

**County of Waldo, Maine  
39B Spring Street, Belfast, ME 04915**

Written Testimony of Dale D. Rowley, Project Engineer, County of Waldo

**To the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government on January 31, 2023  
An Act to Clarify the Boundary Between Waldo and Knox Counties in Penobscot Bay**

Senator Nangle, Representative Stover and members of the committee, my name is Dale Rowley and I am representing the County of Waldo on behalf of the Waldo County Board of Commissioners. I am the County Emergency Management Director and County Engineer. I am testifying in support of LD 119.

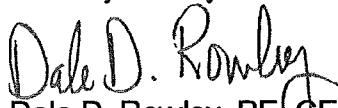
In early January 2020, the County of Waldo received a letter from the U.S. Census Bureau to verify if there were any geographic boundary issues with the boundaries of Waldo County. We responded that we felt there was a boundary issue. Following up to this response, the Waldo County Commissioners initiated an effort to further research the matter.

In January 2022, the Waldo County staff worked with Senator Curry to submit a bill, LD 1806, to clarify the boundary as determined by research into the legislative record. The members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, at that time, requested that the counties of Waldo and Knox meet and come to an agreement on the boundary. With help from the Maine Land Use Planning Commission and the Maine Office of GIS, Waldo and Knox Counties presented their legal evidence and came to the conclusion that the incorporated islands that make up the southern tip of the Islesboro Archipelago are in fact a part of Waldo County. However, the representatives from Knox County requested the geological feature called Robinson Rock to be a part of Knox County.

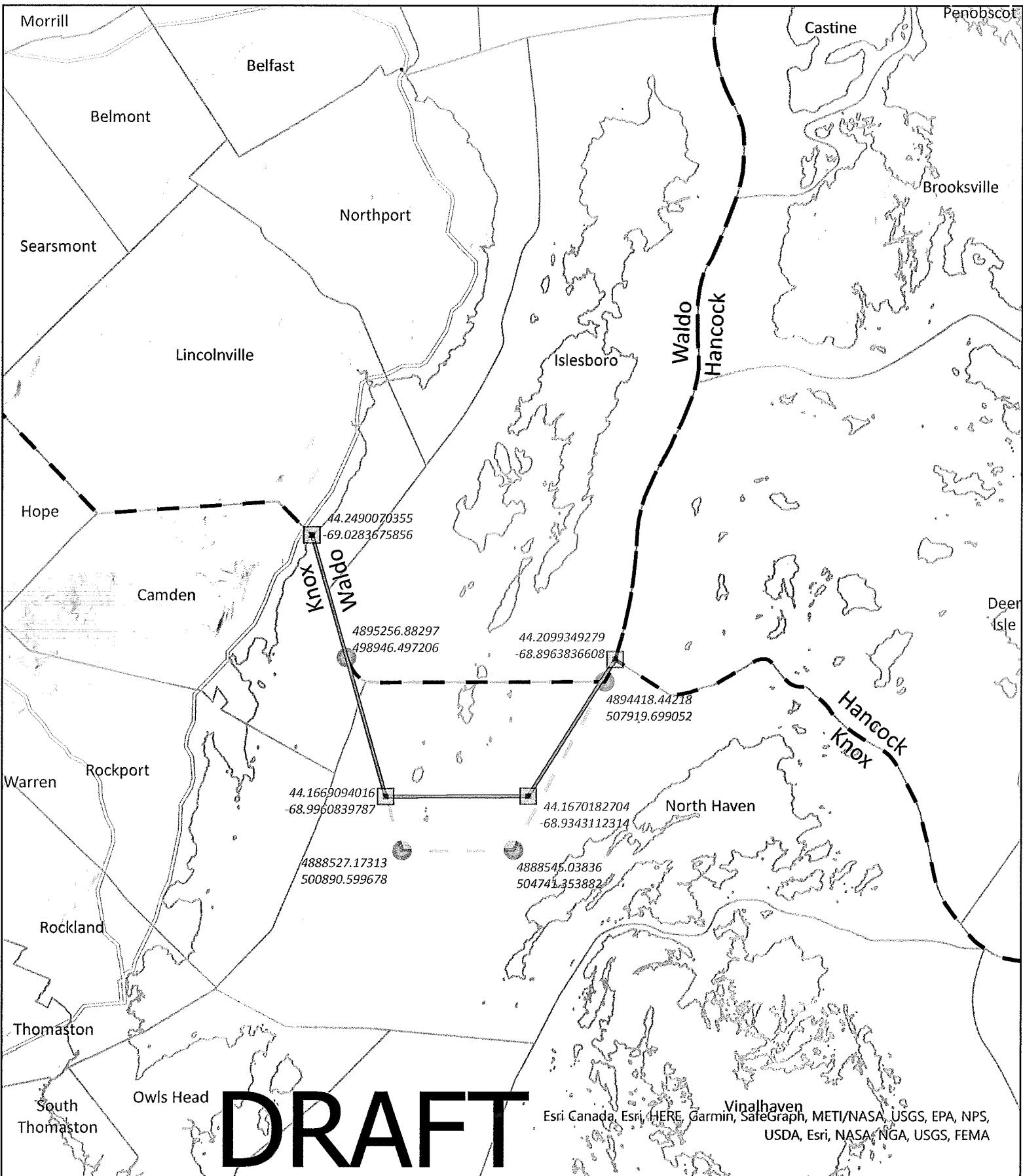
For the agreement to move forward, the County Commissioners of Waldo County agreed to the annexation of Robinson Rock to Knox County. The map that I have attached to this testimony displays that agreement. The pink area was the area in question. The green dotted coordinates represent the LD 1806 bill from last year. The red square coordinates represent LD 119 and the agreed to boundary clarification, plus the annexation of Robinson Rock to Knox County.

