

**WALDO COUNTY FY 2009 BUDGET COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 7, 2008**

PRESENT: Budget Committee Members James Bennett, Tim Biggs, Richard Crossman, Richard Desmarais, Roger Lee, Richard McLaughlin, Nakomis Nelson, Harry Dean Potter, Bill Sneed; County Commissioners John Hyk and Amy Fowler; County Treasurer David Parkman, Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell, County Clerk Barbara Arseneau and Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover. Also present were members of the Press and numerous County employees.

Budget Committee Chairman B. Sneed opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

WALDO COUNTY SOIL & WATER (2035) BUDGET REVIEW:
Present for the discussion was Kym Sanderson.

B. Sneed: I guess the first up is Waldo County Water & Soil District. Ms. Sanderson?

A. Fowler: Good evening.

K. Sanderson: Hello.

B. Sneed: [Joking] I see you guys have gone hog wild again this year. Are there any questions of Ms. Sanderson about Department 2035, Waldo County Soil & Water?

R. Desmarais: Kim, you have less than two months left in the year, and you have spent about 50 percent of your budget.

K. Sanderson: Yes. I do that, and I have a reason. In the spring, we have our tree and shrub and trout sale which generates money. In the summer is when we usually get our grant monies to do the different grants that we work on, the DEP money, Department of Agriculture we get some money from, depending on what grants we're working on at the time. So, I try to hold this money so that it keeps us going through the winter. I usually apply for the first half in August sometime, and then the last half, I'll apply for this month. That will keep us going until April or May when I start getting money in for my shrub sale.

R. Desmarais: How much of that \$9,000.00 do you think you'll need?

K. Sanderson: The rest of it? I usually am down to; it varies depending on the expenses, maybe a couple of thousand that I'll have left over for this spring. Then, that's when my shrub and tree and trout sales begin. So, I try to spread the money out so during the dry season for the winter, I don't run too short.

B. Sneed: So, you are stuck between a couple of different budget calendars, is that it?

K. Sanderson: Well, kind of because the State gives us money; I think the State calendar year is different – it's from June to July. So, we get that money then and that keeps us going, as well, through the summertime; and then the County calendar is January to December. It kinds of spreads

it out nicely if I wait until...I could change that if you'd like, if that's a problem. I could change the way I ask for it, change the dates, rather, if it's a problem. I just do it because it's...

B. Sneed: You've been doing it like this for years, right?

K. Sanderson: I know – it works fine for us.

B. Sneed: Tim, do you have a question?

T. Biggs: How much of your budget is paid for by the County, then?

K. Sanderson: The \$19,675.00, that's County money and then we get about \$15,000.00 from the Department of Ag[riculture], the Maine State Department of Ag.

R. Lee: The rest you raise from sales and what not?

K. Sanderson: Yes, from sales and from grants that we get.

B. Sneed: Jim, you have a question?

J. Bennett: I make a motion that we go along with she's asking for.

B. Sneed: I'll second it. Any discussion? All in favor? No dissenting votes. Thank you Ms. Sanderson.

K. Sanderson: Alright, thank you.

**** J. Bennett moved, B. Sneed seconded to approve Waldo County Water & Soil (2035) Budget at \$19,675.00. Unanimous.**

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION (2005) BUDGET REVIEW:
Present for the discussion was Rick Kersbergen.

B. Sneed: Cooperative Extension (2005).

R. Kersbergen: So, you see our budget request – I'll just jump right in. We are down significantly from last year at our County budget request. I would like to explain why that is. Some of that is because Keith Nealley has asked us to separate our budget out and assume some of the building maintenance costs, the plowing and cleaning costs; that would all come under County contracts now. That is why some of our budget requests were \$7,500.00 less than last year.

B. Sneed: So, this is going to show up under Facilities Management?

A. Fowler: Yes.

R. Kersbergen: We assume that would be a cost savings, as well as it would put all the – it's a County building, so it would put the County maintenance under Keith, rather than us doing it separately.

R. Desmarais: I'll ask you the same question: With two months remaining, you've spent about half your money.

R. Kersbergen: That's because most of our, a lot of our money is for support staff salaries. We have one administrative assistant and one part-time secretary. We get billed for that in July and in December from the University. They are University employees that we pay, so that big bill would come in at the end of December.

R. Desmarais: And that would take a big chunk out of that \$24,000.00?

R. Kersbergen: That would take a big chunk out of that budget, correct. I probably shouldn't say this, but we did return money last year. We returned several hundred dollars, or a little bit more last year.

D. Parkman: And we appreciate it.

R. Kersbergen: We don't try and completely wipe the budget at the end of the year, so if we have a surplus, we will return it.

R. Desmarais: This is a flat; will be about the same as it was last year.

B. Sneed: Looks like it. Anybody have any other questions?

R. Crossman: I make a motion to pay the \$41,529.00.

B. Sneed: I'll second it. Any discussion? All in favor? Anybody opposed? Doesn't look like it, Barbara, nobody opposed. Thank you, sir.

R. Kersbergen: Thank you very much.

****R. Crossman moved, B. Sneed seconded to approve budget of the University Maine Cooperative Extension (2005) Budget at \$41,529.00. Unanimous.**

REGISTRY OF DEEDS (1065) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Register of Deeds Deloris Page.

B. Sneed: Ms. Page, you weren't the first!

D. Page: Good evening.

B. Sneed: Anything you would like to say before we start asking you questions, or does it sort of speak for itself?

D. Page: Well, it sort of speaks for itself. The biggest change is the County Commissioners recommended that I do not fill – I had someone leave – that I not fill the position, and I agreed because we are not all that busy right now. To help with the budget, I agreed for this year, the coming year, that I would not fill that position.

B. Sneed: Because we put that in last year?

D. Page: Two years ago, yes. As you know, real estate isn't moving, although I've been keeping up with my fees. I'm told I'm right on target with my money.

B. Sneed: Tim, you had a question?

T. Biggs: Would you say that deed transfers are, say, a half of what they were last year?

D. Page: Oh, no – nothing like that. There are just down.

T. Biggs: They're down?

D. Page: Yes.

B. Sneed: I don't know whether this is a question to ask you or to ask David [Parkman], but I noticed looking at the revenue projections that there was a considerable down movement of some of these projections.

D. Page: They weren't considerable – they were just about the same as last year; maybe down a little.

B. Sneed: The Register of Deeds....a question I should ask you, Dave? Or, should I ask her, or should we ask both of you?

