



- b. H.R. Director Linda Corliss to request approval for the following new hires:
  - i. Nicki Fowlie in the position of reserve Fire Instructor II in EMA with a start date of 6-06-22
  - ii. Steven D. Broy in the position of Deputy in the Sheriff's Office with a start date of 6-13-2022
- c. Review and see approval of contract with Biddeford Housing
- d. EMA updates
  - i. vaccine Center discussion
  - ii. extension of civil state of emergency
- e. Set dates and times for Commissioner walk throughs of Layman Way Recovery Center and courthouse

**6 OLD BUSINESS**

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

**8 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

**9 ADJOURN**

1 **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2 **May 18, 2022**

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5 *YORK,ss*

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7 At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and  
8 holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York,  
9 being held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

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12 **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

- 13
- 14 Richard R. Dutremble
- 15 Richard Clark
- 16 Robert Andrews
- 17 Allen Sicard
- 18 Donna Ring
- 19

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22 County Manager Gregory Zinser and Deputy County Manager Linda Corliss were present at the  
23 meeting.

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25  
26 **YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE AND SALUTE THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES**

27  
28 **05-18-22 ITEM**

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30 **1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

31 Susan Wiswell asked if the two funds have enough money in them to cover  
32 the audit transfers listed on the agenda? The County Manager replied, yes.  
33 Susan Wiswell questioned in the Audit RFP, the peer review for quality control  
34 completed by Rodriquez and Company of RHR Smith (contained in pages 3-5) and  
35 asked what, if any would be the impact on the county? County Manager Zinser  
36 replied that the County's initial take on that is nothing. It won't affect our audit in  
37 any way.

38 Rachel Sherman referred to an item on the agenda tonight regarding Commissioner  
39 Ring and stated that she was reading a collaborative message from the members of  
40 the MSEA, FOP Union and NCEU. She added that these Union members represent  
41 the majority of hard-working men and women of York County. Ms. Sherman  
42 continued to relay a message that included giving thanks to Commissioner Ring for  
43 her many years of dedicated service and seeking transparency. She thanked  
44 Commissioner Ring (on behalf of all York County Union members) for showing  
45 the courage to ask the difficult questions.

46 Janet Drew addressed the Board via ZOOM and asked if there will be more  
47 opportunities for local groups to have more sessions when the second round of  
48 ARPA money arrives? Ms. Drew added that she knows that Kittery Housing got  
49 some money but that she just appalled at how desperate the housing situation is.



50 Commissioner Sicard replied that the Commissioners are already working on the  
51 second round of funding as it has been included in the total amount.

52  
53 **2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

- 54 a. Commissioners meeting of May 4, 2022  
55 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes as presented.  
56 Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 4-1 with Commissioner  
57 Dutremble abstaining as he was not present at this meeting.  
58

59  
60 **3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**

- 61 a. Warrants to be approved on May 4, 2022, in the amount of \$581,204.99  
62 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve this warrant. Commissioner  
63 Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.  
64 b. Warrants to be approved on May 11, 2022 in the amount of \$496,270.43  
65 c. Commissioner Clark motioned to approve this warrant. Commissioner  
66 Dutremble seconded the motion.  
67 Vote 5-0.  
68

69 **4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY**  
70 **COMMISSIONERS**

71 None  
72

73 **5 NEW BUSINESS**

- 74 a. H.R. Director Linda Corliss to request approval for the following new  
75 hires:  
76 i. Leslie Gastonguay in the position of Restitution Clerk in the District  
77 Attorney's Office with a start date of 5-23-22  
78 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Leslie Gastonguay in  
79 the position of Restitution Clerk in the District Attorney's Office with a start  
80 date of 5-23-2022. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.  
81 ii. Jeffrey Regan in the position of Deputy in the Sheriff's Office with a  
82 start date of 6-6-22-  
83 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring. Commissioner  
84 Dutremble seconded the motion.  
85 Discussion: Commissioner Ring asked what Mr. Regan's starting rate of pay.  
86 will be. H.R. Director Linda Corliss replied, \$27 per hour.  
87 Vote 5-0.