I have attached a copy of the meeting minutes from the Waldo and Knox County Commissioners meeting whereby they approved the boundary agreement.

Thank you for your consideration, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.



Dale D. Rowley, PE, CEM  
Director, Emergency Management  
County Project Engineer



## Knox/Waldo County Correction LD 1806

0 1.5 3 6 Miles

March 15, 2022

- Current County Line
- Minor Civil Division - Town
- Proposed County Boundary - Waldo
- Proposed County Boundary Point - Waldo
- Proposed Change to County Border Anchor Points - Knox
- Proposed Change to County Border Line - Knox

# KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION

## Regular Meeting

Tuesday – June 14, 2022 – 2:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Knox County Commission was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at 2:00 P.M., via ZOOM.

**Commission members present were:** Dorothy G. Meriwether and Commissioner District #1, Richard L. Parent, Jr., Commissioner District #2 and Sharyn L. Pohlman, Commissioner District #3.

**County staff present included:** County Administrator Andrew Hart, Administrative Assistant Wendy Galvin, Sheriff Tim Carroll, Finance Director Kathy Robinson, IT Director Mike Dean, Airport Manager Jeremy Shaw, Technical Support Specialist Zach Greene, EMA Director Ray Sisk and Communications Director Robert Coombs, Administrative Programs Coordinator Candice Richards and Geospatial Database Manager Leticia vanVuren.

**Absent:** *Human Resources Laurie Bouchard, Prosecutorial Assistant/Investigator Shane Riley, Register of Deeds Madelene Cole, Jail Administrator Bob Wood, Chief Deputy Patrick Polky, Register of Probate Elaine Hallett and District Attorney Natasha Irving.*

### Regular Meeting – Agenda Tuesday – June 14, 2022 – 2:00 P.M.

Due to the prevalence of the COVID-19 Omicron variant in Knox County and the inherent risk to the health and safety of our employees and the public from it, the Chair of the Knox County Commissioners determines there is an emergency situation that requires the Knox County Commission to hold its public meetings remotely via Zoom video conference on an ongoing basis until further notice, as allowed under the Knox County Commission Remote Participation Policy and 1 M.R.S. Section 403-B.

- I. 2:00 Meeting Called To Order**
- II. 2:01 Presentations**
  - 1. EMA Office – Recognition of Retirement.
- III. 2:05 Public Comment -** Public Comment during other portions of the meeting will only be granted by permission of the Chair.
- IV. 2:10 Consent Items**
  - 1. Approve Consent Items as Presented:
    - i. Agenda - Non Agenda Items Only Permitted if Emergency in Nature.
    - ii. Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting of May 10, 2022.
    - iii. Monthly Written Departmental Reports.
    - iv. Warrants
    - v. Reserve Withdrawals.
- V. 2:15 Action Items**
  - 1. Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Consent and Assignment to Transfer Hangar # 36 Lease from Robyn Campbell to Penobscot Island Air and Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Request for Lease Assignment.
  - 2. Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Consent and Assignment to Transfer Hangar # 31 Lease from Robyn Campbell to Mark Miller and Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Request for Lease Assignment.
  - 3. Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Sign and Execute a New Hangar Land Lease Agreement at the Knox County Regional Airport for Dan Dufault d/b/a Maine Seaplanes LLC.
  - 4. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a Lease Agreement Between the County of Knox and Waters Aero Marine, Inc. d/b/a Penobscot Island Air for Space in the Airport Operation Facility at 10 Benner Lane.
  - 5. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator and Airport Manager to Identify Excess Properties at the Knox County Regional Airport to Return to the Tax Rolls of the Two Abutting Municipalities.
  - 6. Act to Award Bids for Three (3) New Vehicles for Use by the Sheriff's Department.
  - 7. Act to Approve the Amended Fee Schedule in the Knox County Public Information Policy.
  - 8. Act to Approve the Knox/Waldo County Line Proposed Map.

<b>VI.</b>	<b>2:30</b>	<b>Discussion Items</b>
		1. Update on the KCPSB Floor Repair Project. 2. Update on the Correctional Facility HVAC Project. 3. Update on the Status of the Knox County Correctional Facility & Knox County Public Safety Building Paving Project. 4. Other
<b>VII.</b>	<b>2:35</b>	<b>Other Business</b>
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>2:45</b>	<b>Executive Session</b>
		1. Convene in Executive Session for Discussion or Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Property Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C).
<b>IX.</b>	<b>3:00</b>	<b>Action Item</b>
		1. Act to Authorize the County Administrator to Sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the Benner Lane Hangars on Behalf of Knox County and to Hire an Engineer for a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment.
<b>X.</b>		<b>Adjourn</b>

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

Commissioner Meriwether called the regular meeting of the Knox County Commission to order at 2:06 P.M.