D. Parkman: The revenues are down, first of all, because we don't have anymore Jail income coming in.

B. Sneed: No, these were specifically, if you look at the projected revenues, it's like 0400, 0410, 0420 – all of them were down considerable. I just didn't know who to ask about it.

K. Trussell: Well, the Commissioners changed the amounts.

J. Hyk: Bill?

B. Sneed: Yes, John.

J. Hyk: We felt that there was sufficient evidence, and we spoke with some real estate people, as well, that the real estate market is not going to perform the way it was. It would be nice if it did, but we felt it would be better to be conservative, rather than overly optimistic.

B. Sneed: That makes sense. Tim, you had a question?

T. Biggs: No, other than where did you find that sheet?

B. Sneed: At the very front, under Projected Revenues. Ms. Page?

R. Desmarais: Ms. Page, this part-time person oh I see it's just been struck. The employee who is being cut is not on the payroll now?

D. Page: She was for 2008, she got through in July, and I did not replace her. That's the position that is being cut for next year. The part-time was cut at the beginning of last year.

B. Sneed: That was the one you had as a full...

D. Page: ...as a part-time fill in, and I didn't really use it. It's just a backup. Everything else I've kept the same as last year.

N. Nelson: If something changed this spring and the economy came around and all of a sudden property was selling like hot cakes, are you going to be in a position where you would need help?

D. Page: I would be, yes; but I've talked to the realtors and the bankers – for this coming year, it's not looking too great.

N. Nelson: So, you're comfortable with this, then?

D. Page: Oh, I'm comfortable with this. But, I couldn't get along with any less. We're on two floors, and I need people to cover.

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin had a question.

R. McLaughlin: I just wanted to know when we are going to know what the union contract increase amount is going to be. Anybody know?

J. Hyk: No idea.

A. Fowler: Seriously, they're still in negotiation.

R. McLaughlin: You have no idea, huh?

B. Sneed: Dick Desmarais?

R. Desmarais: Ms. Page, you have \$60,000.00 with about seven weeks remaining in the year. Are you going to use all of that?

D. Page: Some of that is going to be left from the salary, a half-year salary, from the person who got done. I will probably use most of the rest of it.

R. Lee: Going back to the Registry of Deeds revenue projections, you're down from \$285,000.00 to \$200,000.00; how did you get that number? Quantitatively, how did you get that number?

J. Hyk: The Commissioners take the numbers that we've been dealing with over the past couple of years, and we make projections based on the best advice we can get, not only from Deloris, but we have talked to some real estate people, and we've talked to some banking people; and we felt that we had to reduce that significantly.

R. Lee: What I was getting at is more a quantitative answer than just the factors that went into it – are you looking at comparing the last three months or six months of revenues to what they were the year earlier, and you see that they're running about the same percentage lower?

J. Hyk: We did try to do that, but part of the problem was that things have gotten economically worse very quickly, when some of this stuff was under contract, when things weren't quite in the world that we are in. So, let's put it this way, without hiring a consultant, we did the best we could.

R. Lee: Thanks.

B. Sneed: Any other questions for Ms. Page? Entertain a motion about her budget?

****R. Crossman moved, J. Bennett seconded to approve the budget of the Registry of Deeds (1065) Budget at \$214,878.00. Motion passed with one opposed (T. Biggs.)**

AUDITING (1090) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Treasurer David Parkman and Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell.

B. Sneed: Here's where we get to cut, ha ha. Auditing (1090), Debt Services (1095) and Interest (2000). David, are you going to do it, or is Karen going to do it?

D. Parkman: No, I can do it. I think. We have gone from one audit to three audits.

B. Sneed: A year?

D. Parkman: A year. Because the Jail is on a fiscal year, we separated the Jail out because their year is going to be finished June 30th. So, we separated the whole account out, as far as the Jail goes; they are going to be separated and audited sometime after June 30th.

B. Sneed: That's why the \$2,000.00 increase?

D. Parkman: Well, that's part of it. The other part of the general fund, you might say, or the general operation budget is the other audit. The third audit is since we went to a self-financing system on our insurance that this office does not really have control over some of that money. We now have an administrator of the health care, and he's making...

J. Hyk: He's talking about the health insurance, Bill.

B. Sneed: So, that's a third audit.

D. Parkman: Right, so we had \$6,000.00, and the auditor thought another \$2,000.00 would cover those other two audits.

B. Sneed: So, you have three audits now: The County as it always was the Jail and the self-financing health insurance.

D. Parkman: Right. The only one that is going to be different and a different time period is the Jail. The auditor is going to come over here and do the Jail separately. He could do the health care; even though it's County money, somebody else is administrating that, so I decided that we should have a separate one for that. That's where the extra money came from.

J. Hyk: Bill, just to clarify for you information: The same person, Malcolm Ulmer, is administering the health care money; he's the same person that handles the Risk Pool money for our county and all the other counties for liability insurance. They have a very good record, and he works very hard and does an excellent job. So, it's not like it's somebody we don't have experience with. We've been in that Risk Pool for insurance for about twelve/fourteen years, something like that.

D. Parkman: I didn't mean to imply that, by the way. I didn't mean to imply that; I just felt more comfortable, myself, if that was separated out from the money that I'm directly responsible for.

B. Sneed: I don't know about the rest of these characters, but I only had a question that one year to the next year you went up \$500.00, and this year you went up \$2,000.00. If you've added another audit, that's the reason why.

D. Parkman: Okay.

B. Sneed: Any questions, at all, from anybody about Department 1090, Auditing?

R. McLaughlin: How many years contract do we have with this auditor? We have the same one every year, right?

D. Parkman: We changed the auditor two years ago?

K. Trussell: Yes.

D. Parkman: Two years ago, we changed the auditor. This is an auditor that I can work with and I have worked out very well with, and he is on a yearly contract.

R. McLaughlin: You start with all the people scrapping for money nowadays, maybe it would be a good idea; not this year, but another time.

D. Parkman: Yes.

B. Sneed: Any other questions about this particular department? A motion?

****J. Bennett moved, R. Desmarais seconded to approve Audit (1090) Budget at \$8,000.00. Unanimous.**

DEBT SERVICE (1095) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Treasurer David Parkman and Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell.

