

**Minutes**  
**Franklin County Commissioner's Meeting**  
**June 17, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Carlton, Commissioner Fowler, Commissioner Saviello (absent for the 1<sup>st</sup> portion of the meeting), Commissioner Skolfield (absent for a portion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting) and Commissioner Gilbert.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of the meeting was held via: Zoom

**AUDIENCE:** Mt. Blue T.V., Adam Catrell, Margot Joly, Earl Martin, Scott Nichols, Donna Perry, Charlie Woodworth, Robert Lightbody, Heidi Jordan, Susan Black, Nathan Hiltz, Sue Pratt, Jake Nichols, Pam Prodan, Amy Bernard, Jamie Sullivan and Brenda Bitle.

**Zoom:** Nick Palmer

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Carlton at 9:30 a.m.

1. **Plog Property – Site Review at 2571 Rangeley Road, Madrid Township** – The Commissioners visited the property located at 2571 Rangeley Road, Madrid Township along with Adam Catrell from the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service to discuss the specifications and draft design for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program to assist with the stabilization of the Sandy River riverbank that runs along Mr. Plog's property. Mr. Plog is at risk of losing his well and home due to the erosion of the riverbank if efforts to stabilize the riverbank are not made. The estimated cost for the project is \$200,070. **Motion to go out to bid for the Plog Property - Emergency Watershed Protection Project: Tom Skolfield/Fen Fowler, friendly amendment to include if bids come in too high, the County will reach out to the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service to discuss other options (4/0).**
2. **Cochran Property – Site Review at 2709 Rangeley Road, Madrid Township** - The Commissioners visited the property located at 2709 Rangeley Road, Madrid Township along with Adam Catrell from the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service to discuss to potential cost for assisting with the stabilization of the Sandy River that runs along the Cochran's property. The Cochran's are at risk of losing their home due to the erosion of the riverbank. The Cochran's are in the process of repairing the foundation that was damaged in the May 2023 and December 2023 floods. Mr. Catrell gave different estimates and discussed different project options. Commissioner Carlton brought up the concern was the runoff from the road. **No Action Taken.**
3. **Oberton Stream Bridge – Reeds Mill Road, Madrid Township** – The Commissioners had a site review of the bridge before it is due to be replaced this summer. **No Action Taken.**
4. **Quick Stream Bridge – Reed Road, Salem Township** – The Commissioners had a site review of the bridge before it is due to be replaced this summer. **No Action Taken.**

Recess at 12:14 p.m.  
End Recess at 1:06 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

5. **Administrator's Report – Motion to accept the Administrator's Report: Tom Saviello/Fen Fowler (4/0).**
6. **Minutes – Motion to approve the June 5, 2025, and June 11, 2025, Minutes: Fen Fowler/Jeff Gilbert** Commissioner Carlton requested remove "A recording is available for this meeting" from the June 11, 2025, meeting due to the meeting only being executive sessions. **(4/0).**
7. **Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report: Tom Saviello/Fen Fowler (4/0).**
8. **Commit the FY2026 Taxes – Motion to Commit the FY2026 Taxes in the amount of \$10,193,697: Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
9. **Sheriff's Office – School Officer Grant –** The Sheriff's Office is requested to apply for School Resource Officer Funding through the COPS Grant to be able to provide an officer in house MSAD #58. **Motion for the Sheriff's Office to apply for School Resource Officer Funding through the COPS Grant: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
10. **Solid Waste and Management and Fire Service Agreements –** The Commissioners reviewed and signed the Solid Waste and Management and Fire Service Agreements with Kingfield, Eustis, Strong, Weld, Rangeley, Wilton, and Phillips that provide services to the Unorganized Territories. **Motion to sign Solid Waste and Management and Fire Service Agreements: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
11. **Emergency Operations Center – Insurance –** MCCA – Risk Pool requested approval of the Coverage Limits \$4,250,000 EOC Building, \$750,000 County-owned contents/equipment and \$20,000 PITO (detached exterior property, such as garages, signs, fences, benches, utility poles in parking lots, etc.) at this new location. Contents/equipment to include items that are not permanently attached to the building, such as computers, telephones, appliances, furniture, etc. **Motion to approve the coverage limits provided by MCCA-Risk Pool: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**
12. **TIF Applications –** The Commissioner's reviewed and approved the following TIF Applications:
  - A. **Madrid Historical Society –** Looking to construct a pavilion. **Motion to approve TIF Funding in the amount of \$50,000: Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
  - B. **United Methodist Economic Ministry –** Looking to establish a firewood production line to include a processor and storage to provide wood to families in need, along with collaborating with Western Maine Community Action to provide weatherization to homes that the UMEC provides wood to. **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$50,000, with the caveat that if a more expensive wood processor is necessary that they come back to request additional funding: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**
  - C. **Greater Franklin Economic and Community Development –** Provide marketing, infrastructure, employment, training, workforce housing, child and family services, and workforce development to community members. **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$141,000: Fen Fowler/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**

