

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

January 7, 2026

At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York, being held on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, A. D. at 4:30 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard R. Dutremble
Richard Clark
Robert Andrews
Justin Chenette
Donna Ring

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

None

County Manager Greg Zinser, Deputy County Manager Linda Hutchins-Corliss, Sheriff William King, Chief Jeremy Forbes, Facilities Director Rick deRochemont, Finance Director Lori Lemieux (via Zoom), EMA Director Arthur Cleaves (via Zoom), Deputy EMA Director Megan Arsenault, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Chris McCall, Fire Administrator Rod Hooper, and Communications Specialist Catherine Derby were present at the meeting.

YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE AND SALUTE THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES.

ITEM

1. TO SELECT A COUNTY COMMISSIONER CHAIRPERSON FOR 2026

MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to nominate Commissioner Dutremble as Chair. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5:0

2. TO SELECT A COUNTY COMMISSIONER VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR 2026

MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to nominate Commissioner Andrews as Vice Chair. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5:0

3. PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)

None.

4. TO SELECT WORKFORCE CENTER DIRECTOR FOR 2026

49 **MOTION:** Commissioner Andrews moved to nominate Commissioner Clark as Workforce Center
50 Director. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.

51 Motion carried 5:0

52

53 **5. TO SELECT A SOUTHERN MAINE REGIONAL PLANNING REPRESENTATIVE FOR**
54 **2026**

55

56 **MOTION:** Commissioner Andrews moved to nominate Commissioner Ring as Southern Maine
57 Planning and Development Commission Representative. Commissioner Chenette seconded the
58 motion.

59 Motion carried 5:0

60

61 **6. TO SELECT A MCCA BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**

62

63 **MOTION:** Commissioner Dutremble moved to nominate Commissioner Chenette as MCCA Board
64 Representative. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.

65 Motion carried 5:0

66

67 **7. TO SELECT A REPRESENTATIVE TO MCCA RISK POOL**

68

69 **MOTION:** Commissioner Dutremble moved to nominate Commissioner Chenette as MCCA Risk
70 Pool Representative. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.

71 Motion carried 5:0

72

73 **8. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS**

74

75 a. Commissioners' meeting of December 3, 2025

76 Commissioner Clark made the following changes: Page 2, Add MCCA before budget process
77 "Commissioner Dutremble reported that the State's *MCCA* budget process is currently underway and
78 stated that the assessment of each county is expected to be reduced by approximately 2%."
79 Page 5, Add heating/cooling before units "The well pump, now 20 years old, is expected to fail, and the
80 courthouse's 88 *heating/cooling* units require frequent repairs."
81 Page 6, Change can to cannot "...employees, including reserve staff, *cannot* volunteer for similar duties."

82

83 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the minutes of December 3, 2025, as amended.
84 Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

85 Motion carried 5:0

86

87 b. Commissioners' meeting of December 17, 2025

88

89 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the minutes of December 17, 2025, as presented.
90 Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

91 Motion carried 3:0 with Commissioners Ring and Dutremble abstaining

92

93 **8. TO ADOPT ROBERT'S RULES OF GOVERNANCE AS A GUIDE FOR CONDUCTING**
94 **2026 COMMISSIONER MEETINGS**

95

96 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to adopt Robert's Rules of Governance as a guide for
97 conducting 2026 Commissioner meetings. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

98 **Motion carried 5:0**

100

101 **10. TO SELECT A DAY AND TIME FOR CONDUCTING REGULAR COUNTY**

102 **COMMISSIONER MEETINGS FOR 2026**

103 1ST and 3RD Wednesdays beginning at 4:30pm on the following dates:
104 January 7, January 21, February 4, February 25, March 4, March 18, April 1, April 8, May
105 6, May 20, June 3, June 17 if needed, July 1, July 15 if needed, August 5, August 19 if
106 needed, September 2, September 16, October 7, October 21, November 4, November 18,
107 December 2, December 16

108

109 County Manager Zinser noted there were two changes to the agenda since it was sent last Friday and an
110 addendum was necessary. Item 16 was added at HR's request to review an additional leave of absence.
111 Item 10 at his request, requesting a change to the February meeting schedule: instead of meeting on
112 February 4 and February 18 (first and third Wednesdays), he asked to move the second meeting to
113 February 25, making February meetings on the first and fourth Wednesdays. This change is a personal
114 request to align with school vacation.