B. Sneed: Debt Service (1095). Anything to say, David? It's just going down in a natural course.

D. Parkman: It's just going down. We have, I think, it's going to be 2010, so we have two more years on this and Waldo County will be debt free.

R. Lee: This has nothing to do with any variable rate or anything? It's a schedule?

D. Parkman: No, it just goes down. Yes, it's a schedule.

B. Sneed: Jim?

****J. Bennett moved, R. McLaughlin seconded to approve Debt Service (1095) Budget at \$66,800.00. Unanimous.**

INTEREST (2000) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Treasurer David Parkman and Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell.

B. Sneed: Interest (2000). Anything to say, Dave?

D. Parkman: Yes, I do. The interest here is down this year, mainly because of the Jail that's been taken out. The monies are still coming out of the County every month, but it's all capped in that Jail thing – it went from \$53,000.00 down to what we're estimating about \$40,000.00 Today, this TAN note we have, we borrowed again about the same as we did last year – 3.4 million dollars. We thought we might need a little bit more money, but as it turned out, we're looking pretty good as far as our budget goes; and right now, we're right at \$40/41,000.00, right as we speak. We have paid off \$2 million out of the \$3.4 million – we still owe a \$1.4 million. That should be paid off when another town or two will pay, within another week or two.

B. Sneed: Any questions about this? A motion?

****R. Crossman moved, B. Sneed seconded to approve Interest (2000) Budget. Unanimous.**

RESERVES (2045) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was County Commissioners and Treasurer David Parkman.

B. Sneed: Reserves (2045). Does anybody have any questions about this? There's no personnel line here, so we just go right over to contractual. There are no commodities involved, so any questions about the contractual services that are listed on the second page of this?

R. Lee: I would like to have an explanation of some of it. There is an increase here from \$123,000.00 up to \$192,000.00?

J. Hyk: Future County and Buildings Reserve – all I can tell you is that when I came here eight years ago, everybody was beating the Commissioners because they never planned for anything and never put anything aside for the future. That's what that is.

R. Lee: What happened last year? It seems to me that we cut that?

J. Hyk: It seems to me that you didn't fund it at all.

B. Sneed: If anyone wants to write this down: From last year's budget, Future Land & Buildings was zero; Security Employment was \$5,000.00. Skip all the way down to Communications – Equipment improvement 0151 that was \$10,000.00. The next one down, Severance, was \$15,000.00. Then we go down to Jail/Sheriff 0156 that was \$5,000.00, 0157 was \$2,000.00. Down to 0162, was \$41,000.00, 0163 was \$5,000.00 and 0167 was \$40,000.00. So, that's what it was last year.

J. Hyk: There's your Land & Buildings. We wanted to put it in there so you could vote not to put anything in there, so we could later say, "Well, the Budget Committee never funded it." Employment Security, how that works is - we don't pay any unemployment, but when somebody leaves, let's say they're terminated improperly or they're laid off, or whatever you have to pay their unemployment. Since you didn't kick in, this is how you do it. You have to have some kind of a pot. You can't take it from a Personnel line; you can't pay them from the Personnel line because you just can't do it that way. This is the way it's legally done.

R. Lee: What's in the "pot" for Employment Security now?

J. Hyk: Practically nothing – I'll give you that answer in one second. Dave?

D. Parkman: Employment security:

K. Trussell: \$8,375.89.

J. Hyk: \$8,000.00

D. Parkman: It's on this sheet here.

J. Hyk: If somebody collects the maximum amount for the maximum time, that just isn't enough money, \$8,000.00. So, there's that. Severance – we have a gentleman who am I allowed to talk about people leaving? Not by names.

B. Arseneau: Right.

J. Hyk: We have a person who has been with the County since it was a county who is leaving, and his Severance is going to be close to \$15,000.00.

R. Lee: Contractually?

J. Hyk: Yes. So, I think we have somebody else leaving who has been here for quite a bit of time, too. The next thing you know is you don't have enough money to pay people when they're leaving. That's why that number is in there.

R. Lee: What's the Severance kitty right now?

K. Trussell: \$22,000.00.

D. Parkman: \$22,582.00.

J. Hyk: So, then, the Technology amount there – last year, sometime ago, we did a whole thing in this County about technology when there was none and how it would work. It's been highly successful, highly efficient, and highly controlled. But, it was stated in the beginning of that program, that you had to put a certain amount aside every year because the day was going to come when you had to replace a whole chunk of stuff. Now, we have, there you go, there's the techie guy [James Arseneau] in the back of the room. He was here the whole time – Mr. Sneed was here the whole time. So, this bit of money is money that we should be putting aside every year so when we get to that year when you need to replace \$400,000.00 worth of equipment because it's obsolete or it's reached the end of its useful life or it's going to start giving you problems, you have that money to do that. That's what that is all about.

R. Lee: We know you gave us what we authorized last year for this; do we know what we expended?

B. Sneed: Yes, it should be on that sheet, Roger.

R. Lee: I mean, what was requested?

B. Sneed: It should be on that sheet that Barb gave us dated 11/07.

N. Nelson: So, is there \$136,000.00?

J. Hyk: In the Technology account? Yes, there is, because not only have YOU been putting some in there, but the Commissioners, occasionally, depending on what the surplus situation is at the end of every year, have authorized putting monies into these accounts if they become available; and we have been because you all HAVEN'T been. What we're trying to do here is to make sure that, for example, the Superior Court – we know, from doing an energy audit and having an engineer come in, that if that heating system goes down, to replace it properly is going to be about \$150,000.00. So, we don't have that money anywhere else; that is why we have it in the Reserve account, because it's not in the capital budget. If that heating system goes down, that's where that money comes from.

R. Lee: Where does it come from? Which department?

J. Hyk: The Capital Reserve account for courthouses. We have a Capital Reserve account for courthouses.

R. Lee: You're not asking for anymore money for that this year?

J. Hyk: No, I'm just trying to explain to this gentleman – he asked a question about the technology – so I'm just trying to explain to him how we come up with these numbers.

N. Nelson: So, what ideally would you like to see Technology at?

J. Hyk: I think if our I.T. person could talk to that – can you talk to that?

J. Arseneau: Basically, the original recommendation from the Committee that was set up by the Commissioners about eight or nine ago was that there should be a minimum of about \$60,000.00 a year put away for technology. That was not done consistently, and there have been some other projects that came up. There was a whole new system required by Probate, a document management system, that had to be paid for. There was a recommendation that was asked to be increased a certain amount per year to accommodate that, as well. So, that's where the numbers are. If it's not put away, when we get to those points when this equipment has to be replaced, we're not going to be able to do it all at once. If you do it in steps with computers, as you know, operating systems change from year to year you're going to get different operating systems and then have problems with the software. The recommendation is to try to do these things in blocks, doing two machines this year, two machines next year; kind of like a rolling type of arrangement on the technology side.

