

January 10, 2019

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
held January 10, 2019
in the Probate Courtroom
Machias, Maine**

**Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner Christopher Gardner
Commissioner John Crowley, Sr.
Commissioner Vinton Cassidy
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administration
Susan Hatton, SCEC
Wayne Lobley, Marshfield
Jennifer Lobley, UMaine Cooperative Extension
Robert Simpson, WCEA, Whiting
Jill Holmes, Finance
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, WCSO
Richard Rolfe, Jail
Barry Curtis, Sheriff
Jonathan Curran, WCSO
William White, WCSO
Alan Stanwood, WCSO
Sharon D. Strout, Registry of Deeds
Josh Rolfe, RCC
Dean Preston, U.T.**

County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and requested that the Commissioners elect a Chairman for 2019.

***MOTION* Commissioner Cassidy moved to elect Christopher Gardner as the chair for 2019. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously 2-0.**

The meeting for Unorganized Territories business was called to order at 4:01 p.m.

Approval of the Public hearing minutes for the FY 2019-2020 UT Budget of December 13, 2018 (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)

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Approval of the December U.T. meeting minutes of December 13, 2018 (Crowley/Cassidy, 3-0)

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AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

Unorganized Territories Supervisor Dean Preston's monthly report was submitted. (See attached)

Dean reported the UT 2019-20 budget that was accepted by the County Commissioners has been forwarded to the U.T. State Fiscal Administrator.

Dean highlighted the spring projects. The projects are as follows:

1. Signage; Street, School, Jake Brakes, Slow Children, etc.
2. Street naming and confirmation of addresses (E911)
3. Assessment of roadway and input into Road Summary Spreadsheet
4. Development of Road Projects Specification/Bid Packets
 - o 19 Road, Twp. 19ED
 - o Crows Neck Rd., Trescott Twp.
 - o River Rd., Edmunds Twp.
 - o Belyea Rd., Edmunds Twp.
 - o Marion Station Rd., Marion Twp.

Dean stated UT E911 conversion packets will be submitted to each servicing Post Office for a review and deconflicting of information. Dean intends to make this action an annual effort. Dean noted he continues to work with the Post Office on special cases of addresses in the U.T. Dean stated the E911 system was put in place in 1996; twenty-three years later he is still ironing out the details.

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update

A report was submitted and is attached.

TIF Administrator, Susan Hatton had two action items and provided updates on two grants.

Susan presented a grant request from Maine 4-H Foundation. Maine 4-H is needing funding for the planning for a remote campsite for a wilderness-focused camping program for older youth. The planning grant would provide the 4-H with funding to determine the costs, benefits, permits, leasing arrangements, financing, environmental and any regulations and/or restrictions for the project. Wayne Lobley,

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Project Consultant for Maine 4-H Foundation, summarized the work he has been doing on the grant. Mr. Lobley noted the 4-H Foundation purchased the former Greenland Point for a camp and learning center. The remote campsite will be used for the same purpose but will be in the Unorganized Territories. Due to setbacks on the Greenland Point property, only half the peninsula is buildable and the remote campsite would be too close to roadways. Establishing a campsite in Big Lake Township would allow for a more primitive/remote campsite. Commissioner Gardner questioned why the grant was being asked for under the category of Economic Development Planning. County Manager stated the remote campsite for a camping program for older youth was only part of the project; there are other plans for the site that would be considered Economic Development. The 4-H Foundation will explore leasing property from Wagner Forest Management or Woodland Pulp in Big Lake Township which will provide water access to the Grand Lake Stream waterway and thousands of acres of woods and water. Weeks of adventure camp using trained staff and the outpost could potentially be available for individuals, families, corporations or organizations. In addition, local guide services may be interested in utilizing the site. The outpost would also be an excellent training location for the 4-H Junior Maine Guide Program and possible testing location for Statewide Junior Maine Guide certification. Commissioner Gardner stated he is satisfied with the funding line that has been designated for this project since the Grant Committee was satisfied with the designation. The Grant Committee recommended approval.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the TIF Economic Development Planning grant request from Maine 4-H Foundation, Grant #1901-01-EDP, for \$10,000. (Crowley / Cassidy, 3-0)**

Susan presented a request from Jeff Griffin for a loan extension. Mr. Griffin was approved for a TIF loan for a payloader and screen in June 2017. Mr. Griffin purchased the payloader in July and is still

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looking for a suitable screen. The loan funds are due to expire in February of 2019 per SCEC's policy. The Loan Committee unanimously recommended the Commissioners approve an extension of the commitment for funds for six months by way of a new commitment letter.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the loan extension as recommended. (Crowley / Cassidy, 3-0)**

Susan presented a grant update for the Dennysville Snowmobile & ATV

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Club. The Club had an above average season and were able to pay the clubhouse off last year.

Susan stated she met with Carly Delsignore and Aaron Bell of Tide Mill Organic Farms. Susan reported the poultry processing facility is now State inspected. This is the only organic state-inspected poultry processing plant. This will be the last grant report as Tide Mill Organic Farms have met all grant requirements.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

None

ADJOURNMENT

4:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.