

MEETING AGENDA

Androscoggin County Commissioners
 2nd Floor Conference Room
 February 3, 2021 - 5:15 p.m.



I. Call Meeting to Order Time: _____

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call Commissioners Absent: _____

IV. Accept and Approve with a Waiver of Reading the Minutes

A*	Meeting Date: January 20, 2021 regular meeting.	
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V. Review and Approval of all Warrants

A*	Warrants: 2067, 2069, 2070, 2102, 2119, Payroll, Manual Warrants.	
B*	Corrections: 2121J.	

VI. Reports Notes:

A	Maine County Commissioners Association M.C.C.A.	
B	Central/Western Maine Workforce Board	
C	Administrator's Report	

VII. Comments from the Public Notes:

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VIII. New Business Notes:

A	By-Laws Change (Regarding Meeting Schedule, 1 st Reading)	
B	2021 Tax Commitment	
C	Covid Protocols	
D	Mandate Resolution (Commissioner Lary)	

IX. Discussion Items (Commissioners Only)

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X. Future Agenda Items (Commissioners Only)

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XI. Adjourn Time: _____

* Action Required

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY
PROPOSED CHANGE TO BY-LAWS

Submitted January 20, 2021

Section 2. Regular Meeting

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners shall be conducted at least ~~twice~~ once monthly on a day and time set by the Board.

This changes required meetings from two a month to once a month, to be the same as the Charter.

State of Maine

Androscoggin, SS:

At a Court of County Commissioners held in Auburn, within and for the County of Androscoggin, on the 3rd day of February, 2021, the undersigned County Commissioners have assessed as a County Tax the sum of Ten Million, Eight Hundred Sixteen Thousand, Three Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$10,816,380.00) for the year 2021 upon the several cities and towns in said county, it being assessed in accordance with the provision of Title 30-A M.R.S.A., Section 725 and Section 706, this fact being hereby certified in the records of said apportionment, and we have apportioned the same agreeably to the valuation of the several cities and towns, in said county as shown by the reports of the Board of Assessors of the State of Maine, acting as a Board of Equalization, as a basis on which the state and county taxes shall be levied for the year 2021, as provided by law, to wit:

Cities and Towns Rate \$.00120

	Valuation	Tax
Auburn	\$ 2,175,900,000	\$ 2,611,080
Durham	\$ 465,800,000	\$ 558,960
Greene	\$ 389,300,000	\$ 467,160
Leeds	\$ 214,800,000	\$ 257,760
Lewiston	\$ 2,510,200,000	\$ 3,012,240
Lisbon	\$ 669,350,000	\$ 803,220
Livermore	\$ 211,850,000	\$ 254,220
Livermore Falls	\$ 179,500,000	\$ 215,400
Mechanic Falls	\$ 190,050,000	\$ 228,060
Minot	\$ 239,500,000	\$ 287,400
Poland	\$ 753,150,000	\$ 903,780
Sabattus	\$ 337,750,000	\$ 405,300
Turner	\$ 545,400,000	\$ 654,480
Wales	\$ 131,100,000	\$ 157,320

The foregoing being a true and correct statement of the County Taxes for the year 2021.

IT IS ORDERED, that the same be paid to the County Treasurer on or before the first day of September, A.D. 2021.

Chair Sally Christner

Brian Ames

Vice-Chair Terri Kelly

Isaiah Lary

Noel Madore

John Michael

Roland Poirier

Interest at ___%, commencing on November 1, 2021

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY
EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES
Protocols Related to Covid-19
Prevention, Reaction and Preparedness Plan for COVID -19

- **Objective:** To ensure business continuity and delivery of Services to Androscoggin County while demonstrating care for staff health and welfare.
To fulfill the legal obligation of employers described in the OSHA act of 1970, Section 5. (1) “shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees.”
County employees have an added responsibility to reduce the risk and exposure to the public who are utilizing the services of the county.
- **Scope:** This Coronavirus policy applies to all employees in all locations. Notwithstanding any Policy and Procedures that individual departments have developed to address their particular departments or circumstances, the following policy will be observed.
- **In Case of Illness:** If you are exhibiting any flu-like or viral symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or if you have tested positive, we request that you remain at home and notify Sandy Berube (753-2526) or Larry Post (753-2587) immediately so we can notify those that have come in **close contact** with you. Please do not under any circumstances enter the building for the safety and wellness of others.

In addition, general notifications of positive tests (devoid of employee names and details) will also be communicated to employees through department heads.

Common virus symptoms may include the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Chills• Cough• Shortness of Breath• Headache | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fatigue• Sore Throat• Body Aches• Diarrhea and/or Vomiting• New Loss of Taste or Smell |
|---|--|
- **Public Access:** To reduce the risk of the virus spreading in the workplace, public will be required to wear a mask when in public areas in the County building.
 - **Common Areas:** Masks must be worn by employees while in common areas (ie: hallways, breakrooms, stairs, etc.)
 - **Individual Offices:** All employees shall respect the work space of each individual and maintain social distancing by not entering another employees office unless permitted to do so. If permitted to enter another employee’s office, both employees are required to wear a mask unless there is a six foot distance between them. Each employee is required to keep individual offices uncluttered for proper cleaning. Each employee will be responsible for keeping their own desks and devices cleaned and sanitized at the end of each day. Disinfectant spray, paper towels, rubber gloves and hand sanitizer will be provided.

