**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Brann, Commissioner Harvell, Commissioner Carlton

The meeting was held via Zoom

**Franklin County Commissioners Meeting**

**February 21, 2023, Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Brann at 10:15 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience:** Fen Fowler, Mike Pond, Pamela Prodan, Scott Nichols, Annie Twitchell, Sara Bickford, MBTV, Amy Bernard, Tiffany Baker

**Virtual:** Marlene Bradley, Diane Dunham, Brad Timberlake

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Clerk’s Report:** UT roads have been posted. The ARPA CD is renewing for another 4 weeks and earned $10,753.58 in interest in the last 4 week cycle. Electricity ME has offered a 21-month rate of 0.1070 per KW. Meeting with Department Heads to review budget requests during the week of February 27th. Port City will be on-site to review the proposed renovations on February 27th. **Motion to accept the Clerks report: Bob/Lance (3/0)**
2. **Treasurer Report:** Pamela did not have any warrants to present at the meeting. With implementing the new system for processing, the county is working on getting the warrants prepared ahead of the meetings. **Motion to approve the Treasurer's report and sign the warrants: Lance/Bob (2/0)**
3. **Maine State Retirement Provision for Adoption:** MPERS offered a new provision to allow new hires an additional opportunity to enroll in Maine State Retirement for up to 5 years of employment. The Commissioners voted not to adopt this provision in 2021. The County Administrator and HR would like the Commissioners to reconsider adopting the provision. Commissioners Brann and Harvell would like to see how many employees this would currently apply to and the additional cost to the budget.
4. **Personnel Policy Updates/Amendments to the Inclement Weather Policy: Motion to approve the amendments to the Inclement Weather Policy: Bob/Lance (3/0)**
5. **Credit Cards:** The County Administrator recommended we get a credit card for each department to charge to. This would streamline the purchasing which will reduce the amount of time finance has to invest in researching purchases made by different departments on one card. Multiple cards were used in the past at the county, and it was eventually discontinued. **Motion to approve Department Heads applying for and obtaining a credit card for each department: Bob/Lance (2/1) Terry opposed.**
6. **Salem Bridge Engineering:** Bids were received at the last meeting from Acorn Engineering and Wentworth Engineering. Wentworth is the lowest bidder for the project and they have done work for many municipalities and have good references. **Motion to award the bid to Wentworth Engineering for the Salem bridge project: Bob/Lance (3/0)**
7. **Set Date for Commissioners Budget Hearing: Motion to have the budget hearing on March 14, 2023 at 2:15pm: Lance/Bob (3/0)**
8. **Sheriff’s Office: NIH Institute Grant:** The grant is for up to $500,000 a year for 5 years to assist the jail with administering Sublocade instead of Suboxone for opioid addiction. **Motion to approve the grant application to the NIH Institute for the jail: Bob/Lance (3/0)**
9. **Setting up CD’s for TIF funds and County Funds:** The county should invest funds into a CDAR that is FDIC insured up to 50 million dollars. TIF funds are not to be used for another three or more months and we could receive up to 4% interest on a CD. The county also has funds in a money market that should also be invested in a CD for up to 6 months. **Motion to invest the TIF and County funds into a CDAR for up to 6 months: Bob/Lance (3/0)**

**OLD BUSINESS: None.**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. Mike Pond mentioned having a scope of work for ditching. Ditching materials are the contractor's responsibility. Would like to provide specifics on machine size for excavation, etc. Mike mentioned that roads are only restricted to one-way traffic during construction and no flagger is present. Amy mentioned concerns about following DOT traffic safety rules.

**Executive Session 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matter: Union Concerns: Motion to enter: Terry/Bob (2/0) Entered at 11:18 am, Exit:12:31pm. No action was taken.**

**WARRANTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**A motion and second to adjourn. (Terry/Bob) (2/0)**

**Meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm**

**The next regular meeting will be on March 7, 2023**

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

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 FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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