**II. Presentation:**

## 1. EMA Office – Recognition of Retirement:

- Administrator Hart stated Ray has a long distinguished service with Knox County as the Knox County EMA Director. Ray has over fourteen (14) years of service to Knox County as the EMA Director. He made the EMA office one of the best in the State from where it was when he started. Ray has served as Chair of Safety Committee for years. That committee grew by leap and bounds. The County as a whole received the Shape award due to his efforts. He wants to give Ray a lot of accolades. He is one of the top Department Managers that we have in the County. Administrator Hart hopes he gets to enjoy his family and retired life.
- Commissioner Meriwether stated she is extremely blessed and fortunate to work with Ray. She was the EMA liaison for Red Cross and spent a Christmas with Ray, so she worked with him before. She stated that Ray will be sorely missed.
- Commissioner Parent stated it is a pleasure to know that EMA is run by a truly professional person and no one does it any better.
- Commissioner Pohlman said she echoes all the sentiments and you are like a rock Ray. You will be greatly missed not just in this County but across the State because of your reach, your knowledge and your great grace under pressure. You will be greatly missed.
- Commissioner Meriwether wanted to acknowledge another loss to the County as Michael Dean has resigned his position. She wants to honor his time and his keeping everything running. He will be missed very much.
- Commissioner Pohlman wanted to thank Mike for everything. Our loss is their gain. You are always keeping us all connected and you will be missed.
- Administrator Hart gave some background on Mike. Mike had multiple titles while with Knox County. He started out in 2008 as the IT Support Assistant, 2012 we changed it to the Systems

Administrator and in 2020 we changed his title change of IT Director which was the appropriate title for that position. Mike moved up the ranks and he has done an excellent job and has put a lot of things in place in that department. He wishes Mike good luck in the future and with his new opportunity.

- Commissioner Parent said he said he'll be lost, Mike assists with a lot. Best of luck in the future!
- EMA Director Sisk stated we've asked mike to do a lot of crazy things and pull rabbits out of hats. He has taken over cybersecurity analysis piece, there is a lot of moving parts, and Mike has taken this on smoothly. Mike does amazing work and he will be missed.
- Commissioner Meriwether wishes Ray and Mike the best with their future endeavors.

**III. Public Comment** – Public Comment during other portions of the meeting will be granted by permission of the Chair.

**None.**

**IV. Consents Items**

1. Approve Consent Items as Presented:

- i. Agenda – Non-Agenda Items Only Permitted if Emergency in Nature
- ii. Minutes of Special Commission Meeting of May 10, 2022
- iii. Monthly Written Departmental Reports
- iv. Warrants
- v. Reserve Withdrawals

• *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to approve the consent items 1-3 as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

#1. **Warrant Authorization for May 2022 in the amount of \$2,020,146.29.**

Please find enclosed all of the background for this Warrant Authorization. The motion would be to approve the Warrant Authorization for May 2022 in the amount of \$2,020,146.29.

• *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Approve the Warrant Authorization for May 2022 in the amount of \$2,020,146.29. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

#2. **Reserve Withdrawal for May 2022 in the amount of \$8,569.43.**

Please find enclosed all of the background for this Reserve Withdrawal. The motion would be to approve the Reserve Withdrawal for February and March in the amount of \$8,569.43.

• *A motion was made by Commissioner Parent to Approve the Reserve Withdrawal for May 2022 in the amount of \$8,569.43. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pohlman. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**2. Action Items**

1. **Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Consent and Assignment to Transfer Hangar #36 Lease from Robyn Campbell to Penobscot Island Air and Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Request for Lease Assignment.**

Ms. Campbell has sold her hangar to Penobscot Island Air. The sale has closed so the Consent Assignment document is required to transfer the lease agreement for the land the hangar sits on to Penobscot Island Air. This request is for the Commission to authorize the Chair to execute the consent and assignment document therefore approving transferring the lease agreement of the Hangar #36 lease as well as the request for lease assignment. The Airport Manager recommends approval and execution

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Consent and Assignment to Transfer Hangar #36 Lease from Robyn Campbell to Penobscot Island Air and Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Request for Lease Assignment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**2. Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Consent and Assignment to Transfer Hangar #31 Lease from Robyn Campbell to Mark Miller and Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Request for Lease Assignment.**

Ms. Campbell has sold her hangar to Mark Miller. The sale has closed so the Consent Assignment document is required to transfer the lease agreement for the land the hangar sits on to Mr. Miller. This request is for the Commission to authorize the Chair to execute the consent and assignment document therefore approving transferring the lease agreement of the Hangar #31 lease as well as the request for lease assignment. The Airport Manager recommends approval and execution.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Consent and Assignment to Transfer Hangar #31 Lease from Robyn Campbell to Mark Miller and Approve and Authorize the Chair to Execute the Request for Lease Assignment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**3. Act to Approve and Authorize the Chair to Sign and Execute a New Hangar Land Lease Agreement at the Knox County Regional Airport for Dan Dufault d/b/a Maine Seaplanes LLC.**