- **Travel:** (Follow Protocols of the Maine Center for Disease Control)
“The State will allow adults who have a negative COVID-19 antigen or molecular (PCR, NAAT, or isothermal) test collected no more than 72 hours before arriving in Maine to forgo the 10-day quarantine upon arrival in Maine”
<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/airborne/coronavirus/travel.shtml>
Guidance and recommendation from the CDC is evolving as new information is revealed. It is everyone’s responsibility to keep up to date on these guidelines.
- **Hygiene:** Practice proper coughing and sneezing etiquette. Practice routine hand washing (minimum 20 seconds with soap and water) – Frequently utilize hand sanitizer. Avoid touching face, eyes, and nose. *Disinfect public work areas before and after utilizing them.*
- **Cleaning:** In the event that a positive covid case occurs, the area(s) in which the exposed employee worked or spent time shall be cleaned by the custodian with the proper cleaning supplies necessary.
- **Social Distancing:** Maintain a six foot distance from one another. When possible, conduct interdepartmental business via phone/email/zoom) to limit in-person contact as much as possible.

Per Dr. Nirav D. Shah, M.D., J.D. and the Maine CDC all persons testing positive for COVID-19 are encouraged though not required, to notify all persons they have been in contact with to allow for appropriate safety measures to be taken.

However, at no time is it appropriate to disclose an employee’s name or identifying details in regards to personal medical information.

County of Androscoggin

A Resolution of the Androscoggin County Commission rejecting the mask mandate of Governor Mills and any future mask mandates by local, state, or federal government.

Whereas, there is scant scientific evidence to date that cloth masks prevent the spread of COVID 19 despite the fact that cloth mask use is quite common, yet infection rates are still high, and

Whereas, the Coronavirus is so small that only masks of such type as N95 masks or greater have a likelihood of preventing its spread through airborne transmission, yet are suffocatingly tight and require fit testing and a respiratory protection program if required by an employer, and

Whereas, wearing masks on a regular basis may aggravate heart, lung, upper respiratory irritation, asthma, and other issues, and

Whereas, people with medical issues or disabilities used to have protection from discrimination under the law, and

Whereas, The Governor's two executive orders require masks, make an exception for people who are unable to wear masks and then state that under no circumstances may a person be allowed to enter into a store or other locations without a mask, and

Whereas, Fear has long been used by governments to control people and manipulate them to give up their liberties in exchange for perceived "security" that has later turned into tyranny, and

Whereas, The Governor for nine months has made no effort to bring the legislature back into session - denying the Maine people their Constitutional right of having a representative form of government to vote on and make decisions affecting every Maine citizen in the state, and

Whereas, a 2015 study in the British Medical Journal found that cloth masks were penetrated by 97% of particles, and may increase infection risk by retaining moisture, or repeated use, [as a result they would likely allow a substantial percent of infectious particles through them in either direction], and

Whereas, a CDC policy review article in May 2020 stated that "We did not find evidence that surgical type face masks are effective in reducing laboratory-confirmed influenza transmission, either when worn by infected persons (source control) or by persons in the general community to reduce their susceptibility," and

Whereas, Governments of the people should be concerned with serving the people, not mandating, ordering, or controlling them, and

Whereas, the executive orders by Governor Mills using her emergency powers have repeatedly violated the Maine State Constitution Article 3 Section 2 which provide for a clear separation of powers and the legislative branch to make the laws through a representative process as all lawfully elected leaders must do, and furthermore, if she should choose to reissue those under the guise of her departments, that will still be a violation of the Maine State Constitution, and

Whereas, the antidelegation doctrine upholds the founding basis of our three co-equal branches of government by preventing the legislature from giving the executive branch of the governor any delegated power of their own legislative responsibility without strictly limiting the scope and length of those delegated powers, in which the Maine legislature failed to do, and

Whereas, the pandemic of Executive Orders by Governor Mills restrict the liberty of Maine citizens to dress, work, exercise their religion, assemble, shop, and conduct their lives as they choose,

We, The Androscoggin County Commission do hereby resolve, and acknowledge that all citizens, businesses, and visitors of Androscoggin County are free to wear or not wear masks or other similar devices, and to peaceably assemble for religious or secular reasons, according to the dictates of their own conscience and preference.

**Adopted this ____ Day of _____, 2021
by the Androscoggin County Board of Commissioners**

Commissioner Ames, Brian

Commissioner Madore, Noel

Commissioner Christner, Sally

Commissioner Michael, John

Commissioner Kelly, Terri

Commissioner Poirier, Roland

Commissioner Lary, Isaiah