88 Commissioner Chair Sicard informed all that Sheriff King has requested two  
89 promotions (that are not on the agenda). Sheriff King addressed the Board and  
90 requested that Carlos Gonzalas be promoted to Sergeant as of 5-23-2022.  
91 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the promotion of Carlos Gonzalas to the  
92 position of Sergeant as of May 23, 2022. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the  
93 motion.  
94

95 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ring asked if a process was followed and if there is  
96 any supporting documentation on this promotional process?  
97 Sheriff King responded that a process was followed that is in compliance with the  
98 NCEU Collective Bargaining Agreement.



99 Commissioner Ring stated that she is concerned that it is last minute and asked  
100 what the big rush with approving this is without waiting for supporting  
101 documentation. Vote 5-0.

102 Sheriff King asked the Board to approve the promotion of Lori Marks to Lieutenant  
103 in classifications with an effective date of May 23, 2022.

104 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Dutremble  
105 seconded the motion.

106 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ring stated that she had the same concern as the  
107 last request and would like some supporting documentation.

108 Vote 5-0.  
109

110 b. Review and see approval of audit RFP to RHR Smith for three years-

111 County Manager Zinser explained that requests for proposals for auditing  
112 proposals were sent out and the only response is RHR Smith.

113 Commissioner Sicard asked if there are any substantial changes? County  
114 Manager Zinser responded there were not. The cost is \$15,000 yearly and  
115 \$3,000 if a single audit is required, so it will be no more than \$18,000 a year.

116 Commissioner Clark motioned to accept RHR Smith & Company as the  
117 auditing firm for the county for the next three years. Commissioner  
118 Dutremble seconded the motion.

119 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Clark mentioned as the York County  
120 Commission's liaison for Coastal Counties workforce we went out for  
121 proposals for auditors and just like this we only got one. So, he stated it is  
122 not unusual to get very little response.

123 Vote 5-0.  
124

125 d. Outstanding audit transfers-

126 The County Manager explained that as per the memo attached in the  
127 Commissioners' packet from the Finance Director, the following transfer of  
128 funds from the payroll liability reserve fund are requested (memo attached as  
129 record of minutes) All transfers on the memo are read by the County Manager.  
130 Commissioner Ring stated that some (of these deficit audit balances) could be  
131 reimbursed. County Manager Zinser responded, eventually, but these are  
132 carried from prior fiscal years and have aggregated over the years. Let's clean  
133 them up, he suggested.

134 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Clark asked the County Manager what the  
135 balance of the payroll liability fund was? The County Manager replied, about  
136 \$600,000.

137 Commissioner Clark motioned to transfer \$95,127.37 from the payroll liability  
138 reserve fund to the accounts requested in the memo (dated 5-11-2022) from  
139 the Finance Director. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion.

140 DISCUSSION- Commissioner Dutremble commented that there is a state  
141 mandate that states the Commissioners have to reassign funds for any  
142 department if they go over their budget. County Manager Zinser replied that  
143 is what the request is and that this is the first year this has happened.

144 Vote 5-0.  
145

146 e. Review and seek approval of updated Federal Purchasing Policy-

147 County Manager Zinser explained the updated policy.

148 Commissioner Clark had some corrections on the draft document as submitted  
149 to the Commissioners.



150 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Sicard asked if this updated document also  
151 encompassed any State policy procedures? County Manager Zinser replied  
152 that this (document) puts us in full compliance for the Federal side. He added  
153 that these policies have been followed already.  
154 Commissioner Clark moved to approve the updated Federal Purchasing Policy  
155 as amended. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.  
156

157 f. Response to Facebook post-

158 Commissioner Chair Sicard explained that this agenda item dealt with a post  
159 about a month ago from a Commissioner. Sheriff King read the face book post  
160 into record (also attached as record of these minutes). Department  
161 Leader/Register of Probate Carol Lovejoy read a letter to Commissioner Ring  
162 from all of the department leaders (signed by all (20) of the department  
163 leaders). Seventeen department leaders were in attendance and stood while  
164 the letter was read. EMA Director Art Cleaves also read a letter regarding the  
165 Face book post (included as record of these minutes). Sheriff King addressed  
166 the Board with comments from the Face Book post. These comments included  
167 a statement that the budget was reviewed at two different meetings by the  
168 Commissioners with questions asked of the department leaders by the  
169 Commissioners.  
170

171 Commissioner Dutremble recalled that during a (Patriot's Day) disaster a few  
172 years ago, outside help from different states was here and they were amazed  
173 how the people from York County helped out. These officials from out of  
174 state said this would not happen in their state. I applaud that everyone works  
175 together here in this county, stated Commissioner Dutremble.