Hangar #56 is located on the new hangar taxilane, at the Knox County Regional Airport. This lease is the first of 23 new leases in the new hangar area recently permitted by the Town of Owls Head after an 18 month delay. This lease will be for one of the two (2) planned 80'x80' hangars. Dan Dufault is an existing hangar owner, and the addition of this hangar adds no additional aircraft or noise to the Airport or neighboring community.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to and Authorize the Chair to Sign and Execute a New Hangar Land Lease Agreement at the Knox County Regional Airport for Dan Dufault d/b/a Maine Seaplanes LLC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**4. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a Lease Agreement Between the County of Knox and Waters Aero Marine, Inc. d/b/a Penobscot Island Air for Space in the Airport Operation Facility at 10 Benner Lane.**

With the receipt of the CARES Act funding in May of 2020, the County elected to rebuild the County-owned Benner Lane crew house that was rented by Penobscot Island Air (PIA) for transient air crews. The building is now nearly complete, and will be ready for occupancy in the coming weeks. PIA will rent a portion of the building, while the County will retain use of 2 bedrooms, a kitchenette, and a full bath in a separate area of the facility.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a Lease Agreement Between the County of Knox and Waters Aero Marine,*

*Inc. d/b/a Penobscot Island Air for Space in the Airport Operation Facility at 10 Benner Lane. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**5. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator and Airport Manager to Identify Excess Properties at the Knox County Regional Airport to Return to the Tax Rolls of the Two Abutting Municipalities.**

The County has acquired numerous properties over the years to help facilitate operating a safe Airport. Some residents of the Towns of Owls Head and South Thomaston have voiced concern that Airport property represents land taken from the municipal property tax rolls. Now that the Airport has the property it needs to operate safely and efficiently, it can examine ways to offer to return excess, non-aviation properties back to the tax rolls of our two neighboring communities by selling these properties for fair market value. This will allow the County to balance the safety and operational needs of the Airport with the financial needs of the surrounding communities.

- Administrator Hart stated that he and Airport Manager Shaw had a meeting with the Cemetery Committee to spell out what needs to be done to get the proposal moving forward. Will have another meeting. The County is very interested in working with the Town of Owls Head.
- Commissioner Meriwether asked County Administrator Hart to explain what the cemetery project is.
- Administrator Hart stated the County was approached by Dick Carver and asked if the County would sell the cemetery to Town of Owls Head. Right now we have a 99 year lease. To purchase a cemetery lot it has to be ok'd by the Administrator. In the future we may have to move grave sites depending on the situation. This is why the Town would like to own the property. In the past, the FAA would not allow it. We did have a discussion with FAA.
- Airport Manager Shaw stated there are no available spaces in the cemetery as of now. People are reluctant to buy a lease because of this.
- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator and Airport Manager to Identify Excess Properties at the Knox County Regional Airport to Return to the Tax Rolls of the Two Abutting Municipalities. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**6. Act to Award Bids for Three (3) New Vehicles for Use by the Sheriff's Department.**

An RFP was sent out to for three (3) new vehicles to seven (7) vehicle vendors on Friday May 20, 2022. Bids were due back on Tuesday June 7, 2022 at 12:00 PM, at which time they were publicly opened. One (1) vendor submitted a bid. The bid results sheet is included in with your packet for your review. The Sheriff will be reviewing the one bid and will make a recommendation of how to proceed in awarding the bid on Tuesday at the meeting.

- The Sheriff stated we put out a request to seven (7) dealerships. We received one (1) bid back from Quirk Ford in Augusta. Police cars have become a problem to get. Currently waiting to get three (3) new cruisers from December 2021. The build date had been moved three (3) times already. Thirty-five (35) are on their way next month. Places not willing to put out bids for next year. We have do not have money yet so we wanted to wait until January 2023. It's been over two (2) years since we have received any new cruisers. Hopefully this year we can use money that we wouldn't have to use next year.
- Finance Director Robinson stated the one thing Commission could do is pay for vehicle from the undesignated fund this year. We have just finished the audit. The undesignated

fund is looking good right now at 32%. If we bought those right now would bring us to 28%.

- Commissioner Meriwether asked if we bought these vehicles right now would we have to pay 100% for even if they are not delivered right away. Still asking to approve three (3) in packet so you would be getting six (6) instead of three (3).
- Commissioner Meriwether asked do you want this done in two separate motions.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to Award Bids for Three (3) New Vehicles for Use by the Sheriff's Department, and to Grant the Authority to the Sheriff to secure, purchase and outfit three (3) vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

#### **7. Act to Approve the Amended Fee Schedule in the Knox County Public Information Policy.**

Administrator Hart has enclosed a red-lined and amended fee schedule that includes date changes and also amends the Fee Schedule for the time spent by County staff researching fulfilling requests for any records/information requested of all departments, including FOA Requests. The statute for charging for time spent changed from \$15/hr. after the first hour, to \$25/hr. after the second hour. This is the only change at this time.

