

## Minutes

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

The meeting was held via: Zoom

**Franklin County Commissioners' Meeting**

**November 19, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Harvell at 4:15 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience (Present):** Jake Nichols, Susan Pratt, Nathan Hiltz, Fenwick Fowler, Charlie Woodworth, Nick Palmer, Donna Perry, Robert Lightbody, Scott Nichols, Ryan Close, Mt. Blue T.V., Amy Bernard, Tiffany Baker, Jamie Sullivan, and Brenda Bitle.

**Audience (Zoom):** LeeAnna Lavoie

### APPOINTMENTS:

None

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Clerk's Report - Motion to accept the Clerk's Report: Bob/Terry (3/0)**
2. **Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept the Treasurer Report: No Report**
3. **COSSUP Grant for the Jail** – The Franklin County Sheriff's Department received notice from U.S. Representative Jared Golden's office that they were awarded the Comprehensive Opioid Stimulant and Abuse Use Program grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 to be distributed over three years. The grant will help support and treat those that are affected by substance abuse in the criminal system, including pay for \$100,000 in construction at the jail as well as two corrections officers and a behavioral specialist. Sergeant Close believes that the Franklin County Sheriff's Department is the only agency in the State of Maine to be awarded the grant. **Motion to accept the funding from the COSSUP Grant: Bob/Terry (3/0)**
4. **Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave** – The Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave act goes into effect on January 1, 2025, allowing employees up to 12 weeks of paid family leave. The Maine Department of Labor requires employers to pay 1% of the payroll earnings toward the MPFL, which will be available for use in May 2026. It was discussed that 50% of this expense can be allocated to the employees through a payroll deduction. It was also discussed to submit requests to NCEU, FOP and Teamsters to begin bargaining, so that the employer/employee contributions being at the same time for everyone. **Motion to have 50% be passed onto employees for the MPFML. Bob/Terry (3/0). Motion to submit a request to bargain with the NCEU, FOP and Teamsters: Bob/Terry (3/0)**
5. **On-Call Pay for Facilities** – It was discussed to give on-call pay for the facilities staff at the rate of \$25.00 per shift/day from November 15 to April 30 for emergency, snow/ice removal. **Motion to implement on-call pay for facilities between the period of November 15 and April 30 effective immediately. Bob – not seconded.**

6. **Courthouse Windows** – Franklin County facilities was awarded ARPA funds in the amount of \$181,332 for the replacement of the Courthouse building windows and sills. Facilities Manager, Nick Palmer had reached out to multiple vendors for quotes. Anderson Windows quote was the lowest. The project is expected to begin in January 2025, with the anticipation of it being completed in six weeks. **Motion to go with the lowest bidder for the replacement of windows and sills: Bob/Terry (3/0)**

**OLD BUSINESS:**




1. **E.J. Perry Medical Expansion - Jail** – The contract with E.J. Perry has been reviewed and approved with comments by the County Attorney for the medical expansion at the jail. **Motion for the Chair to sign the E.J. Perry Contract: Bob/Terry (3/0)**

**MISCELLANEOUS: None**

**WARRANTS: County AP and Payroll – Motion to sign Warrants: Bob/Terry (3/0)**

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 4:57 p.m.: Bob/Terry (3/0)**

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:  , CLERK