



Cumberland County

Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes - Draft

27 Northport Dr
Portland, ME 04103

The Board meets on the third Monday of each month at 5:30pm in the Peter Feeney Room unless otherwise noted.

Monday, June 16, 2025

5:30 PM

**Feeney Conference Room, County
Courthouse, 205 Newbury St,
Portland ME 04101**

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting at the Cumberland County Courthouse in the Peter Feeney Conference Room, the meeting was called to Order by Chair Stephen Gorden at 5:36 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Present: 5 - Chair Stephen Gorden, Vice Chair Patricia Smith, Commissioner Jean-Marie Caterina, Commissioner Tom Tyler, and Commissioner James Cloutier

County Staff:

James Gailey, County Manager
Kevin Joyce, County Sheriff
Tim Kortess, Jail Major
Brian Pellerin, Chief Deputy
Kerry Joyce, Captain
Donald Goulet, Labor Relations Specialist

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

[CD 25-016](#) Approval of the minutes, May 19, 2025, meeting of the Board of Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Caterina, seconded by Commissioner Tyler, that this Minutes Report be APPROVED. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

INFORMATIONAL REPORT/PRESENTATIONS

[CD 25-017](#) The Cumberland County Jail Board of Visitors will present the 2024 Annual Report to the Cumberland County Commissioners.

Sheriff Joyce introduced the Chair of the Jail Board of Visitors (JBOV), Colleen Hilton, who presented the annual report to the Board of Commissioners. The JBOV members include Karen White (present), Garrett Stewart, William Baker, Amanda Place, Haley Virusso, and Kylie Wilkins O'Brien. Chair Hilton summarized the JBOV report and gave some recommendations for

improvements that were outlined in the report. Chair Hilton complimented County Jail staff on their ability to manage stressful situations and work in an environment with many challenges.

This Report was RECEIVED AND FILED.

[CD 25-018](#)

Informational - Notice of Renewal of the Safety and Health Award for Public Employers (SHAPE) awarded to Cumberland County Regional Communications Center from the State of Maine, Department of Labor 2025-2028.

This Report was RECEIVED AND FILED.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Board Chair will limit comments to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Chair Gorden opened the public comment period at 5:55 pm.

The following members from the public spoke about their concern regarding the County's contract with the Federal Government and operations of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the community.

Todd Chretien, Portland; Peach Cushing, Brunswick; Benny Styball, Portland; Dr Gwendolyn Tuttle, Portland; Dr Jennifer Brewer, Kittery; Brendan McQuade, Portland; Ella Tabaskki, Brunswick; Becca May, Brunswick; Jonica, Portland; Lee Chisolm, Freeport; Margaret, Windham; Deanie, Falmouth; Shelby Leighton, South Portland; Halley Hers, Portland; Alex Barber, Portland; Noah, Portland; Ben Rosenlum, Portland; Brian Tainter, Portland; Nicollette, Portland; Michaela Kyifer, Portland; Ashley Schumacher, Freeport; Stella Hava, Portland; Geneva Shimik, Brunswick; Caroline Clevel, Portland; Samuel Bogs, Brunswick; Riley, Cumberland County; Annie, Mammoth; Sasha, Brunswick; Shreas, Brunswick; Zoe, Portland; Kate, Brunswick; Samya, Brunswick; Martha, Portland; Maria, Westbrook; Chandler Clothier, Lewiston; Tim, Portland; Julia, Portland; and Amy Stunus, Portland.

Todd Chretien submitted a petition to Sheriff Joyce on behalf of individuals opposing the County's relationship with ICE. Todd stated that he is looking forward to meeting with some of the County Commissioners on July 9, 2025 to discuss their group's concerns. Speakers expressed concern about being frustrated with the current government's practice of Immigration Law and the Cumberland County Commissioners contract with the Federal Government.

Cumberland County Sheriff Kevin Joyce spoke and stated that the county jail accepts inmates with probable cause as required by law. He addressed the concerns of the public and stated that he does not practice enforcement of Immigration Law. He stated that the County Jail is responsible for the welfare of the inmates and does not withhold water or food or engage in illegal practices. He and his department are responsible for the safety of the public and will continue to follow the law and follow due process.