- Administrator Hart stated the major revision is the date change and hours spent for County staffing and billing request.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to Approve the Amended Fee Schedule in the Knox County Public Information Policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

#### **8. Act to Approve the Knox/Waldo County Line Proposed Map.**

Administrator Hart has been working with Leticia vanVuuren, Geo Geospatial Database Manager and Don Richards, on the county boundary line between Knox and Waldo Counties which includes the archipelago of Islesboro. Enclosed is a draft map that representatives from Waldo County, representatives of Knox County, representatives of the State Land Use Planning Commission, and Representative Ann Matlack, have all agreed to which designated a new proposed line between Knox and Waldo counties. Robinson Rock would remain in Knox County and Lasell Island and some small other rock islands would be in Waldo County. Leticia and Administrator Hart will be present at the meeting Tuesday to discuss this further with the Commission.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Act to Approve the Knox/Waldo County Line Proposed Map. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

### **VI. Discussion Items:**

#### **1. Update on the KCPSB Floor Repair Project:**

- Administrator Hart has submitted a reimbursement request to the Risk Pool for cleaning HVAC vents, ceiling vent, EMA, Patrol and Dispatch and clean the offices of the Sheriff's Department. Then a couple of weeks after that, Administrator Hart submitted a request for the evidence room. This was retested and test came back positive that it was

clean. A reimbursement was submitted for that and that did close that. Malcolm has acknowledged this and reviewing it. We are waiting for his response.

**2. Update on the Airport HVAC Project:**

- Finishing up the first three (3) phases.

**3. Update on the Status of the Knox County Correctional Facility & Knox County Public Safety Building Paving Project:**

- There were a couple of discussions with Dorsky and they have had a couple discussions with Hagar. There is a meeting scheduled tomorrow with the Sheriff, Jim Hagan, Captain Wood, Administrator Hart, Gartley Dorsky and a Hagar representative regarding the project.

**VII. Other Business:**

- Administrator Hart met with Matthew Eddy who is the Executive Director of MCOG and he will meet with the Commission in July.
- Commissioner Pohlman stated that she had an opportunity to meet with Matthew Eddy last week and was very impressed and looking forward to his presentation.
- Airport HVAC is working great, but a lot of unforeseen costs. Administrator Hart will look into that and provide an update.
- Commissioner Meriwether wanted to talk about meeting remotely as numbers are lower now but transmission is still high.
- Commissioner Parent stated he would think about going back to in person, but he is not ready to come back yet.
- Administrator Hart stated it's up to how the Commissioners feel. We are in the process of getting equipment to Commissioners hearing room.
- Commissioner Meriwether said the hybrid option doesn't work yet. She thinks until that option is fully operational we should continue with ZOOM meetings. She suggested taking it one (1) month at a time.

**VIII. Executive Session**

**1. Convene in Executive Session for Discussion or Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Property Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C).**

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Postpone to Convene in Executive Session for Discussion or Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Property Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) and for Consultations With Legal Counsel Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E) until June 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 A.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**IX. Action Item:**

**1. Act to Authorize the County Administrator to Sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the Benner Lane Hangars on Behalf of Knox County and to Hire an Engineer for a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment.**

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman to Postpone to Act to Authorize the County Administrator to Sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the Benner Lane Hangars on Behalf of Knox County and to Hire an Engineer for a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment until June 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00A.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

**X. Adjourn**

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Parent to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pohlman. A vote was taken with both in favor.*

The regular meeting adjourned at 3:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Galvin  
Administrative Assistant

**The Knox County Commission approved these minutes at their regular meeting  
held on July 12, 2022.**

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION**  
**JULY 21, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Amy R. Fowler (Chairman), William D. Shorey (via teleconference, later in the morning), and Betty I. Johnson. Also present was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau to take minutes.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Fowler called the court session to order at 9:00 a.m.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Finance Karen Trussell reported the following:

The County Checkbook balance is \$83,958.36, and the Jail Checkbook balance is \$22,437.04.

**TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE:**

The total Tax Anticipation Note is \$5,500,000.00. \$3,845,000.00 has been borrowed; \$2,250,000.00 by the County and \$1,595,000.00 by Corrections.

**County Appropriations/Revenue:**

As of June 30, 2022, 46% of the County 2022 budget was expended and could have been 50% expended. 64.38% of the County revenue was received at that time.

As of July 14, 2022, 50% of the County 2022 budget has been expended and could be 54%. 75.08% of the County revenue has been received at this time.

**Corrections Appropriations/Revenue:**

As of June 30, 2022, 46% of the Corrections 2022 budget was expended and could have been 50% expended. 16.89% of the Corrections revenue was received at that time.

