**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Brann, Commissioner Harvell, Commissioner Barker

Meeting held by Zoom

**Franklin County Commissioners Meeting**

**August 3, 2021 Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Brann at 10:00 A.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience:**  Vickie Braley, Jim Desjardins, Fen Fowler, Susan Black, Pam Prodan, Steve Lowell, Mike Pond, Nick Palmer, Daavid Beauchamp, James McBride and Dalton Proctor.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Clerk’s Report: Motion to approve the clerk’s report for minutes of July 20, 2021: (Clyde/Lance) (3/0)**
2. **Treasurers Report**: The June Bank reconciliation is available for review. There were 3 Countywarrants, 2 UT Warrant and 2 Payroll warrants for review and signatures. **A motion and second to approve the Treasurer’s report. (3/0) (Lance/Clyde)**
3. **Discussion of Appointed Treasurer vs Elected Treasurer:** A copy of the creation of appointed County Treasurer position was presented to Commissioners for review and Commissioners asked Finance Manager to call the Board of Elections to see if County needs to do a ballot or would the state. **A motion and second to proceed forward and to have Finance Manager to contact elections. (2/1) (Lance/Terry) Commissioner Barker opposed.**
4. **Remote Participation Policy**: Tiffany Baker provided a sample of the Remote ParticipationPolicy for Commissioners to review and discuss. **A motion and second to approve using the provided policy as written. (3/0) (Lance/Clyde)**
5. **Deeds: Susan Black-Server purchase for Deeds:** Sue asked to purchase the new server instead of leasing it due to a form that requires an Attorney to review and approve which would cost more for the legal services. Sue would be using her Surcharge money to purchase the server. **A motion and second to approve the purchase of the Deeds server instead of leasing. (3/0) (Lance/Clyde)**
6. **Sheriff Dept.-New Hire-Ryan Close:** Steve Lowell was present for the new hire information. Interviews were conducted by the Oral Board for Sargent and Patrol. There were two applications from within the Sheriff department and one outside the County employment. The board chose Ryan Close for the Sargent position and Steve asked for approval. Commissioner Barker asked why the Sargent position wasn’t filled from within the department and Steve replied that the Oral Board made the decision on the hires. Ryan Close has 13 years’ experience with the Westbrook Police Department. Ryan will start on pay scale at step 11. **A motion and second to approve the hire of Ryan Close for Patrol Sargent. (3/0) ( Lance/Clyde)**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Cruiser Bids-Steve Lowell:** Two bids were received and they are Quirk of Augusta in the amount of $107,078.00 without trade and $94,658.00 with trades. The second bid was from Hight Ford in Skowhegan in the amount of $97,173.00 with trades. Steve mentioned that Quirk had a Hybrid Explorer in stock and would like to purchase to try out and the Hybrid was included in the bid from Quirk. Commissioner Harvell mentioned about maybe purchasing the Hybrid with Covid funds and if so then maybe purchasing more. Steve also mentioned that the 2018 vehicle for trade in was damaged by a deer and airbags were deployed and would like to take money from insurance money to use for one of the vehicles as the insurance value is more than the trade in value. Bryan’s Auto Body will strip the 2018 that was damaged to use items for other vehicles. **A motion and second to go with Quirk Ford of Augusta as recommended by Steve Lowell. (3/0) (Terry/Clyde) Another motion and second to approve taking check from insurance company for other vehicle purchase. (3/0) (Lance/Clyde)**
2. **Paving Project Bid-Mike Pond: Only one bid was received and it was from Pike Industries in the amount of $368,941.00. A motion and second to accept the bid from Pike Industries in the amount of $368,941.00 for paving Cook Hill and Center Road in Freeman and Madrid. (3/0) (Lance/Clyde)**
3. **Merchant Road Closure:** Three land owners from Merchant Road attended to discuss the possibility of reopening the Merchant Road for County maintenance. Commissioner Brann stated that the landowners would need to do the reopening process through Superior courtfirst. All Commissioners agreed that the road should be reopened. **A motion and second to contact attorney about preparing an amicable brief for Commissioners to approve.**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. **NCEU Contract:** Discussion of using some covid funds for percentage of pay in new contract.
2. Commissioner Brann mentioned that the estimated cost of connecting Jail and White house to town sewer would be about 2.5 million. Mike Pond mentioned that he could contact Main land Development in Livermore Falls about the sewer systems at Jail and Whitehouse**. A motion and second to give permission to Mike Pond to contact Main Land Development. (3/0) (Lance/Clyde)**

**Warrants:** **1 payroll, 1-county, 1-U.T. All warrants were approved and signed.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**A motion and second to adjourn. (3/0) (Clyde/Lance)**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:13 A.M.**

**Next regular meeting will be August 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

**A recording is available for this meeting.**

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FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, CLERK