176 Commissioner Andrews stated that we have to remember what our position is  
177 as elected officials. He continued that he knows Donna (Commissioner Ring)  
178 and other people involved. Commissioner Andrews added that he knows that  
179 she cares deeply about the county, but he also knows that our management  
180 team cares. He said that he has seen Art and the Sheriff and their dedication.  
181 Regardless, we have to have a judicious way of putting out that information  
182 and Face Book is really not the place to do it.

183 Commissioner Ring stated that she doesn't take back a lot of what she said.  
184 She added that she did not look up the word, peon. She continued that she felt  
185 that the budget process was not discussed. As far as rates of pay (for non-  
186 union), management does take care of them as they get 2% cola every year.  
187 We were told that everyone received a 7 to 20% raise but the budget shows a  
188 lot of employees where people aren't getting that who do work 24/7. I am not  
189 here to divide management and employees but there is some division.

190 Employees are afraid to speak up. They are afraid they'll be investigated or  
191 terminated. I am speaking up for the employees, stated Commissioner Ring.

192 Why don't we give those employees a lump sum; not part of a pay raise?

193 Commissioner Ring continued that there were a lot of employees who could  
194 not work from home. This was not intended to divide management and  
195 employees. Commissioner Ring added that her post was more to support the  
196 employees and let them know that she is there for them. She stated that she  
197 would like to see them get ARPA money and COLA raises. EMA gets paid  
198 for their hard work. Employees are ordered in and forced and they get time  
199 and a half and some don't get anything at all, commented Commissioner  
200 Ring. Employees were left out of the planning process. Commissioner Ring



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referred to the Dacri report and stated that the County hired an H.R. manager and got rid of everything else.

She said that she knows how hard everyone in county government works as she worked 60 hours a week and got paid for 40. Commissioner Ring informed all that she is here to ask questions and she is going to be here to ask questions and to bring them and management together. She stated that she apologizes if some people took offense to this and that she was surprised it took a month for it to come up. She continued that she never got a phone call and it took her by surprise. Commissioner Ring stated that nobody wants to talk to her about it. But, instead everybody wants to talk behind her back and discuss it amongst themselves. She added that she will stay strong.

Commissioner Sicard said to Commissioner Ring that she has seen by the amount of support that she has offended a lot of people who work hard here for the County including calling out the Sheriff by name during a political season. That stuff has to end, stated Commissioner Sicard. He suggested that they touch base with legal and look to update our social media policy. Many governmental agencies have rules and regulations for what is appropriate, he stated. Commissioner Sicard remarked to Commissioner Ring that she went back on and put their (department heads') letter on (Face book) and that is her prerogative. Commissioner Sicard asked for a motion to ask Tim (Attorney O'Brien) to look into social media policy updates for the Commissioners to review.

Commissioner Dutremble told all that his father told him that you're not always going to agree with people, but you have to show respect. Your post did not show respect, he said to Commissioner Ring.

Commissioner Clark stated that he believes in free speech. In terms of what goes on county websites and county letterhead, that is different but he does not think that is appropriate for us to control others social medias posts.

Commissioner Sicard stated that he agreed but, when a professional page is used (County Commissioner) that is different. Commissioner Andrews stated that he agrees with Commissioner Clark. We don't want to restrict freedom of speech. Our guarantee for freedom of speech is to allow unfavorable speech. One will have to bear the consequences, though, he stated.

Commissioner Ring responded that whether as a commissioner or one's individual page, it is our thoughts. Its not a decision by the Board.

Commissioner Clark thanked everyone who took the time after their work time to speak and represent themselves and directed that it be in the minutes as to the number of department heads who signed the letter (20) as well as the number of department heads that attended the meeting (17).

County Manager Zinser addressed the department leaders and told them that they are a great bunch of department heads and that he enjoys working with them. We will continue to work together as a unified team. He continued that he appreciates the work that they do and that they all have his support. Commissioner Sicard added and the support of the Board. He further stated that it took courage for you (department heads) to write your letter.

