

June 13, 2024

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
Held June 13, 2024
in the Washington County Probate Courtroom
Machias, Maine**

**Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner John Crowley, Sr.
Commissioner Vinton Cassidy
Renée Gray, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administrative Assistant
Reid Albee, County Wide
Susan Hatton, SCEC
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, WCSO
Gordon Faulkingham, WCSO
Jill C. Holmes, Finance
Lisa M. Hanscom, EMA
Barry Curtis, Sheriff
Tammy Gay, Deeds
Heather Green, Deeds
Darlene Perry, Probate
Josh Rolfe, RCC / WCSO
Rich Rolfe, Jail**

Commissioner Christopher Gardner was not present.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Approval of the U.T. regular meeting minutes of April 11, 2024
(Crowley / Cassidy, 2-0)**

**Approval of the U.T. regular meeting minutes of May 9, 2024 was tabled
due to the absence of Commissioner Gardner.**

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

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

Dean reported the new Washington County Territories website is working well. The information available on the website has helped facilitate feedback from the general public for road conditions. It is also a source that provides the public with answers to questions concerning

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taxes, jurisdiction and ACO coverage.

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Dean stated the U.T. has opened license sales for the season. He reported 12 recreational and 2 commercial licenses have been sold. Dean stated the U.T. has applied for closure permits for the Leighton Island Flats as a conservation effort. The flats will be closed for a three-year period, and will be seeded each of the three years. Commissioner Cassidy asked how successful seeding flats has been. Dean responded available data is used to help locate the best places to seed, but a lot depends on the impacts of survival rates.

Dean reported he is currently researching the archives in Augusta for field notes regarding the town line between Princeton and Big Lake Twp. He stated he has found trees and stone walls as evidence but no monuments. Dean noted he is still looking. He stated if there are no field notes, a line will need to be mapped that matches the evidence on the ground. A meeting will be held with the town to come to an agreement on a line and have that line monumented and submitted to Superior Court for recording.

County Manager Renée Gray gave thanks to Dean for helping with a situation that arose regarding a bridge on Route 189 that was posted for traffic restrictions over 22 tons. This would have caused many service and product deliveries to be rerouted through Cutler with no plan for a temporary bridge. Renée stated she contacted Dean for assistance in this matter. She reported Dean had already contacted Department of Transportation. She expressed her gratitude for his response to help.

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update

A report was submitted and is attached.

Ms. Hatton stated the Loan Committee has recommended the TIF interest rates be changed from Prime - (1/5% with a floor of 1/5%) to Prime - (3% with a floor of 3%) to be reviewed in six months. It was noted interest rates are now at 5.5%. Ms. Hatton stated the Loan Committee voted unanimously for this recommendation.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve an increase for the TIF loan rates to Prime - 3% with a floor of 3% as recommended by the Loan Committee.
(Crowley / Cassidy, 2-0.)**

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Ms. Hatton provided an update on Michael Griffin's loan. She stated equipment is being moved from the property prior to the closing. Ms.

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Hatton noted the closing should be on or before July 8th. Ms. Hatton presented a recommendation from the Loan Committee that late fees on Mr. Griffin's loan be waived with his full payment of principal plus interest. Commissioner Cassidy asked for the rationale for the request. Ms. Hatton stated it would be incentive for Mr. Griffin to pay off the loan.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to waive the late fees for the TIF Loan payoff of Michael Griffin.
(Crowley / Cassidy, 2-0.)**

Ms. Hatton stated that she met with Derek Brown of the Dennysville Snowmobile and ATV Club. She reports the club is doing well.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

None.

ADJOURNMENT

4:12 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.

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