belyea Farm.
Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

ADJOURNMENT

4:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.