115

116 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to set the dates and times of 2026 regular Commissioners'**
117 **meetings as presented noting that circumstances change and meetings can be rescheduled, or**
118 **additional meetings posted if necessary.**

119 Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

120 **Motion carried 4:1 with Commissioner Chenette opposing**

121

122 **11. TO REVIEW AND ADOPT POLICIES FOR 2026 AS FOLLOWS:**

123 a. **MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE** (Manager recommends the 2024 rate of .67)

124

125 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to approve the mileage reimbursement rate for 2026 as**
126 **presented. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.**

127 **Motion carried 5:0**

128

129 b. **MEALS ON COUNTY BUSINESS RATE** (\$15.00-breakfast, \$20.00 lunch, \$25.00
130 dinner or \$60.00 per diem)

131 ***Special note:** When the event you are attending includes any of the meals you are
132 required to take part in the meal. If you are staying at a hotel that provides
133 breakfast, you must utilize the breakfast provided by the hotel. In these instances,
134 the amounts stated above will be deducted from the per diem rate. ***RECEIPTS
135 REQUIRED***

136 **Upon request, the County Manager may adjust the reimbursement rates based on**
137 **prevailing circumstances.**

138

139 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to approve the meals on county business rate for 2026 as**
140 **presented. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.**

141 **Motion carried 5:0**

142

143 c. **POLICE/ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTS** (Manager recommends 2021
144 rate of \$20.00)

146 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the police/accident/incident rate for 2026 as
147 presented. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
148 Motion carried 5:0

149
150 d. **BACKGROUND CHECKS FEES** (manager recommends Sheriff's 2023 rate of
151 \$20.00)
152

153 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the background check fees for 2026 as
154 presented. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
155 Motion carried 5:0

156 e. **NOTARIZATION/ATTESTATION FEES** (manager recommends 2020 rate of
157 \$5.00/\$10.00)
158

159 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the notarization/attestation fees for 2026 as
160 presented. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
161 Motion carried 5:0

162
163 Commissioner Donna Ring referenced Maine Statute MRSA 30-A §421, which authorizes counties to
164 charge administrative fees for civil process services. Currently, the county charges \$5 for these fees. The
165 statute permits an increase up to \$25.
166

167 Commissioners discussed the potential revenue benefit and agreed that the county should adjust the fee
168 schedule to reflect the maximum allowed amount.
169

170 **MOTION:** Commissioner Ring moved to increase administrative fees through civil process by
171 \$25.00 as permitted by statute. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
172 Motion carried 5:0

173
174 12. **TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**
175 a. Warrants to be approved on December 17, 2025, in the amount of \$861,774.27
176

177 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the warrant dated December 17, 2025, in the
178 amount of \$861,774.27. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
179 Motion carried 5:0

180
181 b. Warrants to be approved on December 24, 2025, in the amount of \$1,838,757.95
182

183 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the warrant dated December 24, 2025, in the
184 amount of \$1,838,757.95. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
185 Motion carried 5:0

186
187 c. Warrants to be approved on December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$610,769.59
188

189 **MOTION:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the warrant dated December 31, 2025, in the
190 amount of \$610,769.59. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
191 Motion carried 5:0

192
193 13. **TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**
194

195 Commissioner Clark shared that he received an email earlier today informing him of the passing of
196 Commissioner Betty Johnson from Waldo County. Betty served as a commissioner for about 15 years, and
197 Commissioner Clark worked with her for the last nine years on the Coastal County Workforce Board. He
198 noted that many others may have met her at various functions. Commissioner Clark described her as a
199 lovely woman who worked very hard for many years, contributing significantly to her town and county.
200 He expressed that she will be missed.