- g. Set dates and times for Commissioner walk throughs of courthouse and jail-



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It was decided to meet at 3:00 on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The building being visited will be decided upon prior to the meeting. Commissioner Clark suggested that we consider an off Wednesday (meeting day) and then we could do two buildings to include Layman Way. He added that this is statutory. County Manager Zinser replied that they will do the first tour of county building and then decide on the next one(s) after.

**6 OLD BUSINESS**

a. Update on Budget Committee Public Hearing (June 1 at 6:30 p.m.)- County Manager Greg Zinser informed all that the budget committee approved the budget a couple of Saturdays ago. The meeting lasted about 3 hours and the public hearing will be at 6:30 p.m. on June 1<sup>st</sup> here in this room.

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

None

**8 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

**ZOOM-** Janet Drew spoke via ZOOM and thanked those present for protecting free speech. A lot of times there can be fear to speak up, she stated. Ms. Drew added that she has not heard about a Board of Visitors meeting at the jail and that it is a statutory requirement.

Rachel Sherman approached the podium and introduced herself as a tax payer, an employee/MSEA Local president and as such has spoken to people who are grateful that Commissioner Ring takes the initiative to ask questions. They noted that she is given only half answers. Ms. Sherman commented on the treatment of Commissioner Ring and continued that this is outrageous and disgusting. She stated that as President of the MSEA Local she has had the unique experience to witness and experience the divisiveness of the County Manager has been happening for years and the Board continues to support him without question. Ms. Sherman continued. She stated that a County Commissioner approached her several years ago and this Commissioner told her that the county manager added language to a contract and two others admitted this to her. Ms. Sherman stated "That is a violation of law. I will not go into all the incidents but this was the first of many" lacking integrity. She continued that each was condoned by the Board. Our union heads are often given different information. Concerns should be expressed publicly and answers should be given. She said that she used to work in the Commissioners' Office and the former County Manager would cherry pick information he gave to people. Rachel Sherman continued, "I ask you who is to blame Commissioner Ring has consistently asked questions. Employees have long felt that we are just peons." We were not offended. She said that several employees contacted her today and they are very upset by this. We know our elected department heads try. The divisiveness that she referenced earlier is totally on the County Manager's shoulders. He created pay scale B which has a different

301 wage progression than the other payscale and does not increase as fast and creates  
302 an issue Ms. Sherman said the union tried to point this out and were told that was  
303 management's problem. Ms. Sherman said that he does not value the experience of  
304 employees on Payscale A. Payscale A is for employee's hired before 2016.  
305 She said that at the time we negotiated it that way because he told the Union he  
306 wanted everyone on payscale B. It comes down to can you say you are all getting  
307 the same information?" Commissioner Clark asked Rachel Sherman if she  
308 negotiates the contracts? Rachel Sherman replied, that yes, she is a part of a team.  
309 Commissioner Clark asked her did members get to vote on the contract? Rachel  
310 Sherman, replied, yes, but it was imposed on them. Commissioner Clark  
311 responded to Ms. Sherman that her statement that the contract was imposed upon  
312 the union is not correct because the contract is a product of negotiation and that if  
313 you don't wish to approve it, you vote it down. Commissioner Dutremble  
314 commented that every county manager or administrator we have had has been told  
315 by the union they are not doing their job. Rachel Sherman responded that the first  
316 County Manager that she worked under always made sure he got paid whatever  
317 everyone else did. Commissioner Dutremble responded that she criticized the job  
318 done by the previous County Manager and now she is doing it again to the current  
319 County Manager. And when you sign a contract that you negotiated, that is the end  
320 of it. Commissioner Dutremble commented that two years ago we were willing to  
321 give you a good contract and you said just give us 2%. Rachel Sherman replied,  
322 that did not happen. Commissioner Dutremble responded that the point he is  
323 making is that you can criticize the County Manager all that you want, but he is  
324 doing his job. Rachel Sherman replied: "And doing unlawful things is doing his  
325 job. Commissioner Dutremble stated to Ms. Sherman that she better have proof if  
326 she is making that type of allegation. Ms. Sherman indicated that she did, but she  
327 was not going to court in connection with it. Commissioner Chair Sicard stated  
328 that there will be zero tolerance for any personal attacks, and/or micro- managing,  
329 for anyone on this board that does so.

