**Minutes**

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

Meeting held by Zoom

**Franklin County Commissioners Meeting**

**March 15, 2022 Minutes**

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

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience:** Nick Palmer, Donna Perry, Sue Pratt, David Rackliffe, Scott Nichols, Jim Desjardins, MBTV, Heidi Jordan, Cheryl Osborne, Sue Black, Fen Fowler, Tiffany Baker, Diane Dunham, Pamela Prodan, Annie Twitchell, Libby Kaut, Marian Hutchinson, Steve Bunker, Darryl Wood, Christian Elkington, Drew Goodrich, Bonnie Clark

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Executive Session: 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A), Personnel Matter: Corrections Employee Discussion:** Entered: 4:48PM, Exited: 5:10PM

**Action: Motion to raise John Donald’s rate of pay to 27.00 per hour, and Doug Blauvelt to $30 per hour. (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Clerk’s Report: Motion to approve March 1, 2022 minutes: (Clyde/Lance) (3/0)**
2. **Treasurer Report:** The following warrants presented for approval, 1 County, 1 UT, 1 TIF, and 2 Payroll, and 2 EFT’s to Empower. Working on County Bangor Savings Bank reconciliation for December, and Bangor Savings TIF and Skowhegan Savings UT for February. Two EFT’s for Empower retirement. Pam worked with the auditors over the last month to finish the UT audit. They have been finalized and Pam emailed a Pdf. to the two Commissioners and provided a printed a copy for Clyde. Pam also received an engagement letter for the FY2022 audits. The work on these audits won’t be done until late summer into fall. **Motion to approve the Treasurers report: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
3. **EMA Director Position:** Human Resources supplied information to the Commissioners regarding filling the appointed position of EMA Director. There isn’t language in the statute to indicate whether or not it’s necessary to post or interview for appointed positions. HR suggested the county post the job internally for 10 days and follow with interviews, however it can be done without interviews upon the Commissioners approval. Best practice is to post internally and screen candidates who apply, and was encouraged. **Motion to approve posting the EMA Director position internally for 10 days: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
4. **MOA Signature for Broadband Project: Presented to the Commissioners for signature.**
5. **Septic Tank Sludge Disposal Contract for Signature:** Presented to the Commissioners for signature. Chick Hill pollution control facility in Rangeley in the amount of $1500. **Motion to approve Terry Brann sign septic contract: (Clyde/Lance) (2/0/1) Terry abstained.**
6. **Timekeeping Policy for approval:** This policy is for the non-union employees to be added to the personnel policy handbook. **Motion to approve the Timekeeping Policy: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
7. **ARPA Updates:**

* **WW1 Teague Memorial Arch:** Guests presented their thoughts on the memorial project. Marian Hutchinson, Libby Kaut, Steve Bunker, Christian Elkington, Drew Goodrich. Christian mentioned incorporating students into the project to take on some of the labor. There was controversy over the trees being removed and parking being added. The Commissioners agreed to fund part of the project to start, and then have the group come back after meeting with the stakeholders to identify how much more money would be needed and what it would be used for. **Motion to give $20k from ARPA funds to the project, the group will meet with stakeholders then come back to the board for approval of up to no more than $40k total. (Lance/Clyde) (2/1)** Terry opposed. Lance agreed to be on the stakeholders group.
* **Fuel System Update:** Farmington will not contribute funds toward the new secure system. They use roughly $5-$6k, the rest is County. Sue encouraged them to reconsider contribution to the project. **Motion to approve moving forward with the project at a cost of $16,250: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
* **LEAP Employee Retention Grant:** Darryl Wood presented a project to give employees two $1,000 bonuses in the total amount of $240k. Losing staff during COVID, consolidating programs to reduce cost. Would like to incentivize staff. Rates from the state for DSP’s is low, Darryl working with legislature to increase. The Commissioners did not approve this request.
* **Farmington Grange, non-profit aid for building updates:** Proposed a project for repairs to their building including exterior work and foundation repairs in the amount of $20,000. Other granges could use money as well. If we support one, we will need to support others. Many expenses within the county currently. Terry suggested keeping the grange on a waiting list for now. Make a decision after we follow through with projects already promised and asked the grange to go to the towns for funds as well.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **DA office lease:** Craig presented a new contract for $2,000 a month from $1,645. **Motion to approve the signing of the new lease for the DA’s office in the amount of $2,000 a month for three years: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
2. **County Administrator Job Description: Motion to approve the County Administrator job description: (Lance/Terry) (3/0)**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. **Interviews for County Administrator: Motion to approve Terry Brann to sit on the interview panel for the County Administrator position: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
2. **Approval of Deeds Secretary:** Would like to offer Jessica Brown the position of Deeds Secretary at a starting rate of $20.61. **Motion to approve: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
3. **Signing of permit to cross the county road with equipment in the area of Wyman/Eustis. Motion to approve: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
4. **MOA for the NCEU to allow credit for years of external experience for the Sergeant position: Motion to approve the signing of the MOA: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**Warrants: 1 County, 1 UT, 1 TIF, 2 Payroll, 2 EFT for Empower Retirement**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 5:12PM**

**Next regular meeting will be April 5, 2022 at 3:15PM**

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

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FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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