**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Brann, Commissioner Harvell (Tardy), Commissioner Barker

Meeting held by Zoom

**Franklin County Commissioners Meeting**

**January 4, 2022 Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Brann at 3:15 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience:**  Jim Desjardins, Pamela Prodan, Scott Nichols, Susan Pratt, Susan Black, Tim Hardy, MBTV, David Rackliffe, Tiffany Baker, Donna Perry

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**3:15 PM-Executive Session: 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matter, Facility Manager Job Description: Motion to enter at 4:14pm (Clyde/Terry) (3/0) Exit: 4:40pm**

**Action: HR and Clerk to review and revise job description for Facility Manager Position.**

**Elect Chair for the Commissioners: Motion to elect Terry Brann (Clyde/Terry) (2/0) (Lance Harvell arrived after vote).**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Clerk’s Report: Minutes from December 21st and 28th for approval. Motion to approve the minutes: (Clyde/Terry) (2/0)**
2. **Treasurer Report: Motion to approve the Treasurer report: (Clyde/Terry) (2/0)** Pam added that the current budget did not factor in an extra pay period for June. Payroll will be in the red at the end of the year. Pam suggested the county consider adding consultations in the new budget to provide the ability to ask questions.
3. **COVID Stipend, second payment:** The Commissioners approved paying the stipend in the first payroll of January which pays out on January 13, 2022.

**Motion to approve pay out of the second round of stipend: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

1. **Rackliffe, Maine State Retirement:** The SO changed to the 3C plan 13-14 yrs. ago, some used 457 to buy back time for years prior to as the plan design allows for retirement at 25 years or 62. Commissioners felt the cost was too high to add everyone from the SO. Union got the retirement back in for patrol. The entire dept. should have been included per MPERS rules. Chief Deputy Lowell, Lt. Rackliffe, and Lt. St. Laurent were excluded from entering the MPERS in the beginning due to the Commissioners vote. 2 years or so past when it was brought to attention that everyone was to be included. 2-2.5 years have been lost for the three employees, Chief, Sheriff, and Lt. Will impact end retirement for the three employees. Would like the county to consider making the 3 employees whole. Verify the information is correct and do a study to understand the cost.
2. **Accrual changes for Interim Communications Director:** The title of the position is incorrect. This is for the EMA Deputy Director position. Back in April 2020, Webster, Barker, Brann were present and agreed to increase benefit accruals to 40 hrs. per week. Tim asking if we can adjust accruals to 40 hours per week. Commissioners agreed to correct benefit accruals to 40 hours. No motion needed as it was already approved.
3. **Contract approval and signing:** NCEU contract is ready for signature. Commissioners signed the contract. **Motion to approve: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. **Sue Pratt: ARPA fund proposals:**

**Orthoimaging project-**last year for partnership with the state of Maine, pays 2/3 of program cost. Notice of intent is past due, but has been extended. Takes images of UT at a cost of $20,254, and the County cost is $20,128. Calculated on sq. mile basis. Total cost is 40,382 buy you 121,122 worth of imaging for the entire county. **Motion to approve the cost of $40,382 for Orthoimaging: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0) Signed notice of intent. Motion to sign: (Clyde/Lance) (3/0)**

**Security Upgrade at the Jail:** Unique vendor, therefore don’t need to put out to bid. Cost of $290,600 for an efficient digital system. Currently using an analogue system from the 1980’s. **Motion to approve the cost of $290,600: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**Five hybrid vehicles for the Sheriff’s Dept.:** Needs to go to bid. Cost in the low range per vehicle would be around $37,400. Have received two quotes. Specialized and communication do not need to go to bid. Estimated cost for specialized equipment will be $9,820 per vehicle. Stagger purchases to spread out future budgets for vehicles. **Motion to approve putting the five vehicles out to bid along with the specialized equipment: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**Server upgrade for the County:** Came out of Technology and Deeds surplus line. Should have come out of the ARPA. Will be able to transfer as reimbursement under ARPA. $41198.52 in total funds to be reimbursed with ARPA funds. **Motion to approve the reimbursement in the amount of $14198.52: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**Digital sign:** Cannot install a digital LED sign because the courthouse is part of the town’s historic district. Consider replacement for the new budget year.

**Broadband involvement:** Sue asked if the Commissioner’s want Sue to be involved in meetings regarding broadband for the county. The Commissioners agreed they would like Sue to gain an understanding of the direction it’s going in.

**In the works:** Laptops for those in the courthouse that don’t currently have one in the event that remote work is necessary and to allow for flexibility to bring the laptop when going to other facilities for business.

Replace the tape back-up for the County at a cost of $12451.65. **Motion to approve the expense of $12451.65: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

1. Plowing of turn around Reeds Mills Road, Madrid: Road curves near bus stop. Road that was discontinued, becomes glare ice. Kids would come to that area to be picked up. If the memorial was kept clean, they would get on the bus in the turn around. Lance suggested that Tiffany reach out to the Rangeley Trust about plowing the turn around.
2. Clyde mentioned he heard rumor that the dam project in Carrabassett has been discontinued. Clyde to verify with Charlie Woodworth.

**Warrants: 1 County, 1 UT, 1 Payroll, 2 EFT: MPERS and Empower**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 4:42pm**

**Next regular meeting will be January 18, 2022**

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

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FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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