201
202 Commissioner Chenette noted that although the topic was not on the agenda, he wanted to revisit the
203 discussion about repurposing the courthouse. Since the last meeting, he has received feedback from
204 constituents expressing interest in holding a public hearing or similar event to gather public input. He
205 emphasized the importance of planning for public participation and suggested forming a stakeholder
206 committee, possibly after the public hearing, to explore scenarios and develop recommendations for the
207 board. Commissioner Chenette stressed keeping this issue at the forefront and determining when to
208 schedule these steps.

209
210 County Manager Zinser acknowledged that courthouse repurposing has not been a top priority but agreed
211 to prepare and share a public hearing notice. He emphasized caution in approaching the issue, noting that
212 the discussion stems from an offer by Sanford Housing to swap buildings. County Manager Zinser
213 explained that if the board agrees to the swap, it could significantly increase affordable housing in the
214 area. However, if the board is not interested in the swap, there is no need to consider alternative uses for
215 the courthouse, as staff would remain in the current building. He clarified that the decision is narrowly
216 focused on whether to proceed with the building exchange.

217
218 Commissioner Ring asked whether there is a breakdown of the budgetary cost to maintain the building.

219
220 County Manager Zinser responded that there is a lot going on, and they are working on it as time permits.
221 He emphasized that an immediate answer is not necessary but acknowledged that communications are
222 coming in. County Manager Zinser stated he will draft a carefully crafted notice, share it for input before
223 posting, and expects this to happen sometime in February.

224
225 Commissioner Dutremble noted that recent media reports have highlighted challenges faced by some
226 county governments. He emphasized that York county government is currently in the best financial
227 position it has been in 20 years. In 2007, the county had a negative fund balance of \$1.2 million; today,
228 the fund balance is approximately \$8 million. He reported that the county has expanded services for
229 taxpayers, including the opening of a new training center this spring and the anticipated opening of the
230 recovery center in October or November. Commissioner Dutremble highlighted that the county was the
231 first county incorporated in Maine and continues to lead by example in providing services to taxpayers.
232 He expressed pride in completing projects over his 20-year tenure and announced that he will not seek re-
233 election.

234
235 County Manager Zinser acknowledged Commissioner Dutremble's comments and expressed concern
236 about recent negative media coverage of other counties across the state. He emphasized that our county
237 should not be grouped into that category, noting that we are financially strong and actively investing in
238 major regional projects, including the recovery center, training center, and customary county functions.
239 County Manager Zinser highlighted that the county will also be covering the upfront costs of the Old
240 Orchard Beach dredging project, estimated at \$5–\$6 million, while awaiting federal reimbursement. He
241 explained that this is why the county is pursuing a line of credit as a precaution, given potential delays in
242 federal funding. He stated that internal discussions are underway regarding how best to communicate
243 these facts publicly and requested commissioner feedback before any messaging is released. County

244 Manager Zinser stressed the importance of transparency and timely response to counter negative
245 perceptions.

246

247 **14. NEW BUSINESS**

248

249 a. Deputy County Manager/HR Director Linda Hutchins-Corliss to present new hires/transfers:
250 i. To seek hiring approval of Matthew Beerworth in the full-time position of Patrol Deputy
251 in the YC Sheriff's office with an effective date of January 12, 2026.

252 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to approve the hiring of Matthew Beerworth in the position**
253 **of Patrol Deputy in the Sheriff's office with an effective date of January 12, 2026. Commissioner**
254 **Andrews seconded the motion.**

255 **Motion carried 5:0**

256 ii. To seek hiring approval of Alexandrea Staples in the full-time position of Finance
257 Compliance Specialist in the Finance office with an effective date of January 12, 2026.

