

October 8, 2015

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'  
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting  
held October 8, 2015  
in the Commissioners' Conference Room  
Machias, Maine**

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**Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.  
Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Carla Manchester, Administration  
Susan Hatton, SCEC  
Barry Curtis, Sheriff  
Michael Crabtree, Chief Deputy  
Johanna Billings, Bangor Daily News  
Darlene Wallace, Deeds  
Sharon Strout, Deeds  
Jill Holmes, Treasurer  
Tammy C. Gay, Deeds  
Heron Weston, U.T.**

**Commissioner Gardner was not present.**

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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 3, 2015  
(Crowley / Cassidy, 2-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report**

Unorganized Territories Interim Supervisor Heron Weston provided his monthly written report. (See attached)

A Memorandum of Agreement for the dry hydrant construction at the Cathance boat landing has been received. U.T. Supervisor Heron Weston reported that there were several revisions needing to be made to the agreement. The agreement erroneously states the agreement is between the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and Washington County. Supervisor Weston asked if the agreement should, instead, be with Unorganized Territories, not Washington County. Commissioner Crowley stated that it should read "agreement with Washington County

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Commissioners acting on behalf of the U.T." Once the revisions have been made, the agreement will be returned for signatures. County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald has already been authorized to sign the agreement. Supervisor Weston stated that it is late in the season to start the project. He will check with CES for their opinion.

Supervisor Weston reported that the road reconstruction project on the East Ridge Road is complete. Paving work has been done in Greenlaw Chopping Twp. Big Lake Landing Road will also be paved. Commissioner Crowley asked who is doing the paving work. Supervisor Weston responded that the U.T. has contracted with the State to do the paving work.

The U.T. office has coordinated with the Downeast Lakes Land Trust to contract with the Calais High School woodworking program to create wooden road signs for the land trust areas of the U.T. west of Grand Lake Stream. The signs are being painted with reflective paint. Commissioner Cassidy asked if using painted wooden signs would cause the signs to be high maintenance. Supervisor Weston responded that the signs would possibly require more maintenance but the East Lake Association is contributing towards the costs of the signage.

All snow contractors were notified that they are required to have their salt/sand piles put up by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

The U.T office is in the process of hiring a new ACO. Supervisor Weston stated that he is in hopes of presenting a new hire for approval at the November meeting.

A harbor ordinance has been the recent discussion of local fisherman in the Cobscook Bay area. The concern is that fisherman from other areas, including out-of-state, would come to the waters off Edmunds. A harbor ordinance would conserve moorings for local fisherman. Commissioner Crowley stated that if the State owns the landing, control of the boat landing and harbor is limited. Supervisor Weston stated that the ordinance would require licensing of moorings and limit the number of moorings allowed. Supervisor Weston also noted that he has talked with Commissioner Gardner. Commissioner Gardner is open to the idea but questions the ability to conserve the harbor for local use. Commissioner Gardner stated that a harbor ordinance may fall within the jurisdiction of Department of Marine Resources. Supervisor Weston said that Commissioner Gardner suggested that he

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confer with other fisherman to see what their perception is for the need for a harbor ordinance. Supervisor Weston also reported that previous U.T. supervisors had tried to implement a harbor ordinance but the Cobscook Bay State Park opposed the idea. Supervisor Weston has approached the Park and State again and reports that neither entity have a problem with a harbor ordinance. Supervisor Weston will gather feedback. Once he has done so, he can begin to define details of an ordinance like how many moorings could be conserved and where, and if a harbor master would be needed. Dean Preston suggested it may be possible to combine the harbor master and ACO position. Commissioner Cassidy asked if this would happen this year. Commissioner Crowley stated that this can't be hurried; Supervisor Weston stated that he agreed that this should not be rushed.

**AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update**

UT TIF Program Manager Susan Hatton submitted a written report. There were no action items for the Commissioners' consideration.

**AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment**

Commissioner Crowley asked if there had been any major issues with the recent heavy rain. Supervisor Weston responded that there had not been any issues.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**4:15 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

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**Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.**