N. Nelson: So, I guess....the original question really is how much do you want to have in that account at any one time? What's appropriate?

J. Arseneau: If you are putting the amount away that has been recommended, then at the five-year period when you need to refresh the equipment, then there will be a sufficient quantity in there to cover that. PCs are on a different schedule than servers, so in five years when we do the servers, that account will be depleted a certain amount, and then the PCs will be done on a different schedule. So, there's no real like "we have to a certain amount each year total" but there should be an exact amount that's put away each year that is consistent.

N. Nelson: How many years before we are looking at replacing something significant like the PCs or the servers?

J. Arseneau: The PCs we just did the replacements on in 2007; those were all replaced, and the servers are coming up between 2010 and 2011. At that time, we will have to replace the servers for the law enforcement, as well as the servers for the entire County infrastructure.

N. Nelson: What would you estimate the cost of that being?

J. Arseneau: The servers for the Spillman law enforcement, the equipment ran approximately \$50,000 just for that one box and the software that was required. The County equipment is

somewhere around \$90,000.00 to \$100,000.00 for those, and that does not necessarily include the software and licensing, based on the number of devices that are in operation at that point.

N. Nelson: Then, roughly \$150,000.00 in 2010 and 2011 for new servers?

J. Arseneau: Just for the servers. You also have the PCs and other...it's not all mishmashed together. I don't have my paperwork with me, because I was not anticipating having...

B. Sneed: We'll get to that at another time.

J. Hyk: He [J. Arseneau] will make a major presentation when we get to the technology thing that will give you a lot more information.

N. Nelson: Sure. Thank you for what you said tonight.

B. Sneed: Roger?

R. Lee: I was just wondering what did the Commissioners ask to put away for technology last year? We authorized \$41,000.00, as I understand it. Is that right?

B. Sneed: That's what I read, I think.

R. Lee: I just wonder if they asked for \$82,000.00 last year, and we cut it in half? Or, did they ask for \$41,000.00, and we gave them \$41,000.00?

R. McLaughlin: I think we cut it.

J. Bennett: I know we did – big time.

J. Hyk: I think it was \$60,000.00 minimum, like \$64,000.00 or \$65,000.00, and I think you cut it to \$40,000.00 which is why, I think, we're back up to \$82,000.00 here...something like that.

J. Arseneau: We haven't the years prior either, so we're still playing catch up. If we're doing it the way we originally intended by the recommendations that have been done, we will be playing catch up.

B. Sneed: They asked for \$82,000.00; they got \$41,000.00.

A. Fowler: We asked for \$82,000.00; you gave us \$41,000.00.

R. Lee: Okay, the same thing as last year.

B. Sneed: And, somehow or other, we limped through another year.

R. Lee: In fairness, I think, that's not directly a relevant point; because his point is that it will happen in the future if we don't do it now. I'm not suggesting we should allocate this full amount, but it wouldn't have happened in this current year.

N. Nelson: I would think that something like \$60,000.00, if that's what we ought to be doing maybe that would be a fair compromise.

J. Bennett: What did you just say - \$50,000.00 or \$60,000.00?

N. Nelson: \$60,000.00. If that's what they say we ought to be doing and we agreed to be doing once in the past, then...

R. Desmarais: I'm comfortable with \$50,000.00.

B. Sneed: The other thing, too, is that we can change this tonight and it's not cast in stone until the Public Hearing, the last meeting after Jim will have done his two and a half hour dog-and-pony show. We will have all the details that we ever want. We can change this, but however we change it, this is by no means final. You can either change it tonight or leave it until you hear from him [J. Arseneau] and change it then. Well, we can't change it then; we'd have to change it at the last meeting, because we aren't going to revisit this department until then. However anybody is comfortable with doing this.

R. Desmarais: I make a motion to change line 1062 to \$50,000.00, just so we don't forget it. If I don't get a second, I'd be opened to another motion.

R. McLaughlin: I'll second it.

B. Sneed: Any discussion? All in favor of reducing line number 1062 to \$50,000.00: all in favor? ; all opposed? Who was opposed? Three opposed. All in favor? Tim's in; so six in favor, three opposed.

****R. Desmarais moved, R. McLaughlin seconded to change line 1062 to \$50,000.00. Motion passed with 6 in favor and 3 opposed (R. Crossman, N. Nelson, J. Bennett.)**

R.: Can we continue on this budget?

B. Sneed: Is it fair to say that we'll be back to this?

R. Desmarais: Yes.

T. Biggs: We do actually approve the money for each line, the overall amount, correct?

R. Desmarais: This will change the line.

B. Sneed: Any other questions about this particular department?

T. Biggs: Yes, I make a motion that we cut line 0131, Future Land & Buildings to zero.

R. Lee: Second.

****T. Biggs moved, R. Lee seconded to cut Future Land & Buildings (Line 0131) to zero. Motion passed with 2 opposed (R. Crossman and N. Nelson.)**

B. Sneed: Any discussion?

N. Nelson: I think that could be selling our selves short in the future. I would see cutting it, but I don't think I would support cutting it to zero.

R. Lee: My problem is that I don't know where it's going to be spent. We know the Jail situation is changed now; the County is not going to be building another jail; I assume, the State would have to do that.

N. Nelson: It's money in the bank, though.

R. Lee: Yes, but it's the taxpayers' money in the bank; and I don't think we should bank on the taxpayers' money.

B. Sneed: Any other discussion? All in favor of reducing line number 0131 to zero? All opposed?

B. Sneed: Again, this not cast in stone. Any other discussions on the Department 2045?

R. Desmarais: I move that Severance (Line 0154) be reduced from \$30,000.00 to \$20,000.00;

R. McLaughlin: I'll second it.

B. Sneed: Discussion? Dick?

R. McLaughlin: Has Severance always been held in Reserves under that same line?

D. Parkman and B. Arseneau: Yes.

R. McLaughlin: Forever, huh?

J. Hyk: Always, since anybody remembers. There is no other way to do it.

N. Nelson: And, you know of two people that are going to be leaving that are roughly, between the two of them, going to take \$30,000.00; so, if one more person decides to leave, which we aren't anticipating at this point, we would not have the money to cover that.

