

**State of Maine
Androscoggin County**

**Minutes of Budget Committee
Meeting of
October 14, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Emily Darby, Norman Beuparlant, Steve Bolduc, Shane Bouchard, Ralph Caldwell, Guy Desjardins, Belinda Gerry, Michael Lachance, Mark Lunt, Michael Marcotte, Anthony Reny, Andrew Titus, Jeffrey Wakeman.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph Grube.

OTHERS PRESENT: District Attorney Andrew Robinson, I.T. Director David Parker, Androscoggin Sagadahoc Board President Michael Coon, UMO Extension Educator Kristy Ouellette, UMO Extension Educator Tori Jackson, EMA Director Joanne Potvin, Steve Sherlock-Sun Journal, Dick Clark-WGLT, Administrative Assistant Sandra Berube, Larry Post.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Emily Darby.

Discussion regarding the Commissioners request to submit their questions in writing.

Chair Emily Darby – Read the Budget Committee’s (draft) response to the Commissioners request to submit their questions in writing.

Michael Lachance – Quoted the Charter section that says “The Board of Commissioners shall provide the Committee with the necessary assistance...and information needed to carry out its functions.” Lachance stated that the Department Heads' presence was requested several times and he does not feel that the Board of Commissioners is providing the necessary information and asks that they do so.

Michael Lachance – Noted that the Commissioners were in the building during the Budget Committees October 7, meeting last week. The Commissioners were needed and it was requested that they be at the Budget meeting, but they did not attend.

Andrew Titus – Stated that (the absence of the Commissioners) is confrontational by nature and intent and that the Budget Committee is not involved in the litigations, but they have decided to make them involved. Still, he would like to have a process to get the questions to the Commissioners so that the Budget Committee can receive the answers.

Chair Emily Darby – Signed the letter to the Commissioners requesting information and had the administrative assistant deliver it to the Commissioners downstairs.

*Motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Andrew Titus:

To table the approval of the November 19, 2014, September 30, 2015, and the October 7, 2015 meeting notes until the next meeting.

NO VOTE

On motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(022-2015) To move the question.

VOTE: 13-0

(Question Moved) On motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was

VOTED:

(023-2015) To table the approval of the November 19, 2014, September 30, 2015, and the October 7, 2015 meeting notes until the next meeting.

VOTE: 13-0

Chair Emily Darby – Noted that the Androscoggin County has an appointed public information officer, the Town Clerk.

**2005 ANDROCOGGIN-SAGADAHOC (TWIN COUNTY) EXTENSION ASSOCIATION
(Presented by Board President Michael Coon)**

On motion of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was

VOTED:

(024-2015) To reduce Androsocoggin-Sagadahoc Extension Association line item 10-2005-4715 Twin County Extension by -\$2,000.00 to \$46,372.00.

VOTE: 11-2

Opposed - Wakeman, Beuparlant

1005 SUPERIOR COURT (Presented by District Attorney Andrew Robinson)

On motion of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(025-2015) To approve Department 1005 Superior Court at \$14,200.00.

VOTE: 13-0

1013 VICTIM ADVOCATE-RESTITUTION SPECIALIST (Presented by District Attorney Andrew Robinson)

On motion of Norman Beauparlant, seconded by Michael Marcotte, it was

VOTED:

(026-2015) To approve Department 1013 Victim Advocate-D.V. Investigator Salaries & Wages at \$55,999.00 with the caveat to revisit (4724, 4735, 4755).

VOTE: 9-4

Opposed – Titus, Bouchard, Bolduc, Gerry

1015 DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Presented by District Attorney Andrew Robinson)

On motion of Anthony Reny, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(027-2015) To reduce District Attorney line 10-1015-4105 Automobile Mileage by -\$750.00 to \$2,250.00.

VOTE: 13-0

On motion of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Belinda Gerry, it was

VOTED:

(028-2015) To reduce District Attorney line 10-1015-4080 Transcripts by -\$300.00 to \$1,200.00.