258

259 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to approve the hiring of Alexandrea Staples in the position**
260 **of Finance Compliance Specialist in the Finance office with an effective date of January 12,**
261 **2026. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.**

262 **Motion carried 5:0**

263 iii. To seek hiring approval of Jackson Schramm in the position of Reserve Public Safety
264 Instructor II in the YC Regional Training Center office with an effective date of January 8,
265 2026.

266

267 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to approve the hiring of Jackson Schramm in the position**
268 **of Reserve Public Safety Instructor II in the YC Regional Training Center office with an effective**
269 **date of January 8, 2026. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.**

270 **Motion carried 5:0**

271 iv. To seek hiring approval of Rosario Cordoglio in the position of full-time Court Security
272 Officer II in the Sheriff's office with an effective date of January 26, 2026.

273

274 Commissioner Ring raised concerns regarding a recently rewritten position, questioning whether the
275 changes were made specifically for an individual who initially applied for a part-time role and, within six
276 weeks, transitioned into a full-time position. Commissioner Ring noted that the individual is a second
277 cousin of the Sheriff and expressed discomfort with the perception that the position may have been
278 tailored for this candidate.

279

280 HR Director Hutchins-Corliss assured the Commissioners that the position was not created for a specific
281 individual and that the hiring process followed standard HR procedures. She acknowledged that the
282 individual was not the preferred candidate initially but confirmed that the process was fair and compliant.
283 HR Director Hutchins-Corliss also addressed questions about reclassification of existing positions,
284 explaining that reclassification will occur once the new hire is in place. She noted that this approach is
285 consistent with past practice, where adjustments for similar positions are made collectively after filling
286 the role.

287

288 Commissioner Chenette sought clarification on the hiring process for the recently discussed position. He
289 asked whether the individual was considered an internal candidate for a publicly posted position and

290 requested HR Director Linda Hutchins-Corliss to walk through the steps of the process to ensure
291 understanding.

292
293 HR Director Hutchins-Corliss explained the hiring process for the position in question. The role was
294 originally part-time and became vacant when the previous employee moved to a reserve position. The
295 candidate was not an internal applicant, as he resides in Texas, but had worked for the county several
296 years ago as a corrections officer.

297
298 Due to limited qualified applicants for the part-time posting and concerns that part-time hires often leave
299 for full-time opportunities, HR recommended converting the position to full-time. The candidate
300 submitted a letter of interest for the full-time role and went through the standard hiring process, including
301 reference checks and background checks, despite his prior employment with the county. HR Director
302 Hutchins-Corliss noted that eight applications were received, but only two were considered qualified, and
303 the selected candidate met the necessary qualifications.

304
305 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to approve the hiring of Rosario Cordoglio in the position
306 of full-time Court Security Officer II in the Sheriff's office with an effective date of January 26,
307 2026. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.**

308 **Motion carried 4:1 with Commissioner Ring opposing**

309 b. To Review and Approve Waterboro Law Enforcement Agreement
310

311 County Manager Zinser presented the Waterboro Law Enforcement Agreement, noting that similar
312 agreements for Acton and Shapleigh will be reviewed at the next meeting. He explained that this
313 agreement reflects significant changes in how such contracts are structured; addressing concerns about
314 staffing and vehicle use.

315 Key changes include:

- 316 • Staffing Flexibility: The agreement now specifies "up to 80 hours per week" rather than a fixed
317 number of hours. This allows the Sheriff's Office to adjust coverage based on staffing availability
318 while maintaining its primary patrol responsibilities. If fewer hours are provided, the town is
319 billed only for actual hours worked.
- 320 • Vehicle Provision: Previously, towns purchased vehicles upfront. Under the new model, the
321 county will purchase vehicles and lease them to towns at an hourly rate (approximately \$9 per
322 hour), calculated based on the vehicle cost over three years and 2,080 annual hours. Upfitting
323 costs will be added to the lease value.
- 324 • Operational Consistency: Vehicles will remain part of the county fleet and will not be designated
325 exclusively for a specific town, reducing disputes over vehicle use.