As of July 14, 2022, 51% of Corrections 2022 budget has been expended and could be 54%. 18.62% of the Corrections revenue has been received at this time.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to file the Financial Report. Unanimous.**

**WARRANTS**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2022 General Fund Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant and June 23, 2022 payroll in the amount of \$381,091.60. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the June 30, 2022 MCRRC (Corrections) Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant and June 23, 2022 payroll in the amount of \$213,291.57. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, seconded to authorize payment of the July 14, 2022 General Fund Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant and July 7, 2022 payroll in the amount of \$322,028.84. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the July 14, 2022 MCRRC (Corrections) Accounts Payable and Reserve warrant and July 7, 2022 payroll in the amount of \$129, 634.95. Unanimous.**

## **CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS & WINDY HILL TOWER**

Present was EMA Director Dale Rowley, who reported the following:

1. Swanville Project: Ground has been broken, erosion control installed, some trees were removed that were in the way, and the old barn basement was removed along with concrete and trash. The drive entrance may need to be raised. Work will start on the storm water pump. Good Deeds will conduct a survey. S. W. Cole will do soil gradation. Maddock will start concrete footings 1.5 weeks from now. D. Rowley has been ordering things such as windows, garage doors, etc. as those have a long lead time now. Temporary power with CMP has been ordered. The well that's there will be capped and under the slab of the warehouse, since it doesn't give good quality and quantity of water. A new well will be dug, and spigots will be on the outside of some of the buildings for easy access.

2. D. Rowley submitted sole source forms for Guy Hanson & Sons (earth work). He also had a form for R.H. Lambeth to do the building construction and has asked him to renovate the existing EMA next spring. They have a draftsman on board.

3. D. Rowley has converted the Facilities storage on site as a temporary construction office. He thought a small flatbed trailer could be purchased to haul cardboard and trash. The transfer station is a mile away and he's already spoken with them. It would be paid from the funds that had been saved from the architectural and engineering funds. It would cost roughly around \$1,400.00.

**\*\*B. Johnson, A. Fowler to pay for trailer with ARPA funds. Unanimous.**

4. D. Rowley has been working with Communications Director Mike Larrivee. Right now there is a contract for Windy Hill, but the Comm. Center won't need it in the new buildout. D. Rowley asked that EMA be allowed to take over the lease for that site, as it is 5 miles away from the new building. The lease is \$3,200.00. He has \$500.00 in the radio line and has other savings, and he could absorb that cost in the current budget. The agreement is already with the County and will just come out of EMA budget instead. The Commissioners approved this.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

Human Resources Director KelLee Gray and Prosecutorial Assistant E. Harvey asked for an executive session.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into executive session at 10:09 a.m. for personnel-related discussion as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1§405 (6.A). Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to come out of executive session at 10:15 a.m. Unanimous.** No action was taken.

H.R. Director KelLee Gray presented the following:

1. Dispatcher Blaine Parsons has completed 1-year of employment effective June 20, 2021 with a pay increase of \$21.58, and the vacation leave remains the same. Noted by the Commissioners.

2. Corrections Corporal Randy Fox has completed 20 years of employment effective July 1, 2022 with a pay increase to \$26.96, and an increase in leave time. Noted by the Commissioners.

3. Communications Director Michael Larrivee completed 1-year in the Director position, with the salary increasing to \$70,125.98 effective July 12, 2022. Noted by the Commissioners.

4. Belfast Area High School Learning Opportunities approached the Sheriff's Office and Human Resources about Seniors in high school internships for a few hours a week, which could be utilized by the Sheriff's Office and perhaps other departments, free of charge. The Commissioners agreed that it would be an excellent idea.

5. One pay scale for 1/2022 for Administrative Staff needs to be signed by the Commissioners. It was accidentally overlooked but has been paid correctly.

6. The Civil Deputy job description and Emergency Management Agency Intern Job description were presented for the Commissioners' signature.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

IT Manager J-sun Bailey was assisting Commissioner Shorey with the Zoom connection, so the IT report was postponed until the next regular court session on August 4, 2022.

## **COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

Communications Director Michael Larrivee delivered the following report:

1. Most of the radio equipment is being stored at the Sheriff's Office Garage at the Garden site. They anticipate that installation will start by end of summer.

2. Pt. Lookout Tower is complete, and keys will be turned over by July 15, 2022. A generator has been installed and tested. He is working with Facilities Manager Keith Nealley on getting propane tanks. M. Larrivee will provide installation dates to the radio company that will coincide with when the landowner is on vacation so it will be less intrusive during the build.

3. Yesterday they looked at Mt. View roof for possible placement of a full antenna array, and all are confident that this will work out very well.

4. The lease for Blueberry Broadcast will be about \$9,000.00 per month, which is better than the anticipated \$13,000.00.

5. Researched has been performed for the Liberty Tower. Norm is doing a project with another county with an SBA tower and with that agreement, a 1-for-1 replacement doesn't change the lease amount, so he will try to obtain the same thing for Waldo County, which would hopefully reduce the cost.

6. EMA Director D. Rowley already spoke about turning over the Windy Hill tower lease to EMA.

7. Comm. Center staffing is going well, and more dispatcher applications are coming in.

8. Another microwave is failing at Aborn. It is a redundant system and is now down to the last 4 microwaves, and these cannot be replaced. He hopes to get through the summer, and then it's a

question after of how to get rid of the old equipment. He thought about storing the old equipment temporarily at one of the County Garden buildings because a fair amount of space is needed. The Commissioners expressed concern about security, and he explained that it is just large things, not small technology equipment. W. Shorey said he believed it would be safe there, as security cameras are on site.