R. McLaughlin: I didn't hear there was a specific amount that you needed. Was there?

A. Fowler: One that we know of who is leaving, the figure is roughly \$15,000.00. I can't give you a definite figure until I have a definite ending date.

R. Lee: The kitty is \$22,000.00, so you have enough to cover that.

R. Desmarais: The kitty is \$22,000.00, and if we put another \$20,000.00 in, it will be \$42,000.00.

R. McLaughlin: We'll be covered this year. So, we would be covered if we went \$20,000.00 on that, right? Unless, we have something come up we don't know about.

N. Nelson: If somebody leaves, and there isn't enough money, where does it come from? Do you guys find it?

J. Hyk: Well, it comes from Contingency, but there's only \$100,000.00 in Contingency and that is it.

A. Fowler: Contingency is the last ditch resort.

J. Hyk: Contingency is for unexpected emergencies.

B. Sneed: The thing to remember, Nelson, is if you look at the Reserve accounts, there is already \$22,500.00 in there. It's not like we're adding to zero.

N. Nelson: It sounds like we know of two people who are leaving that it would take more than that \$22,000.00.

J. Hyk: Dick, I stand corrected – up until five years ago, the way it worked was they over-drafted the Personnel line of the department that the person was in.

B. Sneed: I couldn't find it in any of the old budgets, as to how you were doing it.

J. Hyk: Five years ago, but that's not a good way to do things. So, we created a way to address it more straightforward.

R. McLaughlin: Yes, that's a good way to do it, yes. I thought it overdrew before.

J. Hyk: That way you can track it; otherwise, that information is sort of lost in the space.

B. Sneed: We have a comment from the peanut gallery.

S. Story: I have a question. Is the employee you're referring to out of my agency?

J. Hyk and A. Fowler: No.

S. Story: Because I have a senior employee leaving in July, as well, who is probably going to rack up that much, too.

K. Trussell: I don't have the figures in front of me, but I think we've already gone through \$17,000.00 this year out of that account.

B. Sneed: What's that again, Karen?

K. Trussell: \$17,000.00.

B. Sneed: Out of the \$22,000.00 that was in there?

K. Trussell: No, this year; there's \$22,000.00 in there but that's [\$17,000.00] what has already been spent.

N. Nelson: I can see cutting a lot of lines in this budget, but I don't see that is a wise one to cut.

R. Lee: I guess what I'd like to know is what the total is realistically; we expect to have to pay in Severance in the year?

J. Hyk: You know what you know – we have two, but you don't know – if somebody dies in their family, and they say, "I just can't do this anymore. I have to go do something else." Then, they're gone – you don't know that.

R. Lee: So, somebody who has been here a long time, the Severance figure is around \$15,000 or so. Is that what it comes out to be?

B. Sneed: Scott?

S. Story: Just so everybody has a full understanding of what Severance is because you asked if it was contractual, Severance, for the most part, is an individual who didn't use up all his sick time. So, when he gets ready to go out the door, he gets paid for half of his sick time. That can account for a fair chunk of change in itself – unused vacation time, unused comp time. We don't have a Severance package that says when you get done we write you a check for \$5,000.00; we're pretty much just giving these people what they have earned and not used over time. Keep in mind, too, that number is a very dynamic moving target, if you will; and a lot of that is predicated on what you folks do here. If you decide to make budget changes that necessitated layoffs, for example, those layoffs would be subject to unemployment, Severance, a number of different things we're going to end up paying on the other side. I'm just throwing that out there – that it is a moving target for us; we have retirements that we can plan on, our static numbers we can mess with; but when it comes to what's happening with....we just don't know. We also have another variable that none of us in this room have control over, and that's the destiny of our jail. Although it falls under the State, they are still talking about the possibility of closing or changing the mission. If they do that, we may have to reduce our staff by 50 percent up there; and whether that's through attrition or through layoffs, the bottom line is you are still going to have Severance issues there. So, it's a moving target, and I don't say that to tell you to throw a hundred grand into it – I'm just telling you to be cognizant of what some of the possibilities are when you make your decision.

B. Sneed: Jim?

J. Bennett: We can't afford to keep them – can't afford to get rid of them.

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin?

R. McLaughlin: We can use one line or the other – if we overdraw the Severance, we can take the Unemployment Security out of that and use it.

B. Sneed: My understanding is that the Commissioners can move money around within a department at their convenience.

J. Hyk: But, this isn't a department. I'm not saying that you're right or wrong; I don't know the answer. The Reserves do have a caption attached to them of what that money is supposed to be spent for.

B. Sneed: Oh, that's right.

J. Hyk: But, but, as I said, we do have a Contingency fund, as small as it is, which is for unanticipated emergencies. However, once you discuss something to death, I don't know that it's unanticipated.

R. Lee: The way I look at it is; if they're asking for \$30,000.00, what they're saying is that, on average, two long-time employees will leave every year because they're saying \$30,000.00 added to that kitty every year. If that's a fair appraisal that on average you lose two long-time employees each year, than maybe the \$30,000.00 is required.

D. Parkman: I don't think we've asked \$30,000.00 in that every year.

R. Lee: Oh, you haven't – this is sort of a catch up year.

J. Hyk: Exactly. Exactly. We got sort of whacked last year. We did. There wasn't that much money in it, and we used a lot of it up.

R. Lee: So, you're asking that it be boosted to \$52,500.00, which would be enough for, at \$15,000.00 a piece, that would be enough for three and a half employees. Is the count up to two? One here, and you have another?

A. Fowler: Well, actually, it's three. We know of two, and he [S. Story] knows of one.

R. Lee: You know of two long-term employees, where the number could be as high as around \$15,000.00?

A. Fowler: Correct.

D. Parkman: Let me say something else – it isn't as if this money is not going to stay there if we don't spend it. It's going to be in there for other years.

R. Lee: I understand that.

J. Hyk: This doesn't go to Surplus; this just sits there.

J. Bennett: I can't believe that each one of them would get \$15,000.00. I mean, there may be three, and if you put the...

B. Sneed: To answer Dick McLaughlin's question of a little while ago, "Purpose of accounts stated," this is for capital reserve accounts, "Once a purpose for an account is specified, any expenditure from that account must be for that purpose, unless the Department of Audits states in writing that an account for that purpose is no longer needed." That's retiring old accounts, like Scott had. So, once a purpose is stated, then it is on that, period. That answers Dick's question.