VOTE: 8-5

Opposed – Wakeman, Lunt, Reny, Darby, Caldwell

Michael Marcotte – Noted that line 10-1015-4675 Soft & Hardware Maintenance Agreement was budgeted for last year but not spent entirely, and is now being budgeted again this year and sent out to the tax levy. Therefore, it's being paid for twice and the surplus will not be seen until next year and we don't know what's going to happen to that surplus. There's no reason why that \$28,965.00 can't be encumbered. If those numbers are in last years budget, they can be encumbered. There doesn't need to be \$28,965.00 on the tax levy this year.

On motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(029-2015) To reduce Department 1015 District Attorney by -\$750.00 to 526,975.00.

VOTE: 10-3

Opposed – Titus, Marcotte, Gerry

1018 DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOINT BUDGET (Presented by District Attorney Andrew Robinson)

On motion of Norman Beauparlant, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(030-2015) To approve Department 1018 District Attorney Joint Budget at \$12,300.00.

VOTE: 12-1
Opposed – Marcotte

1019 VICTIM-WITNESS ADVOCATE GRANT (Presented by District Attorney Andrew Robinson)

On motion of Andrew Titus, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(031-2015) To reduce District Attorney Victim-Advocate Grant line 10-1019-4105 Mileage by -\$100.00 to zero.

VOTE: 8-5
Opposed – Beauparlant, Desjardins, Darby, Wakeman, Lachance

On motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(032-2015) To accept District Attorney Victim-Advocate Grant Department 1019 at \$97,111.00 as proposed with the option to revisit 10-1019-4105.

VOTE: 12-1
Opposed - Bolduc

On motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(033-2015) To postpone departments 1021 Human Resources, 1090 Auditing, 2000 Interest, 2050 Insurance, 2080 Contingency, until next week with the hopes that the department heads will attend.

VOTE: 12-1
Opposed - Wakeman

Chair Emily Darby – Requested the department heads for those departments just postponed (see above) attend next week; stated that it is imperative that the department heads attend.

1010 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (Presented by E.M.A. Director Joanne Potvin)

On motion of Ralph Caldwell, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(034-2015) To accept Department 1010 Emergency Management Agency Commissioners as proposed \$202,737.00.

VOTE: 13-0

1060 TELECOMMUNICATION (Presented by I.T. Director David Parker)

On motion of Jeffrey Wakemen, seconded by Shane Bouchard, it was

VOTED:

(035-2015) To accept Department 1060 Telecommunications at Commissioners Proposed \$57,797.00.

VOTE: 11-2

Opposed - Marcotte, Gerry

CONSIDERATION OF THE UPCOMING BALLOT MEASURE REGARDING ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY CHARTER

Chair Emily Darby – Stated that the Ballot Measure was put forth by the Commissioners, it is language that basically says the Commissioners can set their salaries and benefits but cannot raise them at this point going forward without the Budget Committee. However, the Budget Committee, last year and currently, is operating under the assumption that the Charter says that they cannot do this period. Whether it's from zero or onward, we are operating with the understanding that the Budget Committee has the final say on salaries and benefits for the Commissioners.

Throughout the meeting the Budget Committee requested the following:

1. Department heads, County Treasurer, Commissioners (or a representative of the board) attend meetings.
2. Supporting documentation to justify, explain or elaborate on requested budget line dollar amounts.
3. Notations be made and proved for new items requested or when the dollar amount differs from the previous year's amount or from department head requests.
4. That questions be answered or sufficiently addressed before we review the final budget and deliberate on the final amounts to be set forth at a public hearing for final Budget Committee approval.
5. Explanation regarding what can and can't be encumbered (ie: 10-1015-4675).
6. Human resource question on lines 10-1019-4724 and 4725.
7. Request for all department Heads attend their scheduled meetings, (especially those whose departments were postponed tonight because they did not attend).

8. Request for an Administrator, Commissioner, or a representative be available to answer a question regarding Contingency next week. Requesting trial balance for Contingency 2080, (10-2080-4715).
9. Request to see a total Communications (I.T.) budget for all of Androscoggin County which includes all departments and contracts.
10. Request that the Treasurer share his calculations regarding the state laws in relation to inmate services.

On motion of Anthony Reny, seconded by Shane Bouchard, it was

VOTED:

(036-2015) To adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

VOTE: 13-0

Patricia Fournier, County Clerk