A. Fowler asked M. Larrivee to keep an eye on expenditures in lines 4200 and 4210 in the Comm. Center budget.

## **FACILITIES REPORT**

Facilities Manager Keith Nealley presented the following:

1. University Extension Office Repairs: The staff have vacated and are working at the Hutchinson Center until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Work has been done to the back wall of the Extension office to alleviate and prevent drainage issues. The mold was removed, and a chemical treatment was performed. The air exchange wasn't working, so he took care of that. Sheet rocking and painting should be done well before October 1, 2022 and should be under budget.
2. A. Fowler asked about various over-expended budget lines in the Facilities budget related to the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch. She also inquired about the Superior Court fuel budget. K. Nealley noted that projects at Dispatch came out of the Facilities Budget. He will review the numbers and report back to the Commissioners. Regarding fuel in Superior Court being 78% expended, he noted that the tank had been topped off before the summer season and there should be enough until the 2023 budget.

## **WALDO/KNOX COUNTIES' WATER BOUNDARY UPDATE:**

GIS Planner Robert Hoey gave an update regarding the Waldo and Knox Counties' water boundary in Penobscot Bay. He directed them to three maps in the packets before them. The first map, dated May 27, 2022, is from the State. The second map dated May 31, 2022, is the one he produced that shows the history of where the line was, the green line boundary from 1910, the LUPC proposed boundary in gray, and the incorrect depiction is orange/yellow. He sent that to the State. The third map, dated June 9, 2022, shows a straight line to the coastline of Camden and Lincolnville, sent by the State. A. Fowler reported that Knox agrees with the latest map, which permits Knox County to have Robinson Rock. The Commissioners asked B. Arseneau to contact Knox County Administrator Andrew Hart to find out if the Knox Commissioners voted on this. Commissioner William Shorey was now present via teleconference, so A. Fowler shared the most recent information with him regarding Robinson Rock.

**\*\*A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to vote for the June 9, 2022 map, which depicts Robinson Rock being in Knox County. Unanimous.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

County Clerk Barbara Arseneau reported correspondence as follows:

1. Mathew Eddy of Midcoast COG sent a request to meet with the County Commissioners again, to update them on their technical assistance program now that it is formalized. W. Shorey said he read the report and had no interest. A. Fowler said she believed Mr. Eddy should be reaching out to the municipalities with this information. B. Johnson said she sits on that board and believes this is for information purposes only because they changed from an economic development organization to a

COG. She stated that she was in favor of the Commissioners listening to a presentation, and then towns could do what they want with that information. She was also in favor of putting the information on the County web site.

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded not to grant a meeting with the Commissioners.**

Discussion: A. Fowler agreed that it was a great idea to put a link on the County web site, and passing information along to the municipalities, but felt that the Commissioners did not need to meet with M. Eddy. **Passed by 2 with B. Johnson opposed.**

B. Arseneau was asked to obtain information, forward it to the municipalities, and to talk with the IT Director about adding it to the web site.

2. On July 8 and July 18, 2022 B. Arseneau properly disposed Commissioners' records that have met their retention dates. She submitted a list to the Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Fowler signed.

3. Maine County Commissioners Association is holding a one day convention on September 14, 2022, location to be announced. They will need a headcount from each County. Commissioner Johnson said she would attend as much as she can.

4. B. Arseneau submitted a printed email sent to the Commissioners from Fernando Curiel expressing concern about over Smart Cities technology being implemented in various places in the U.S.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

B. Arseneau had emailed minutes from the June 16, 2022 Court Session to the Commissioners for review.

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2022 County Commissioners Court Sessions. Unanimous.**

**2023 COST OF LIVING INCREASE & COMMISSIONERS MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

1. B. Johnson asked that the Commissioners continue to meet at 10:00 a.m. from now on, as it is the only way she can attend and fulfill her duties.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to continue to start meet at 10:00 a.m. Unanimous.**

2. The Commissioners signed a card wishing Rick Kersbergen a happy retirement from the Waldo County University of Maine Cooperative Extension Office.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to go into executive session for discussion of nonpublic information as permitted by M.R.S.A. Title 1 § 405 (6.A). at 11:07 a.m.**

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to come out of executive session at 11:29 a.m. Unanimous.**

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to consider increasing the premium on the health insurance 12%, and the County will be notifying every union that they will be opening**

**discussions on increasing the health insurance premium 12% effective January 1, 2023. Unanimous.**

**\*\*W. Shorey moved, B. Johnson seconded to set the 2023 Cost of Living Increase at 3% for non-union employees. Unanimous.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Freedom Selectperson Elaine Higgins reported that the Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition is close to forming a broadband utility district. Each of the five towns in the coalition contributed \$9,000.00 from the \$20,000.00 awarded by the County to each town and used this for the feasibility study. Each town plans to vote to use the \$11,000.00 remaining from each town to set up the utility district. SWCBC met a few times with Unitel, which is “in the running” for setting up lines and servicing the project. The goal is to be formed and ready to go when the ARPA grant comes through in the fall. Once all the towns vote to form this broadband utility, the plan is to name it Waldo Broadband Corporation. No taxpayer dollars will have been spent on this. E. Higgins submitted to the Commissioners a mailing that will be going out to all the citizens. The Commissioners commended SWCBC for it’s hard work on this project.