N. Nelson: Are we going to end this year with \$22,582.00 in that account, or is there...?

A. Fowler: Do we know when that guy is getting done, or one particular one? Is it before the end of this year?

B. Arseneau: To our knowledge, we haven't heard of anyone else leaving, but that's not to say that someone won't. We're looking ahead at 2009 on the knowns, and then again, we're trying to plan a little bit ahead for the unknowns.

N. Nelson: It seems like we're potentially looking at \$45,000.00 in Severance pay being paid out and having \$52,000.00 the account – that doesn't seem like a very large difference.

R. Lee: I could probably go with either \$20,000.00 or \$30,000.00 – I think \$20,000.00 is a little shy, but it will probably cover it.

B. Sneed: So, somebody make a motion.

N. Nelson: Can we amend the motion that's been made to \$25,000.00?

B. Sneed: Whoever seconded it would have to withdraw their second, and then you can remake the motion.

B. Arseneau: That was Dick McLaughlin.

R. McLaughlin: I withdraw the motion.

****N. Nelson moved, B. Sneed seconded to reduce Severance (line 0154) to \$25,000.00. Motion passed with one opposed (J. Bennett.)**

T. Biggs: The Unemployment Security line – we budgeted \$5,000 for that last year, and it's up to \$30,000.00? Is that right? Am I reading that wrong? Are there a lot more people on unemployment? What's the story?

R. McLaughlin: Not unless we, like Scott said, have to lay people off. That would be the only reason.

B. Sneed: Do you guys want to speak to that?

J. Hyk: We just felt that it's not enough money if you wind up having people terminated wrongly, because that's the same as them collecting unemployment. If you don't get it right, they get to collect the full amount, and it's very possible that two or three people could be unemployed. It's not impossible.

B. Arseneau: Even if they're not terminated wrongly, which really doesn't happen very often, if you have someone who simply cannot perform the job function during that probationary period and they have to be let go.... By the way, each department does pursue these. They don't just assume they have to pay unemployment security, especially if someone was terminated for cause; but you have to go through a series of fact-finding situations. So, if someone simply cannot perform the job function, the Unemployment folk's side with that person – they feel that they need to be covered by something until they can find employment that they're suited to. That happens more often than not.

R. Lee: Do we have any history of how much you had to take out of that account over this year and the year before? I don't see that.

J. Hyk: We can get it. That's Karen's department.

K. Trussell: I look at so many numbers, I don't remember them all. I can go down and get those for you.

R. Lee: Otherwise, it's a little hard to know what you need and add surety to that account.

R. McLaughlin: We cannot put a cocoon around every possible think that can go wrong dollar-wise – we can't do it. We have to take some risk here, whether we like it or not.

B. Sneed: Can we suspend 2045 until Karen comes back and move onto Barbara, 2040 for Records Preservation? Barb, are you up to that?

B. Arseneau: Sure.

N. Nelson: Do you need a motion or is that fine?

B. Sneed: Let's just suspend discussion on 2045 until Karen comes back with Roger's answer, and we'll go on to 2040.

RECORDS PRESERVATION (2040) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was County Commissioners and County Clerk Barbara Arseneau.

B. Arseneau: Records Preservation – I don't know if anyone has any questions or not. It deals specifically with the Waldo County Archive which sits in the upper level of the Superior Courthouse. We keep permanent records there. Right now, due to lack of space, we are also housing non-permanent records. Those are separated out in a different data system. They have a cycle that they need to be disposed of at certain points. We have put a system together for that. We're still working on that, and that will be ongoing. We have accomplished a lot with what you have allotted in the last couple of years. There were a number of books that were in a deplorable condition that have to be kept that had to be deacidified and rebound. Most of those have been done, the one's that were in the most horrible shape, and I appreciate that you allowed that to be taken care of. They are now where they belong, they can be accessed by the public as need be. We are in the process of finishing that big project. I did inherit last week four very large books from the Jail that are jail logs; they're pre-1900. We cannot dispose of those. So, I didn't ask because I didn't know that those were coming, but I'm going to put them in the Archive for now, away from the other books because I don't know their condition, I don't want to contaminate anything, but I will probably be coming back to you in 2010 with estimates for getting those done. Depending on the cost, I'll let you know whether or not it's prudent to do it all at once, because the folks that we work with will often quote us and let us keep those quotes for two or three years. That's what happened this time; that's why we were able to get this done. When I explained what was going on, they said they would hold our 2005 figures for you through 2008, and I appreciate it that you allocated the funds to get that done. When I come back next with estimates, you can talk about whether or not you want to accomplish that in one year or spread it out over a few years. I'm not going to try to tackle that this year, because I didn't know about it in time to put it in this budget.

N. Nelson: Roughly, what do you think the cost would be?

B. Arseneau: These are really big books, bigger than the ones I've done, and the biggest books we've done so far were over \$1,000.00, to de-acidify and rebind. I would say closer to \$2,000.00 for each of these.

A. Fowler: How many do you have, Barb? Four?

B. Arseneau: Four.

B. Sneed: This request is almost 60 percent lower than last year, so it's not...

N. Nelson: If we were to put \$2,000.00, and probably it wouldn't happen, to do one book this year. It seems like it's such a reduction this year, if we were to try to have some reduction but keep that, would that be something you would pursue?

B. Arseneau: I'd love to do that, if that's something you'd be willing to do, to spread it out.

N. Nelson: I think that makes sense to me, so we aren't looking at \$10,000.00 next year.

****N. Nelson moved, R. Crossman seconded to add \$2,000.00 to Records Preservation (Line 4110) to make it \$4,490.00. Motion fails with 4 in favor and five opposed (J. Bennett, R. Desmarais, R. McLaughlin, T. Biggs and B. Sneed)**

T. Biggs: Barb, these are pre-1900 jail records? Who accesses those?

B. Arseneau: Sometimes people who are trying to do....a lot of genealogists will come by to try to figure who is where and did their relatives go in jail. Even if they are not accessed, Tim, there are laws on taking care of them and treating them properly that we are bound to follow, no pun intended.

B. Sneed: You are in charge of remembering, you are the corporate memory that we have added \$2,000.00 to take care of these books.