Commissioner Cloutier acknowledged the public's concern regarding the practices of ICE. He understands the concern with the Federal Government Contract but pointed out that ICE is a National organization and moves many of its inmates without warning and cycles them through different locations without access to their families or attorneys. ICE inmates in Cumberland County Jail will go before one of the excellent local judges, who will ensure that the inmates will not be moved for the duration of their case. He emphasized that the Board of Commissioners will not tolerate illegal, unlawful and cruel practices. It's a complicated situation and turning away ICE inmates from the County Jail is a possibility but may be unwise and needs further discussion at the upcoming meeting. He agreed with the public's criticism that misconduct by sworn law enforcement officers nationally is

completely unacceptable and echoed Sheriff Joyce's opposition to that conduct. He noted that Sheriff Joyce shares the same attitude that former Portland Police Chief Michael Chitwood had 25 years ago, enforcing immigration is not a local law enforcement matter. Holding people without probable cause is not consistent with the Cumberland County Jail practices. He stated that the Board of Commissioners does not have control over the federal government and stressed the importance of voting.

Commissioner Jean-Marie thanked the public and sympathized with their concerns and the importance of standing up. She shared that her great-grandfather, an immigrant, died from burns he sustained in Monument Square in Portland when the Ku Klux Klan set his hot dog stand on fire in the 1920s in Portland. She is horrified to hear reports of masked local law enforcement agents taking people; however, she has not seen evidence of that activity in Maine or in Cumberland County. The County jail does have a pod that is used by the Federal Government, not just ICE, but includes the Federal Marshals and the FBI. She echoed Sheriff Joyce stating that the Jail is only accepting those with probable cause and then following due process, exactly as outlined by the Jail Board of Visitors report. She noted that she participated in demonstrations in the 60's and continues to participate in demonstrations and recognizes the importance of listening to the public. She closed saying that while she can't speak for the other commissioners she is concerned about the country.

Commissioner Smith thanked the public for their input, she stressed the importance of sharing their experiences and recognizes their story. She is looking forward to continuing the discussion at the upcoming meeting and hopes to find a better way and work with them in the future.

Commissioner Tyler thanked everyone for speaking tonight and speaking intelligently and respectfully. His priority is that the County follows the law and he has not heard anything about the County Sheriff violating due process. He is interested in learning more about improving the situation. He stated that he was unsure what that would look like but he encouraged feedback from the group and looked forward to learning more from the July 9 meeting with the other commissioners and Sheriff Joyce.

Chair Gorden thanked the public for their input and that there is a lot of support for the efforts and echoed Commissioner Cloutier that the public remember to vote.

Chair Gorden closed public comment at 7:08 pm. Chair Gorden closed public comment at 7:08 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Smith requested that Agenda Item 25-056 be moved from the Consent Agenda to New Business for further discussion. There were no objections.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Cloutier, seconded by Commissioner Caterina, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Gorden, Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Caterina, Commissioner Tyler, and Commissioner Cloutier

No: 0

[25-055](#) Authorize the County Manager to execute the Regional Assessing Contract between the Town of Gorham and Cumberland County.

This Order was APPROVED.

[25-057](#) Agreement for Law Enforcement services by and between Cumberland County,

the Cumberland County Sheriff, and the inhabitants of the Town of Chebeague Island.

This Order was APPROVED.

[25-058](#)

Authorization of the Law Enforcement Services Contract between Cumberland County, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, and the Town of Long Island from June 2025 to September 2025.

This Order was APPROVED.

NEW BUSINESS

[25-056](#)

Authorization of County staff to execute a contract with MetLife for a Paid Family Medical Leave Policy and Life Insurance Policy.

County Manager Gailey outlined the benefits of offering a private medical leave insurance plan for employees.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Smith, seconded by Commissioner Cloutier, that the Order be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Gorden, Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Caterina, Commissioner Tyler, and Commissioner Cloutier

No: 0

[25-059](#)

Appointment of Finance Director Theresa Grover to serve as Cumberland County's Treasurer beginning July 1, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Cloutier, that the Order be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Gorden, Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Caterina, Commissioner Tyler, and Commissioner Cloutier

No: 0

[25-060](#)

Adoption of Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters Local 340, Corrections Supervisors July 2025 - June 2028

A motion was made by Commissioner Cloutier, seconded by Commissioner Caterina, that the Order be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Gorden, Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Caterina, Commissioner Tyler, and Commissioner Cloutier

No: 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

[25-061](#)

To enter into executive session Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) for the discussion regarding the Lease Agreement between Power Play, LLC and Cumberland County.

Time Into Executive Session: 7:53 pm.

A motion was made by Commissioner Caterina, seconded by Commissioner

Cloutier, that the Executive Session be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Gorden, Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Caterina, Commissioner Tyler, and Commissioner Cloutier

No: 0

Time Out of Executive Session: 9:21 pm.

A motion was made by Commissioner Caterina, seconded by Vice Chair Smith, that the Executive Session be CONCLUDED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Gorden, Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Caterina, Commissioner Tyler, and Commissioner Cloutier

No: 0

Next Meeting: July 21, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jean-Marie Caterina, seconded by James Cloutier, to ADJOURN the meeting. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.