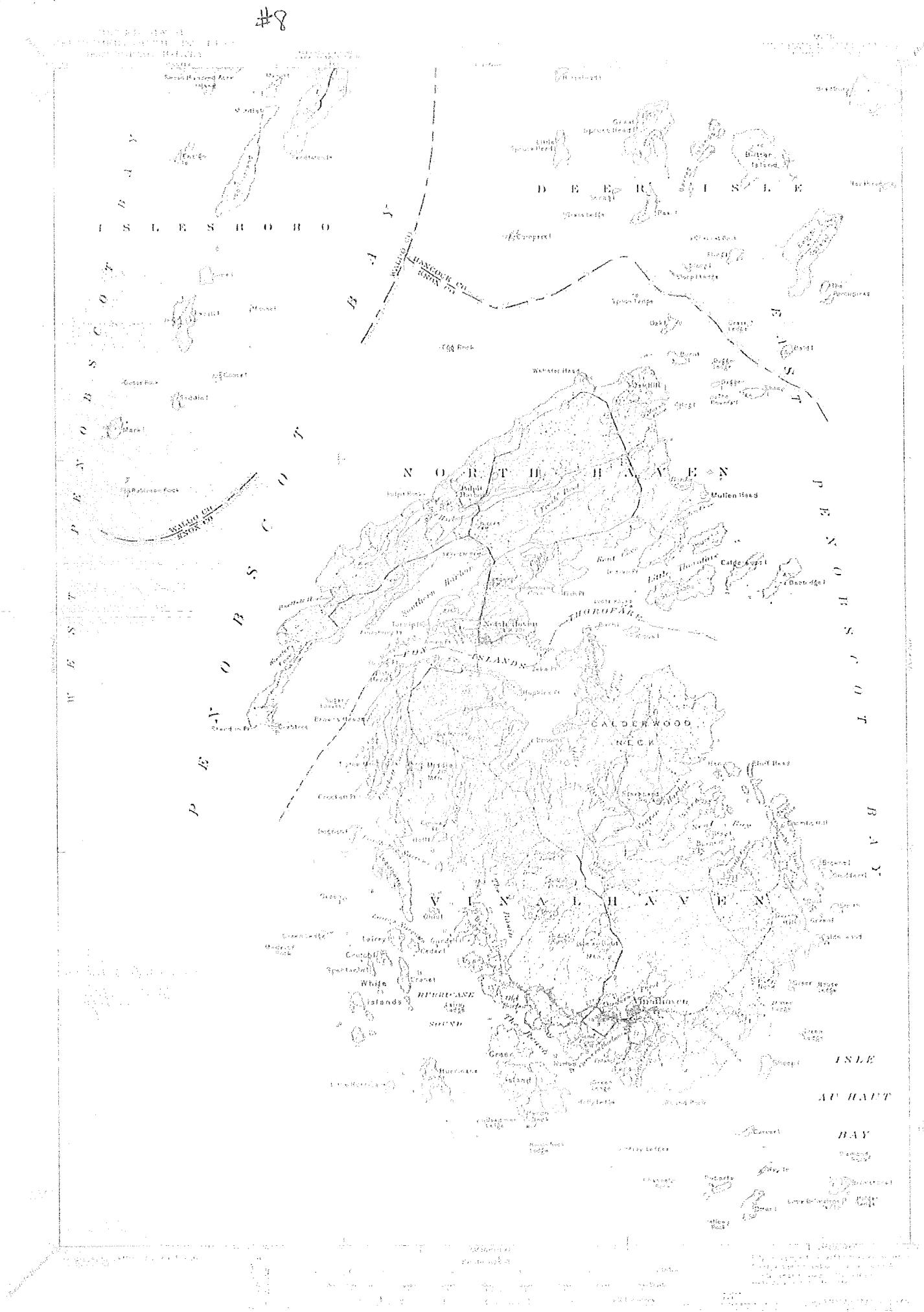
**CANINE CRUISER LEASE (Not on agenda)**

Sheriff Trafton requested and was granted permission to speak. He reported that the Canine Patrol Officer’s vehicle was involved in a collision, and the body shop where it is being repaired is behind schedule. He spoke with the Belfast Police Department and since they have no canine unit and their canine cruiser is not being used presently, they agreed to lease it to the Waldo County Sheriff’s Office for 60 days. J. Trafton submitted a draft lease agreement to the Commissioners. He will propose a lease rate of \$500.00 and would go no higher than \$750.00, to be paid from the Sheriff’s budget.

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, W. Shorey seconded to allow the Sheriff to sign the canine cruiser lease with Belfast Police Department. Unanimous.**

**\*\*B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the court session at 11:35 a.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by Barbara L. Arseneau Waldo County Clerk  
Barbara L. Arseneau



1944