B. Arseneau: It will be in the Minutes.

B. Sneed: We haven't voted on it, but somebody has to remember this from year to year.

J. Bennett: I'd like to see the figures on what it's going to cost.

B. Sneed: Well, there's been a motion made and a motion seconded on the increase. All in favor? All opposed? Five opposed; motion fails.

****J. Bennett moved, R. Desmarais seconded to approve Records Preservation (2040) Budget at \$2,490.00. Motion passed with one opposed (N. Nelson.)**

RESERVES (2045) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was County Commissioners and Treasurer David Parkman.

B. Sneed: We go back to Reserves (2045). Karen hands me this and it says, "In 2007, we spent \$5,818.00 on Severance, and we spent \$8,500.00 and change on Unemployment".

N. Nelson: How much on Severance?

B. Sneed: \$5,800.00 In 2008, we spent \$27,700.00 on Severance and \$1,300.00 and change on Unemployment.

R. Lee: So, we have two \$8,500.00 and \$1,500.00 were the numbers for the last couple of years on Employment Security? That's about an average of \$5,000.00 a year.

N. Nelson: I move we cut line 0134, Employment Security, to \$10,000.00.

B. Sneed: Motion made; anybody second it?

T. Biggs: I'll second that.

B. Sneed: Tim Biggs seconds. Discussion? Roger?

R. Lee: I think it could be cut to \$5,000.00. That's what we did last year, and that's what the last two years averaged.

N. Nelson: Yes, but the whole point of it is to put enough in there so that on average....If we put \$10,000.00 in this year and we use \$1,300.00, then we don't put any in next year. We can put the money into fixing the jail books.

R. Lee: My objective is to keep the tax load at a minimum this year; that's my objective, so I'm not in favor of putting extra money into accounts where I don't think it's necessary.

N. Nelson: My objective, I think, is to keep at a minimum this year, knowing that we have next year's budget a year from now.

T. Biggs: I can live with \$5,000.00, so I withdraw my second.

N. Nelson: I'll withdraw my motion and change it to \$5,000.00 I so move.

T. Biggs: I'll second that.

B. Sneed: Any other discussion?

R. Desmarais: I guess there's not much room for compromise between the two figures, huh? It's going to one or the other? \$7,500.00 wouldn't put it as tight as \$5,000 and it wouldn't put it as loose as \$10,000.00.

N. Nelson: That would be fine, too.

T. Biggs: We could vote on the \$5,000.00 first and see how it goes.

R. McLaughlin: If the \$5,000 goes, we go; if not...

B. Sneed: All for making line 0134 \$5,000.00? All opposed? Five opposed (R. Crossman, B. Sneed, R. McLaughlin, H. Potter, T. Biggs).

R. McLaughlin: I make a motion we take that line and make it \$7,500.00.

B. Sneed: I'll second it. All in favor of making line 0134 \$7,500.00? All opposed? Two opposed (J. Bennett, T. Biggs). Seventy-five hundred, it is.

****R. McLaughlin moved, B. Sneed seconded to make line 0134 \$7,500.00. Motion passed with two opposed (J. Bennett, T. Biggs.)**

D. Parkman: Before we move on, Bill, I'd like to tell you a little bit about our cash flow. When I was first Treasurer in 2003, I came on board here January 1st, my first day I came in on January 3rd

and somebody said we had to borrow money to pay the payroll. Two or three years ago, we had six or seven departments that were overspent; we were in the black countywide by only about one percent, which at the time was about \$67,000.00. Since then, the cash flow has improved; we are not borrowing money now until the second or third week in February; so, that is a savior. I did want to let you know that we are improving the last couple of years. Two or three years ago, I was quite scared as far as the assets and whether we could continue. It has been a lot better the last couple of years, as far as the cash flow goes.

B. Sneed: If I'd been able to keep track of this, we have Reserves Department (2045) – we have zero for line 0131; we have \$7,500.00 for line 0134; we have \$25,000.00 for line 0154; and we have \$50,000.00 for line 0162. That should total up to \$82,500.00, if I did my arithmetic right; Amy is checking my arithmetic, as always.

H. Potter: The total cut is a hundred nine five.

B. Sneed: Is that what it is?

****B. Sneed moved, R. McLaughlin seconded to accept the budget for Reserves (2045) at \$82,500.00. Motion passed with one opposed (N. Nelson.)**

B. Sneed: Where do we go next? I'm losing track of my sanity. Grant writing? Who is grant writing? Barb, is that you?

B. Arseneau: No, it's the Commissioners' budget.

GRANT WRITING (2050) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was County Commissioners and County Clerk Barbara Arseneau.

B. Sneed: They are requesting half of what they requested last year. We are 84 percent through the year, and that particular department has spent 74% of its budget.

J. Bennett: I would like to know how much money they've taken in from grants.

J. Hyk: It's not just this effort that would bring in money for grants, but can you answer that question, Karen? I don't think we've brought in anything at this point this year.

B. Arseneau: The stuff that's out there this year, it's been either difficult to try to obtain or it's just not appropriate for the counties – that's where we are at. That is what the research has revealed, and that is what has been done – research – at this point.

J. Hyk: You either have your hand in this or you don't, that's how it works. Sometimes it pays off; sometimes it doesn't. This year, it didn't.

T. Biggs: How did we spend that \$7,200.00 last year? Who did we hire?

J. Hyk: A contractor, the same contractor that has gotten us grant money in the past. A lot of it is research. If there is nothing there to apply for, we have to do the research before you get to apply, and this was a bad year for that.

R. Lee: Cut it in half.

J. Hyk: However, as you well know, we've had pretty good success with bringing in grant money, and we did bring in a pile of money in Emergency Management, a pile of it.

A. Fowler: That's outside of this realm.

J. Hyk: That's where the [grant] money was this year. From year to year, this stuff changes. This same person brought us in piles of money for records preservation over the last four or five years, and pulled our chestnuts out of the fire on the original Homeland Security grant that never got filed on time.

R. McLaughlin: Is this the lady who is out of state?

B. Arseneau: She has presence in the State of Maine and a presence out of the state. They are located both in state and out of state.

T. Biggs: So, did you figure that there weren't going to be as many grants available this year also?

J. Hyk: Yes, that's what we are figuring.

A. Fowler: They are not giving it away anymore.

J. Hyk: You are either in this or you can say that you can't win if you don't play. If you don't have somebody doing this, you are 100 percent that you are not going to get anything. We felt it was prudent to cut it back but not prudent to just go away from it.

