

October 19, 2017

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'  
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting  
held October 19, 2017  
in the Washington County Probate Courtroom  
Machias, Maine**

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**Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner Christopher Gardner  
Commissioner John Crowley, Sr.  
Commissioner Vinton Cassidy  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Carla Manchester, Administration  
Michael Hinerman, EMA  
Nancy Oden, Clean Earth Farms  
Nancy Bennett, Cutler  
Susan Hatton, SCEC  
Joshua Rolfe, RCC  
Rich Rolfe, Jail Administrator  
Mike Crabtree, Chief Deputy  
Barry Curtis, Sheriff  
Dean Preston, U.T. Supervisor  
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, WCSO  
Jill Holmes, Treasurer  
Sharon D. Strout, Deeds**

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The Unorganized Territories meeting was called to order at 4:04.

**Approval of the U.T. meeting minutes of September 14, 2017  
(Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report**

Unorganized Territories Supervisor Dean Preston's monthly report was submitted and accepted under the gavel. (See attached)

Dean reported that certification for ACO and CEU training will take place in Augusta next week. Both he and ACO Heron Weston will be attending.

Dean stated summer maintenance projects are on-going and scheduled to be completed prior to the winter season.

Dean reported that he has been receiving input from concerned citizens regarding the lack of accuracy with weighing procedures at the Marion

October 19, 2017

Transfer Station. In response, Dean investigated how the station receives individuals. Dean will be proposing the addition of another scale to accurately weigh individual bags of solid waste under 100 lbs. In the meantime, Dean has expanded tipping fees paid by the U.T. to include less than 100 lbs. until Marion Transfer Station has implemented a better solution. Commissioner Gardner restated his concern that MTS is sitting on a respectable amount of funds. He asked Dean how much does MTS have in the bank. Dean stated MTS has approximately \$800,000.00 in funds. Commissioner Gardner inquired about the plan for the excess funds. Dean stated a subcommittee has been formed. Dean has made the following recommendations to the subcommittee:

- Use the funds for capital improvements such as adding a compactor to the MTS site;
- Set-up an undesignated fund balance to have at least \$150,000 left over after capital improvements;
- Reduce tipping fee from .07 cents to .055 cents
- Do an annual review of the tipping fee each year

The reduction in the tipping fees would cause an annual savings of \$5,000.00 to the U.T. and Eastport, alone, will realize a \$22,000.00 to \$25,000.00 annual savings. By consensus, the Commissioners support the recommendations presented.

The U.T. is a member of SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America). Dean and Heron will be enrolling in some solid waste training courses through SWANA in topics such as: Managing MSW Collection Systems, Managing Construction & Demolition Materials, Managing Recycling Systems, and Transfer Station Management. Training includes certification and is a good opportunity to network.

Dean presented amended documents to two leased lots dated February 1, 2001 by and between County of Washington and Marion Transfer Station. Dean explained that the County had sold a portion of land to Coast of Maine that had been being leased for a transfer station and a garage. When the land was sold the boundaries were redrawn but the lease was not rewritten. Dean presented a survey showing what the lease reflects. Dean requested the Commissioners sign both lease modifications.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to sign the amendment to Lease Lot #1 and Lease Lot #3, modifying the lease dated February 1, 2001 by and between County of Washington and Marion Transfer Station, Inc. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed 3-0.**

October 19, 2017

Commissioner Crowley added the lease modifications are representative of the survey shown. County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald will notarize the leases presented.

Commissioner Gardner thanked Dean for the work U.T. did on the Edmunds School.

Commissioner Gardner asked Dean if there are any snow plow issues. Dean replied there are no issues at this time. Dean stated that he still needs to inspect stock piles.

**AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update**

A report was submitted and is attached. Grant updates were provided and accepted under the gavel.

**AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment**

Nancy Oden requested the TIF files be housed in the County building for the purpose of having them accessible to the public. Commissioner Gardner acknowledged her request and stated the County will look into it.

Ms. Oden asked if the budget for the FY 2018 has been approved yet. Commissioner Gardner replied that it has not. Ms. Oden asked for contact information for the Budget Advisory Committee members. Commissioner Gardner directed Ms. Oden be provided the names of the BAC in her district.

Ms. Oden directed a question to Emergency Management Agency Director Mike Hinerman in regards to emergency crisis scenarios and food preparedness. EMA Director Hinerman stated he would be glad to meet with Ms. Oden at anytime. Commissioner Gardner asked that NEMA information be made available to Ms. Oden.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**4:24 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

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