

August 13, 2020

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
Held August 13, 2020
in the Washington County Probate Courtroom
Machias, Maine**

**Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner Vinton Cassidy
Commissioner John Crowley
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administrative Assistant
Josh Rolfe, RCC/WCSO
Susan Hatton, SCEC
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, WCSO
Rich Rolfe, Jail Administrator
Michael Crabtree, Chief Deputy
Jill Holmes, Finance
Lynn Dwelley, WNEMA
Dean Preston, Unorganized Territories**

Commissioner Christopher Gardner was not present.

The District II Caucus was held prior to the meeting for the purpose of electing one member for a three-year term. The following were present at the meeting: County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald, Commissioner Crowley, Commissioner Cassidy, Thomas Hoskins II, Christopher Loughlin and Joshua Rolfe. Thomas Hoskins, City Manager of Eastport, was elected.

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

**Approval of the U.T. meeting minutes of July 9, 2020.
(Crowley / Cassidy, 2-1-0)**

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

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

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Dean stated he is re-writing the Shellfish ordinance and making some significant changes to the conservation credit program. Dean is in hopes to have an ordinance for the Commissioners to review at next

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months' meeting. Dean also reported that he is still actively seeking to fill the part-time Shellfish Warden position for 32 hours a week.

Dean gave updates on highway maintenance projects that are on-going:

- The by-pass bridge has been set on the Mitten Mountain Road in Centerville Township;
- Ditch line construction is on-going in Berry Twp.; and
- The repairs to Timber Bridge have been completed.

Dean presented four snow removal contract bids. Bid openings were on August 12, 2020. The bids were for Contract #2 (Marion Twp., Cathance Twp. and Berry Twp. (Rte. 191)); Contract #3 (Marion Twp., Cathance Twp. and Edmunds Twp. (Rt. 86)); Contract #4 (Brookton Twp., and Forest City Twp.); and Contract #8 (Lambert Lake Twp.)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to accept the recommendation of the U.T. Supervisor to award the Snow Removal Contract #2 to Brown's Logging and Construction with a bid amount of \$48,125. (Crowley / Cassidy, 2-1-0.)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to accept the recommendation of the U.T. Supervisor to award the Snow Removal Contract #3 to Brown's Logging and Construction with a bid amount of \$54,075. (Crowley / Cassidy, 2-1-0.)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to reject the sole bid for Snow Removal Contract #4 with a bid amount of \$92,250 and tasked the U.T. Supervisor to solicit prices from other potential companies that can perform this service. (Crowley / Cassidy, 2-1-0.)

Dean noted the price reflected an increase of 68%.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to accept the recommendation of the U.T. Supervisor to award the Snow Removal Contract #8 to Russell's Snow Removal with a bid amount of \$6,148. (Crowley / Cassidy, 2-1-0.)

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The complete details of the bid openings can be found within the monthly report which is attached.

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Committee Update

A report was submitted and is attached.

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Program Administrator Susan Hatton updated the Commissioners on Tide Mill Creamery. TMC was previously facing two major obstacles causing them to request a 90-day forbearance in May. The forbearance was granted. Ms. Hatton reports that TMC has built a milking parlor and free stall setup for cows and has purchased four cows to help stabilize their milk supply. There is also a new state-wide delivery opportunity that was started by other cheese makers, Milk Mavens. TMC can now take their products to Ellsworth and Milk Mavens will market and distribute them. Tide Mill Creamery feels they can make interest-only payments during this time and are requesting an additional 90-days extension on the 90-day forbearance that was given to them in May. The Loan Committee recommended the Commissioners approve the additional 90-day forbearance.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the request for an additional 90-days extension on a 90-day forbearance to Tide Mill Creamery. (Crowley / Cassidy, 2-1-0.)

Ms. Hatton noted the additional 90-day forbearance ends in November.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

None.

ADJOURNMENT

4:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.