326 County Manager Zinser emphasized that these changes aim to improve flexibility, transparency, and cost
327 management while continuing to meet contractual obligations.

328
329 Commissioner Ring sought clarification on whether towns still receive law enforcement coverage when
330 contract deputies are reassigned. County Manager Zinser confirmed that calls are always responded to
331 and prioritized, and routine patrols continue to cover those areas when contract deputies are unavailable.
332 County Manager Zinser noted that the only significant changes to the Waterboro agreement were the "up
333 to 80 hours" language and the shift to county-owned, leased vehicles. He also mentioned that language
334 regarding vehicle maintenance was removed since it is now the county's responsibility. Commissioner
335 Ring expressed support for standardizing contract language across towns, acknowledging the
336 administrative challenges these agreements present.

337

338 **MOTION: Commissioner Chenette moved to approve the Waterboro Law Enforcement Agreement**
339 **as presented. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.**
340 **Motion carried 5:0**

341 c. Training Center Update

342 Fire Administrator Roger Hooper reported significant progress toward opening the York County Regional
343 Training Center and outlined current and future programming plans. The center will focus on four core
344 areas: EMS education and training, law enforcement, fire/rescue, and wellness and resiliency.

345 Key updates include:

- 346 • EMS Program: A position for EMS Program Manager has been posted, with four applicants. The
347 first priority will be applying for state licensing as an EMS training center, enabling expansion
348 into advanced programs such as paramedic training in partnership with the community college.
- 349 • Wellness and Resiliency: Two public safety instructors, Matt Leach and Jill Belleard, are leading
350 this program. A steering committee of psychologists, doctors, and public safety professionals has
351 been formed. Initiatives include *Project Homefront*, aimed at supporting first responders and their
352 families.
- 353 • Fire Training: The first Firefighter I Academy class began Saturday with 28 students—the largest
354 class in 20 years. Forty applications were received, with some declined due to lack of fire
355 department affiliation.
- 356 • Law Enforcement Training: Work continues to expand offerings, including collaboration with the
357 community college to bring its criminal justice program to the center. An updated MOU with the
358 college is expected later this month.
- 359 • Near-Term Goals: Finalize agreements with the college, secure EMS licensing, expand
360 corrections and 911/dispatch training, and plan an opening ceremony for May (pending
361 congressional schedules).
- 362 • Community Outreach: The center is active on Facebook and has a dedicated website listing
363 training schedules. Programs include the Sheriff's Citizens Police Academy and partnerships with
364 TD Bank and AAA for senior driving safety.

365 Fire Administrator Hooper emphasized that schedules would evolve monthly and noted strong community
366 support and engagement as the center moves toward full operation.

367 Commissioner Clark commended the progress on the Regional Training Center, noting that the building
368 looks excellent and expressing appreciation for the efforts of Fire Administrator Hooper, the County
369 Manager, and the construction teams. He then asked for clarification on the process and timeline for
370 obtaining licensure as a Maine EMS training center, requesting details on the steps involved.

371 Fire Administrator Hooper explained that obtaining licensure as a Maine EMS training center will take
372 approximately 9 months to one year. The process requires developing specific policies, securing
373 accreditation, and maintaining affiliation with a college, hence the partnership with York County
374 Community College. Additionally, a qualified program manager must be in place to meet Maine EMS and
375 accreditation board criteria.

376 Fire Administrator Hooper noted that achieving licensure will allow the county to operate its own EMT
377 training programs rather than functioning as a satellite under Southern Maine Community College. This
378 change will streamline administration and give the county greater control over program development and
379 delivery.

386 Commissioner Ring asked whether the Regional Training Center website is separate from the county's
387 website. Fire Administrator Hooper confirmed that it is part of the county site and can be accessed at
388 <https://www.yorkcountymaine.gov/rtc>

389
390 Commissioner Dutremble asked whether there are plans for the Regional Training Center to become a
391 certified law enforcement academy in the future. Fire Administrator Hooper responded that discussions
392 are underway with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA), and a meeting is scheduled to explore
393 this possibility.

