

October 13, 2021

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'  
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting  
Held October 13, 2021  
in the Washington County Probate Courtroom  
Machias, Maine**

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**Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner Christopher Gardner  
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.  
Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Carla Manchester, Administration  
Nancy Oden, Keep Earth Cool  
Susan Hatton, SCEC  
Michael Crabtree, Sheriff's Office  
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, WCSO  
Rich Rolfe, WCSO  
Josh Rolfe, WCSO  
Dennis Dorsey, WCSO  
Lisa M. Hanscom, EMA  
Tammy Gay, Deeds  
Carlene Holmes, Probate  
Jill C. Holmes, Treasurer**

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Commissioner Gardner called the meeting of the Unorganized Territories to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Approval of the U.T. meeting minutes of September 9, 2021.  
(Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report**

Unorganized Territories Supervisor Dean Preston's monthly report was submitted and is attached.

Dean reported the UT 2022-2023 budget first draft is due to the State Fiscal Administrators Office by November 1, 2021. Dean stated the draft budget will be presented for review at the November 4<sup>th</sup> Commissioners' meeting. The final draft will be presented at a Public Hearing on December 9, 2021.

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Dean stated the Mill Stream Bridge Project in Centerville Twp. is still being considered. Dean noted in order for a share cost

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agreement with MDOT, a petition must be submitted for a work plan. The project will be placed on a 3-year plan for 50% commitment from the State. Dean noted he is still working on the question of whether the cost of \$145,000.00 to rehabilitate the bridge is worth 10 years of use or if it would be best to replace the bridge. Dean stated the 2022-2023 Budget will reflect a UT commitment of \$200,000.00 for this project. By consensus, the Board of Commissioners directed Dean to proceed with the project.

Commissioner Gardner stated he has had no response to his inquiry that he sent to the Commissioner of Transportation for Maine DOT, Bruce Van Note, regarding the repairs needed to the Edmunds Bridge.

Dean presented three Animal Control Agreements for approval. The three agreements are for Animal Control Officer Services provided by the Washington County Territories for the municipalities of Northfield, Jonesboro and Whitneyville. All agreements have a three-year term with an annual training stipend of \$200 and a compensation rate of \$20.50 per hour plus mile reimbursement.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve the Animal Control Agreement between Washington County UT and Northfield as presented. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve the Animal Control Agreement between Washington County UT and Jonesboro as presented. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve the Animal Control Agreement between Washington County UT and Whitneyville as presented. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: TIF Committee Update**

Ms. Hatton's monthly report was submitted and is attached.

Ms. Hatton presented a request for a partial release of collateral for a TIF revolving loan. Ms. Hatton reported Jeffrey Griffin of J&C

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Trucking currently has two TIF loans. Mr. Griffin has signed a purchase and sale agreement to sell the property being held as 1<sup>st</sup> position collateral on both loans. The sale of the property will

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allow Mr. Griffin to pay off the first loan and put the balance on the second loan; leaving an approximate loan balance of \$20,762. Mr. Griffin is requesting a release of the property so he can sell it. The 1<sup>st</sup> position on the collateral of the equipment is adequate to cover the remaining balance left on the TIF loan. The Loan Committee recommended approval to release this collateral by a vote of 6-0-0.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the partial release of collateral for Loan# JG-TIF-05-29-18 for Jeffrey Griffin, dba J&C Trucking, per recommendation of the TIF Loan Committee. (Crowley / Cassidy, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment**

Nancy Oden thanked Susan Hatton of SCEC for providing the list of TIF recipients that she requested.

Nancy Oden commented that the Washington County website is outdated. County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald stated we are in the process of rectifying the website issues.

Nancy Oden offered suggestions to the Board of Commissioners for the use of ARP funds that included emergency protocol information to be distributed to the public; encouraging citizens to own gardens; and providing public transportation. Commissioner Gardner thanked Nancy for her recommendations and stated the County is still gathering suggestions for consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**4:42 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

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