B. Sneed: 1080 – is that where we usually fund Eastern Maine Development for their non-performance?

J. Hyk: That's Advertising and Promotion.

B. Arseneau: Yes.

J. Hyk: That's Promotion and so forth; do you want to talk about them first?

B. Sneed: No, no, not tonight, John.

R. Crossman: Research? Does that include grant writing?

J. Hyk: If there's something to write, yes. They'll write the grants, but you have to find something that you qualify for.

R. Crossman: Because here it says “zero for 60 hours of grant writing.”

J. Hyk: Yes, there wasn't any.

R. Crossman: If this person finds a grant to apply for, she's going to charge to write the grant?

J. Hyk: Probably.

R. Crossman: Okay.

B. Sneed: Dick?

R. McLaughlin: I guess this is for Scott – was there any law enforcement grant money that came in? That probably doesn't come under there, huh?

S. Story: Not from this venue. Dale Rowley helped us with some Homeland Security grant that we all worked together with on our radio. The only other grant I applied for that I did not get this year was the bullet-proof vest grant, and that's my fault – I missed the deadline on it. I did an Internet deal on it and didn't find the deadline on there and submitted it eight hours late, according to them. I'm still fighting with them.

R. McLaughlin: But, this person wouldn't help you any?

B. Arseneau: Actually, they did; they did try to research some stuff.

S. Story: Well, they did try to research some stuff this past year, but it didn't apply.

J. Hyk: They work with all the departments in the County.

B. Sneed: In the past, Owen has tried to dip his oar in that water and stuff.

R. Lee: It just seems to me that they've been productive in the past (they're cutting it in half), so I don't see the problem with the \$4,000.00.

****R. Lee moved, R. Crossman seconded to fund Grant Writing (2050) Budget at \$4,000.00. Unanimous.**

PROBATE (1070) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Register of Probate Sharon Peavey.

B. Sneed: Probate already? Ms. Peavey? Come on up and sit down; I think these guys would like to have you near a microphone. I have a question before we start, and I hope it's not inappropriate. I know we're not supposed to ask you about personnel, but I see three lines here under Personnel where there's a decrease. Is that a typo, or is that real?

S. Peavey: That is not a typo. We have had some shifts in our office.

B. Sneed: Anything you'd like to say off the top?

S. Peavey: Our budget, overall, is down a little over \$3,300.00 from last year. We've reduced several line items; we have asked for some capital outlay this year – \$1,000.00 for a passport camera and for a refrigerator that we need to replace.

A. Fowler: The passport camera is actually brilliant, because now you have to go somewhere else to get your pictures done and then bring them to them. Everywhere else you go, they take your picture there. I can't believe we DON'T have one.

S. Peavey: It will eventually make money for the County - we figure that after we take 85 photos, we will be making money for the County.

B. Sneed: It makes sense to me.

A. Fowler: I was just really surprised we didn't have one, actually.

B. Sneed: Dick?

R. McLaughlin: I think I agree with them on that, because to go to Canada you're going to have a passport in the future..

B. Sneed: You do now.

R. McLaughlin: And, we make money on that, right?

N. Nelson: Can we get one and put in Knox County?

R. McLaughlin: What do we charge for a passport photo?

S. Peavey: With the permission of the County Commissioners, we will ask to charge \$10.00, which would be competitive with the other places around town.

R. McLaughlin: So, the camera would pay for itself? That makes sense.

B. Sneed: I paid \$25.00 in Bangor a couple of years ago.

A. Fowler: Exactly.

S. Story: I've got a free one up at the Jail, guys!

B. Sneed: Yeah, but you've got to check in to get your picture taken.

A. Fowler: We don't want the numbers in the picture.

D. Parkman: They take a good picture up there.

B. Sneed: I didn't write dollar amounts down, but if anybody is interested, over on the second page under Contractual Commodities, Court Appointments is down – that's interesting – that's a crap shoot for you, isn't it?

S. Peavey: It is; it's unknown every year which way – it's either going to be high or low. This year, it seems to be a little low. We have fostered quite a bit in restitution against that. For example, this year we have so far spent out \$6,500.00; we have brought back in restitution a little over \$7,000.00.

B. Sneed: That's what you guys have been working towards. Any questions on any of this? Tim?

T. Biggs: Where do you fly? It says there's a travel airline.

S. Peavey: That would be for Judge Longley to attend seminars.

T. Biggs: That would also be the lodging and meals?

S. Peavey: Yes, and I believe she has only been to one this year.

B. Sneed: The auto travel last year, Tim, was way, way down...1070, let me see if I can find it. Last year, auto travel was \$1,200.00 – I don't know what they spent, but that's what they asked for and got. This year, they are asking for less, but the other three underneath that, the travel-related items, are exactly the same as they were last year.

****N. Nelson moved, R. Crossman seconded to fund Probate Court (1070) Budget at \$178,653.77. Unanimous.**

B. Sneed: Well, we're done twenty minutes ahead of the Agenda. Do we want to just stay? Does somebody want to make a motion to adjourn?

H. Potter: Who are the next ones in line for next week?

B. Sneed: Who did you guys line up for next week?

Discussion among everyone while B. Arseneau retrieved the next week's Agenda list.

B. Sneed: The tentative schedule that Barb just handed me for next week is: Communications (1076); Time & Tide (1025); Promotions (1080); EMA is Dale Rowley(1010); District Attorney (1015.)

R. Lee: I won't be able to be here next week.

B. Sneed: Are you going to send a replacement, Roger?

R. Lee: I don't know if I can.

J. Bennett: Yeah, I was going to ask you – can we do that?

B. Sneed: Barbara, can there be a stand in?

B. Arseneau: For whom?

R. Lee: If someone can't be here, can someone from Belfast just replace me for one meeting?

A. Fowler: Why couldn't they have a proxy?

B. Sneed: So, we're doing the D.A. next week, too? Well, here's the catch – we have one, two, three, four, five, six listed and four of them have stars saying it's tentative.

A. Fowler: Just keeping you guessing.

B. Arseneau: Veronica has been working ahead of schedule on this, trying to make sure we get people lined up as quickly as possible.

Recording ends abruptly here....no motion to adjourn, etc. was recorded. V. Stover's written notes indicate:

****R. Lee moved, N. Nelson seconded to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by



Veronica Stover, Deputy County Clerk