

Minutes

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

The meeting was held via: Zoom

Franklin County Commissioners' Meeting

April 15, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Skolfield at 10:01 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Audience (Present): Jace Poulin, Brad Timberlake, Susan Pratt, Donna Perry, Nathan Hiltz, Louise Hiltz, Jake Ducharme, Robert Lightbody, Steve Govoni, Les Jordan, Johanna Cullenberg, Steve Lowell, Scott Nichols, David Rackliffe, Jake Nichols, Hart Daley, Ryan Close, Beverly Levigne, Pamela Prodan, Mt. Blue T.V., Amy Bernard, Tiffany Baker, Jamie Sullivan and Brenda Bittle.

Audience (Zoom): Marc Roy, Amanda Simoneau and Deeds

RECOGNITION:

- A. Employee of the Quarter** - Johanna Cullenberg was recognized as the first 911 Dispatcher Employee of the Quarter for Franklin County. Brad Timberlake, Director of Communications, praised Johanna for her professionalism, composure under pressure and dedication.
- B. National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week** – April 13, 2025, through April 19, 2025, represents National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week. Brad Timberlake, Director of Communications expressed his appreciation to his dedicated team which consists of: Michelle St.Claire, Jace Poulin, Dawn Tolman, Felicia Floyd, Diane Serino, Hunter Lowell, Johanna Cullenberg, Ashley McDowell, Everett Spaulding, Marin Hainley and Kyle Ellis.

APPOINTMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Administrator's Report – Motion to accept the Administrator's Report: Tom Saviello/Jeff Gilbert (4/0)**
Motion to approve the appointments and hiring of Lexi Dagget for the Deputy EMA position and Hart Daley for the Jail Administrator: Tom Saviello/Jeff Gilbert (4/0)

2. **Minutes – Motion to accept the Minutes of April 1, 2025: Tom Saviello/Fen Fowler (4/0).**
3. **Treasurer’s Report – Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report: Tom Saviello/Fen Fowler (4/0).**
4. **Quick Stream Bridge, Reed Road, Salem Township Contract – Steve Govoni, President of Wentworth Partners & Associates along with Les Jordan, owner of Jordan Excavation, who was awarded the contract for the Quick Stream Bridge, Reed Road, Salem Township, were present to sign the contract. Motion for the Vice Chair to sign the Contract with Jordan Excavation: Tom Saviello/Fen Fowler (4/0).**
5. **Oberton Stream Bridge, Reeds Mill Road, Madrid Township Contract – The Commissioners were presented with a contract for the Oberton Stream Bridge, Reeds Mill Road, Madrid Township that was awarded to Wyman and Simpson, Inc. to sign. Motion for the Vice Chair to sign the Contract with Wyman and Simpson, Inc.: Tom Saviello/Jeff Gilbert (4/0).**
6. **UT – Finance Reserves – In order to help compensate for the costs of the bridges that are being rebuilt, it was suggested that we consolidate some of the reserves and the undesignated fund balance so that we have sufficient funds to cover the other costs. Motion to authorize BlueStar Accounting consolidate the Fire Truck Reserve - \$22,000, Perambulation Reserve - \$9,598, Beech Hill Bridge Reserve - \$8,562, GPS Reserve - \$533, Spruce Nubble Crossing Reserve - \$12,000 and \$700,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance into the Roads and Bridges Reserve for a total of \$752,693: Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello (4/0).**
7. **Sheriff’s Office**
 - A. **State of Maine Grant for XRB Shots – During the March 18, 2025, Commissioner’s Meeting, the Commissioner’s authorized the Sheriff’s Office to apply for a grant through the State of Maine for Extended-Release Buprenorphine shots for the jail. The Sheriff’s office was awarded the grant and are looking for permission to accept the grant. Motion to approve the acceptance of the State of Maine Grant for XRB Shots: Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello (4/0).**
 - B. **Firearms Trade-In – The Sheriff’s Office is looking for permission to trade in five AR-15 rifles towards the purchase of five new Ruger AR-556 patrol rifles. The trade-in price is \$2,000, the purchase price for the new rifles is \$4,425 for a difference of \$2,425. The Sheriff was also seeking permission to move \$2,425 from his Fuel and Oil Account to his Weapons and Body Armor Account. Motion to trade in the old weapons for \$2,000, purchase the new Ruger patrol rifles for \$4,425, and pay the difference by transferring from the Fuel and Oil Account to the Weapons and Body Armor Account for a total of \$2,425: Tom Saviello/Jeff Gilbert (4/0).**
8. **Cochran Property – Sponsorship for Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Sue Ann Cochran requested the commissioners for sponsorship for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program to assist with the protection of her home that is located on the Sandy River due to the erosion of the riverbanks caused by the most recent floods. Commissioner Skolfield had suggested a site visit of the premises as well as reviewing past circumstances to see how they were addressed by the county. Motion to Table Tom Saviello/Jeff Gilbert (4/0).**

9. **Legal RFP** – The Counties legal services are due to end in May. We had gone out to bid for services, however we did not receive any bids. **Motion to send RFP directly to attorney offices and law firms: Tom Saviello/Fen Fowler (4/0).**
10. **Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry – Letter of Support – Motion to sign letter of Support: Fen Fowler/Jeff Gilbert.** Commissioner Saviello wanted to be reassured that if the state money was going to be used to repair these bridges that the public was going to have access to the roads. **With a friendly amendment to clarify that Commissioner Saviello receives assurance that the public will have access to the roads. The Vice Chair and Commissioner Saviello will contact the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry to make sure the public will have access to the roads before the letter in support is signed by the Vice Chair on behalf of the County Commissioners. The Motion is contingent upon answers from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry: (4/0).**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Budget Committee Mileage Reimbursement Policy – Motion to accept the policy Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello with friendly amendment that we change that the committee member must reside more than ten (10) miles one way from 120 County Way, Farmington, Maine (4/0).**

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Commissioner Saviello reminded the public of the Public Meeting Workshop with Judy Meyer
2. The Vietnam War Memorial Wall will be in coming to Farmington from July 2, 2025, through July 6, 2025. They will be looking for volunteers for setting up and taking down the wall. It also needs to be personally manned and open around the clock. Multiple jobs are available. For additional information, please follow the Facebook link: The wall that heals 2025.
3. Commissioner Saviello requested that the May 20, 2025 Commissioner Meeting begin at 9:00 a.m.

WARRANTS: UT, County AP, and ARPA: Motion to sign Warrants: Jeff Gilbert/Fen Fowler (4/0)

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 11:41 a.m.: Jeff Gilbert/Fen Fowler (4/0).

