

## **Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Carlton, Commissioner Fowler, Commissioner Gilbert, Commissioner Saviello, and Commissioner Skolfield

The meeting was held via: Zoom

### **Franklin County Commissioners' Meeting February 18, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Carlton at 10:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience (Present):** Jake Nichols, Susan Pratt, Ryan Close, David Rackliffe, Nathan Hiltz, Jake Ducharme, Leeanna Lavioc, Robert Lightbody, Sue Black, Margot Joly, Heidi Jordan, Nick Palmer, John Donald, Christian Elkinton, Mary Redmond-Luce, Pamela Prodan, Mt. Blue T.V., Amy Bernard, Tiffany Baker, and Jamie Sullivan.

**Audience (Zoom):** Brad Timberlake Dispatch, and Charlie Woodworth.

**RECOGNITION: None**

### **APPOINTMENTS:**

1. **Sandy River Watershed Board – Motion to nominate Commissioner Fowler as the Sandy River Watershed Board representative: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello (5/0).**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Administrator's Report - Motion to accept the Administrator's Report: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).** Tom Saviello rescinded his motion, Tom Skolfield rescinded his second motion. **Motion to approve Administrator's Report: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).** **Motion to approve the Minutes: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**
2. **Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept the Treasurer Report: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0)**
3. **Superintendent, Christian Elkington – RSU#9 Update –** Christian Elkington, Superintendent, of RSU#9 and Mary Redmond-Luce, Director of the Franklin County Adult & Community Education Center came and discussed the success of the Adult Education Program, the Maine Connectivity Authority Grant and districts potential purchase of the Ingalls School to house the Franklin County Adult Education and Community Resource, a space for local resident to access education, workforce training and telehealth services. Mr. Elkington indicated that Community service providers can rent affordable office space and meeting rooms. **No Motion required.**

4. **Detention Center Remodel – Bid Review** – The only bid that was received was from E.J. Perry Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$187,435. The Sheriff's Department requested permission to go back to the contractor to narrow the scope of work to lower the bid amount. **Motion to authorize the Sheriff's office to continue conversations with the contractor and come back with an action plan: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0)**
5. **Sheriff's Department – Bureau of Highway Safety Grant through the NHTSA** – The Sheriff's Department is requesting to apply for the Bureau of Highway Safety Grant to purchase new printers for their cruisers. Their current printers are approximately 15 years or older. This grant requires that the County pays for them upfront and would then be reimbursed for 80% of the cost. **Motion to authorize the Sheriff's Department to apply for the Bureau of Highway Safety Grant through the NHTSA (5/0)**
6. **COSSUP Grant Positions:**
  - A. **Programming/Re-Entry Coordinator** – Through the COSSUP Grant, there is a position for the hiring of a Programming/Re-Entry Coordinator. Allison Prior was the best for this position. **Motion to approve the hiring of Allison Prior of Wilton as the Programming/Re-Entry Coordinator: Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
  - B. **Corrections Officers for Hire** – Two Correctional Officer's positions were available through the COSSUP Grant. **Motion to approve the hiring of Hayden Nile of Farmington and Brianna Desjardins of Canton as fulltime Correctional Officers: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
7. **Anti-Fraternization Policy** – The County recognizes that workplace relationships happen. This policy establishes guidelines regarding fraternization between employees. **Motion to approve the Anti-Fraternization Policy: Tom Skolfield/Fen Fowler (4/1) Tom Saviello Opposed.**
8. **Probate – Office Space** – Judge Joly discussed the office space of the Probate Court and the limitations they have within their space. She would like the County to remember them when it comes time to renovating the Courthouse. **Motion to have the Judge, DA and the Administrator to see if we can carve out a little extra space for the Probate office and the renovations to the Courthouse: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield. Motion to Amend above Motion to include all parties remaining in the building be included in the discussions: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0). Motion to develop a letter to the regional representatives, Maine Legislature and the Governor requesting consideration to meet to discuss the ability to have an expanded judicial building in Franklin County: Fen Fowler/Bob Carlton (5/0).**
9. **SOP – County Commissioner Meeting Ground Rules – Move to adopt the Ground Rules for the Commissioner's Meetings: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello.** The Commissioner's discussed the set of ground rules as set before them requesting changes be made. **Move to Table: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**
10. **Salary Structure** – The Commissioners were presented with three models for the proposed salary structure for FY2026 for review. Due to the extensive amount of information

provided, the Commissioner requested additional information and data and requested a work session to better understand the salary structure. Motion to Table: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0). **Move to have a work session on the salary and benefits on February 27, 2025 at 12:00 noon: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. Commissioner Saviello discussed having the Commissioner Meetings in different locations.
2. Commissioner Saviello had questions about the Warrant.
3. Commissioner Saviello would like to have a discussion regarding the exempt employees being compensated for when they get called in.

**WARRANTS: UT, County AP, TIF and Payroll – Motion to sign Warrants: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0)**

**Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(F) - Lease Negotiations 124 Main Street, Farmington: Motion to enter into Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(F) - Lease Negotiations 124 Main Street, Farmington at 12:15 p.m.: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield. (by consent)**

**Motion to end Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(F) - Lease Negotiations 124 Main Street, Farmington at 12:34 p.m.: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield. (by consent)**

**Motion to send counter-offer letter to Attorney Paul Mills: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**

**Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter – Title 30A (82) County Administrator: Motion to enter into Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter – Title 30A (82) County Administrator at 12:37 p.m.: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (by consent).**

**Motion to exit Executive Session 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter – Title 30A (82) County Administrator at 1:29 p.m.: Tom Skolfield/Jeff Gilbert. (by consent)**

**No Action Taken**

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 1:30 p.m.: Tom Skolfield/Fen Fowler (5/0)**

A recording is available for this meeting.

*235mly*  
*Bob Cull*

*Thomas H. Strickland*  
*Feb 27*

*8/14/17*

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: *Angie L. B...*, CLERK