394
395 County Manager Zinser confirmed that discussions with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA)
396 are ongoing and productive. He noted that MCJA has requested the county to host another part-time
397 officer certification course in February, which the county can accommodate, with another session already
398 scheduled for June or July.

399
400 County Manager Zinser acknowledged that offering the full 18-week law enforcement academy would
401 represent a significant shift from long-standing state practices and bureaucracy. He emphasized that the
402 county's goal is not to replace MCJA but to supplement and expand training opportunities. Conversations
403 with MCJA have been positive, and Zinser expressed confidence that progress will continue. He also
404 mentioned exploring additional opportunities with federal law enforcement agencies.

405
406 d. EMA's Community Emergency Response Team Update
407

408 EMA Deputy Director Megan Arsenault provided an overview of the Community Emergency Response
409 Team (CERT) program, which York County EMA relaunched in January 2025 after completing "Train the
410 Trainer" certification in late 2024. CERT trains community volunteers to assist before, during, and after
411 emergencies, supporting first responders and municipalities.

412 Key Highlights:

- 413 • Team Growth: CERT has grown to 42 active, trained, and credentialed members from across York
414 County, representing diverse backgrounds including EMTs, firefighters, retired healthcare
415 professionals, and community volunteers.
- 416 • Roles and Functions:
 - 417 ○ Non-disaster roles: Public outreach, preparedness education, staffing first aid booths,
418 crowd management, and assisting with large event planning.
 - 419 ○ Disaster roles: Basic first aid, utility control, small fire suppression, light search and
420 rescue, shelter support, traffic and crowd control, debris removal, donations management,
421 and emergency communications.
- 422 • Training:
 - 423 ○ Basic CERT curriculum covers preparedness, medical skills, disaster psychology, radio
424 use, and incident management.
 - 425 ○ Ongoing monthly training and specialized courses such as CPR, Stop the Bleed, mass
426 feeding, and de-escalation techniques.
- 427 • Community Engagement: CERT participated in events like Kennebunkport's National Night Out
428 and continues outreach through tabling events and social media.

429 Accomplishments in First Year:

- 430 • 3 credentialed CERT instructors (Megan Arsenault, Scott Gagne, Stephanie Collins).
- 431 • Hosted three 21-hour CERT Basic Training Academy cohorts.
- 432 • Assisted with two major public safety events: Old Orchard Beach Fireworks (75,000 attendees)
433 and Kennebunkport Christmas Prelude.
- 434 • Conducted 11 outreach events and 9 team trainings/exercises.

435 • Maintained 42 active members.

436 Goals for 2026:

437 • Host two CERT Basic Training Academies (spring and fall), possibly a third if time allows.

438 • Train additional course instructors from within the team for greater involvement.

439 • Establish a field leadership program for CERT Team Leads to strengthen emergency leadership

440 skills.

441 • Expand municipal awareness of CERT as a resource.

442 • Continue monthly skills sessions and exercises to maintain readiness.

443 • Recruitment process includes a volunteer interest form, brief interview, paperwork, and

444 background check. A QR code and EMA contact information are available for sign-ups.

445 EMA Deputy Director Arsenault emphasized that CERT has exceeded expectations in its first year and

446 will continue to grow as a vital resource for York County emergency preparedness.

448 Commissioner Chenette expressed appreciation for the CERT program and requested a breakdown of the

449 current 42 active members by commissioner district to assist with outreach efforts. He also asked about

450 the ideal number of participants for active CERT membership. EMA Deputy Director Arsenault

451 responded that while there is no minimum requirement for CERT classes, maintaining consistent

452 participation typically requires a larger pool of volunteers. With 42 active members currently, the program

453 aims to approximately double that number over the next one to two years to ensure adequate coverage.