- D. Beth Brunswick Memorial Fund for Children - Rangeley Childcare Center** – Looking to construct and operate a childcare center and secure funding to be able to provide scholarships to UT families to reduce the cost of childcare at the facility. **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$70,000: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello, friendly amendment indicating that a process must be provided on how and when funds are drawn down. (5/0).**
- E. Narrow Gauge Riders ATV Club** – Looking to build a bridge over Crossman Stream that was damaged during the flooding in 2023. This bridge connects Madrid and Byron. **Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$35,000: Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello.** Items of concern are: confirmation of landowner permission, acknowledgment that they have been awarded the State grant for ATVs, signing the Application, LUPC compliance, bridge access open to everyone, the deed needs to specifically state that access would be continuously provided. Rescind Motion Fen Fowler/Tom Saviello. **Motion to Table: Tom Saviello/Tom Skolfield (5/0).**
- 13. Reserve Account** – In April, the Commissioners consolidated reserve funds into the Roads and Bridges Reserve Account. We have begun the process of replacing the two bridges in the UT and need permission to pay the invoices that are coming in out of the Reserve Fund. **Motion to authorize use of the Roads and Bridges Reserve Account to pay for the two bridges: Tom Skolfield/Tom Saviello (5/0).**
- 14. Salary Structure** – The Commissioners reviewed the information regarding the salary structure provided in their packets. **No Action Taken**
- 15. Organizational Structure** – The Commissioners reviewed the information regarding the organizational structure provided in their packets. **No Action Taken**
- 16. Board and Committee Updates**
- A. Opioid Committee** – Commissioner Saviello gave an update on the Opioid Settlement Committee.
- B. Central Western Maine Workforce Development Board** - Commissioner Gilbert gave an update on the Opioid Settlement Committee.
- C. Ambulance Advisory Committee** - Commissioner Carlton gave an update on the Ambulance Advisory Committee.
- D. AVCOG** - Commissioner Skolfield gave an update on the AVCOG.
- E. MCCA Legislative Policy Committee** - Commissioner Saviello gave an update on the MCCA Legislative Policy Committee.
- F. UMF Board of Visitors** - Commissioner Saviello gave an update on the UMF Board of Visitors.
- G. Sandy River Watershed Board** - Commissioner Fowler gave an update on the Sandy River Watershed Board.
- H. Western Maine Transportation** - Commissioner Skolfield gave an update on the Western Maine Transportation.
- I. Probate Scanning Update** – Judge Joly gave an update on the Probate Scanning Project.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1. Commissioner Saviello requested the Inclement Weather – Office Closure Policy and Compensatory Time Policy be put on the Agenda for July 1, 2025.**

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. Commissioner Carlton discussed the MCCA meeting to be held at the Emergency Operations Center July 9, 2025.
2. Commissioner Saviello reminded the public that The Wall that Heals is coming to Farmington July 2, 2025, through July 6, 2025.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn at 2:06 p.m.: Tom Skolfield/Jeff Gilbert (5/0).

A recording is available for this meeting.

Brian Carlton

Frank L. B...

Tom Skolfield

Jeff Gilbert

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: Frank L. B..., CLERK