

January 14, 2026

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
Held January 14, 2026
in the Washington County Probate Courtroom
Machias, Maine**

Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner David C. Burns
Commissioner Courtney Hammond
Commissioner Billy Howard
Renée Gray, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administrative Assistant
Wayne Jones, Trescott Twp.
Leigh MacKeen, Whitneyville
Rich Rolfe, Jail Administrator
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, WCSO
Paul Sylvain, MVNO, Machias
Joshua Rolfe, RCC / WCSO
Lisa M. Hanscom, EMA
Tammy Gay, Deeds
Susan Sullivan, D.A.'s Office
Sondra Small, Finance
Michael Crabtree, Chief Deputy
Barry Curtis, Sheriff
Dennis Perry, RCC / WCSO
Meredith Mawhar, SCEC
Darlene Perry, Probate
Grace Falzarano, Finance
Colleen Brown, Whiting

County Manager Renée Gray called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Renée requested nominations for a chairman for the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Burns was elected as Chairman of the Washington County Commissioners for 2026. (Howard / Hammond, 2-0)

Approval of the U.T. regular meeting minutes of December 11, 2025 (Hammond / Howard, 3-0)

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

Unorganized Territories Supervisor Heron Weston's monthly report was submitted. (See attached)

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Heron stated there are no action items.

Heron reported he is considering creating a Facebook page for his office to give the public more outreach options.

AGENDA ITEM: Old Business

- None

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update

TIF Program Manager Meredith Mawhar submitted a monthly report. (See attached)

Meredith stated there are no action items.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

None.

**AGENDA ITEM: Executive Session: Personnel Issue pursuant to Title 1
MRSA § 405 (6) (A)**

MOTION Commissioner Hammond moved to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 4:13 p.m. (Hammond / Howard, 3-0)

MOTION The Commissioners declared themselves to have closed the Executive Session. It was 4:16 p.m. (Hammond / Burns, 3-0)

No action.

ADJOURNMENT

4:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

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



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UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES MONTHLY REPORT January 14th, 2026

1. ROADS & BRIDGES

a. Mill Stream Bridge (Centerville)

- i. ROW acquisition - both landowners have reviewed materials and agreed to transfer of properties
 1. Next steps
 - a. Have owners sign "Offer of Just Compensation" letters
 - b. Finalize deed language and sign
 - ii. State and Federal permits are expected by the end of January

2. SNOW REMOVAL

- a. Second snow removal inspection in Lambert Lake finds continued quality concerns. Road was plowed but no sand was present in either instance (as required by contract). Contractor claims sand was blown off by wind but no evidence of sand was observed.

3. SEPTAGE SPREADING AND STORAGE SITE

- a. 2025 Annual Report due in January (DEP)

4. ANIMAL CONTROL

- a. Dogs in Maine must be licensed for 2026 by Jan 31st to avoid late fees. UT residents should license their dogs online on the DACF website.

5. ADMINISTRATION

- a. The UT office has established official office hours (Tues & Thurs 8-4) which are now posted on the office door, answering machine and the UT website along with notification of the new office location.

6. MISC

- a. Coast of Maine Organic Products in Marion Twp has submitted an application to Maine DEP to expand their operation's footprint by adding a new loading and storage area for finished product in the northwest corner of the property. The UT office was notified both as the local municipality and as the abutting property owner on the eastern side (Marion Transfer Station).

7. ACTION ITEMS - None

**WASHINGTON COUNTY UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT LOAN & GRANT PROGRAM**

**A PROGRAM OF WASHINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT
ADMINISTERED BY SUNRISE COUNTY ECONOMIC COUNCIL**

**Report to the County Commissioners prepared by SCEC Program Manager – Meredith
January 14, 2026**

There are no action items and three updates this month:

1. No new TIF loan applications have been received this month. However, I am currently working with one potential borrower to complete an application package and am awaiting receipt of financial statements in order to complete underwriting. I will provide an update as this progresses.
2. Last week, I had the opportunity to connect with DeCarlo Brown, Economic and Community Development Director in South Berwick, to learn more about how they are leveraging TIF funds to support both business and community development initiatives. I look forward to continuing this dialogue and monitoring the outcomes of their newer programs to assess whether similar approaches could be beneficial in Washington County.
3. The TIF Grant Committee has adjusted its 2026 meeting schedule to better accommodate member availability. As a result, the January meeting has not yet been held and is scheduled for tomorrow, January 15. We will continue to support the Downeast Wind Community Benefit Agreement amendment negotiations, as discussed at the December County Commissioners' meeting. In addition, a draft agreement for the one-time payment to the Coastal Washington County Institute of Technology, as outlined in the Downeast Wind Community Benefit Agreement, is now complete. I plan to review this draft at the upcoming TIF Grant Committee meeting and, once it is finalized, anticipate sharing it with the Commissioners at next month's meeting.