454 She agreed to provide the requested district-level membership data to commissioners.

455

456 Commissioner Dutremble noted that York County EMA is recognized as the best in the State.

457

458 e. Contract Ratification – FOP (executive session first – §405 (6)(D) union negotiations

460 **Motion: Commissioner Clark motioned to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)**

461 **(D) to consider a leave of absence extension request. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.**

462 **Motion carried 5:0.**

463

464 **Motion: Commissioner Clark motioned to come out of executive session. Commissioner Andrews**

465 **seconded the motion.**

466 **Motion carried 5:0**

467

468 **Motion: Commissioner Chenette moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between**

469 **the County of York and the Fraternal Order of Police. Commissioner Andrews seconded the**

470 **motion.**

471 **Motion carried 5:0**

472

473 f. Schedule poverty abatement for February 4, 2026

474

475 **MOTION: Commissioner Clark moved to schedule the poverty abatement hearing for February 4,**

476 **2026. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.**

477 **Motion carried 5:0**

478

479 **15. OLD BUSINESS**

480

481 None.

482

483 16. TO CONDUCT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PERSONNEL ISSUES PURSUANT
484 TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A), ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY OR
485 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C), LABOR
486 NEGOTIATIONS PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) AND CONSULTATION
487 WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E), REVIEW OF
488 CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (F)
489

490 a. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A) Personnel matters – Leave of absence
491 extension I
492 b. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A) Personnel matters – Leave of absence
493 extension II
494

495 **Motion:** Commissioner Clark motioned to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)
496 (A) to consider 2 leaves of absence extension request. Commissioner Ring seconded the motion.
497 Motion carried 5:0.
498

499 **Motion:** Commissioner Clark motioned to come out of executive session. Commissioner Andrews
500 seconded the motion.
501 Motion carried 5:0
502

503 **Motion:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the first request for an extension of a leave of
504 absence for a period until April 12, 2026. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion.
505 Motion carried 5:0
506

507 **Motion:** Commissioner Clark moved to approve the second request for an extension of a leave of
508 absence for a period until March 20, 2026. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion.
509 Motion carried 5:0
510

511 17. PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)
512 None.
513

514 18. ADJOURN
515 **Motion:** Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
516 Motion carried 5:0
517

518 Meeting adjourned at 6:13pm.
519

520 Respectfully Submitted,
521

522 Patricia Murray
523 Executive Assistant to the County Manager
524



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Alfred, ME 04002

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January 15, 2026

TO: York County Commissioners
FROM: Linda Hutchins-Corliss
Deputy County Manager
RE: Recruitment & Hiring of Employees Age 16 & 17

Although the County does not specifically have a policy against hiring individuals under the age of 18, as a practice we have not focused recruitment on this age group. Although, full and part time county positions may not be ideal for students due to scheduling and time restrictions, there may be some opportunities for students to work in "reserve" and or "temporary" positions.

Examples may include assisting with administrative tasks, classroom preparation and community outreach. And in return, the county can provide valuable educational and mentoring opportunities for local students.

Human Resources is aware of Maine State Labor laws, rules and regulations around the hiring of individuals within this age group and would work with department leaders to ensure compliance.

We are not seeking to change current policy, as there is no existing restriction, however, we just wanted County Commissioners to be aware that county leaders are open to the possibility of hiring qualified applicants that may fall within this age group.

Maine Hiring Rules for Ages 16 and 17

Work Permit

Not required for ages 16–17 (only under 16 need permits).

Allowed Hours

Condition	Hours	Time Restrictions
School Days	Up to 6 hrs/day (8 hrs last school day), 24 hrs/week	7 a.m. – 10:15 p.m.
Non-school Days / Vacations	Up to 10 hrs/day, 50 hrs/week	5 a.m. – Midnight

Prohibited Work

Cannot work in hazardous occupations, including:

- Operating heavy machinery
- Roofing, excavation, demolition
- Driving motor vehicles
- Working with explosives or in confined spaces

Employer Requirements

- Maintain accurate daily time records (start/end times, total hours)
- Follow both Maine and federal laws (apply stricter rule if they differ)