330  
331 Sheriff King- informed all that there is a Board of Visitors meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> at  
332 9:00 a.m. As stated previously, the law does require us to have regular meetings.  
333 But these meetings are not public meetings. However, if there is an interest of  
334 someone that has come to the county and if that individual would like to come to  
335 the meeting, she is more than welcome.

336  
337 **9 ADJOURN**

338 Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the  
339 motion. Vote 5-0.





**York County Commissioner Donna Ring**

April 14 at 4:07 PM · 🌐

...

The county commissioners passed a budget with almost no discussion at all last night, April 13. My concerns were the new positions and the raises for management and salaried positions which were well over what the union employee positions were receiving. Most Commissioners agreed the salaried employees were well worth it and they worked very hard and passed the budget which included substantial raises for them. I did not support the budget based on these raises. I appreciate all the hard work the salaried employees do for the county. However, it's the hourly people that work night and day seven days a week that get the job done. Most salaried employees just work 40 hours a week and if they make a call from home it counts as work. In the sheriff's department the management have cars, radios, uniforms and casual wear embroidered with the sheriff's office logo, phones, etc so they barely have to show their face. During covid, the sheriff worked from his satellite home office so he didn't have to be exposed to the rest of the working staff. The Sheriff generously provided pizza, Italian sandwiches, candy, ice cream, certificates, plaques all the through covid in appreciation of the employees dedication of work through covid, however it was all at the taxpayers expense. Everything he did for employees was paid for by the taxpayers, not by the Sheriff. I was elected by the conservative people and the employees and I will continue to support them and ask the right questions. My problem is commissioners dont seem to want to discuss anything, especially sensitive issues I bring up. I do not want to go down as a rubber stamper, hence I'm usually the nay vote (usually because of lack of info and/or discussion). I'm not giving up...I am just going to get louder but I really would love to have some support whether it's in person or on zoom.

👍 33

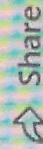
7 Comments 9 Shares



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## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

### BETWEEN

### BIDDEFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY AND YORK COUNTY

This agreement is entered into by Biddeford Housing Authority (“BHA”) and York County (the “County”) this 5th day of May, 2022 on the following terms:

1. BHA is in the final stages of acquiring ownership of the property located at 208 Graham Street in Biddeford, Maine, and intends to renovate the existing structure for among other things office space for its use. However, the Graham Street property is large enough to accommodate a build out of additional office space at the same time for use by another entity or entities.
2. The County has been looking for sufficient office space to lease for the York County District Attorney’s Office in Biddeford in reasonable proximity to the location of the new Courthouse. Specifically, York County is in need of approximately 13,000 square feet of office space for this purpose.
3. Based on discussions with BHA, after the build out for BHA’s office needs, there would be sufficient additional office space available at the Graham Street property so that BHA could lease to the County approximately 13,000 square feet, or approximately 60% of finished office space at that location. (A sketch of the division of the building is Attached)
4. The parties understand that significant work and due diligence needs to be done to ascertain the cost and feasibility of the renovation and to fully understand, negotiate and agree to the terms and cost of a lease for such office space.
5. Nonetheless, the parties see the value in such a lease arrangement in the future and each party desires to preserve the option of entering into such a lease.
6. Accordingly, BHA grants to the County an exclusive first option (the “Option”) to lease approximately 13,000 square feet of office space at the Graham Street property upon the terms, covenants and conditions as may be set forth in the lease agreement provided to York County. BHA will not offer any other person or entity a lease for this 13,000 square feet of office space at the Graham Street property until it first receives a response from the County on the proposed lease. This option may be recorded at the election of the County.
7. As consideration for the Option, the County shall pay to BHA based on a rate of approximately \$4.00 per sq foot, the sum of **\$4,300 per month for a period of up to 18 months. The payments shall commence on May 20, 2022 and continue on a monthly basis thereafter until 18 payments have been made unless this agreement is**

earlier terminated in accordance with Paragraph 9. In the event this option is exercised, all consideration paid for the Option shall be applied against and be deemed to be a payment upon the overall lease cost. The Option to be negotiated will be for a long- term ground lease of the identified 13,000 square foot section of the building and shared use of the on-site parking, or some other mutually agreeable option. In the event that the County does not exercise the Option, the consideration paid to BHA for the Option may be retained by BHA without deduction or offset.

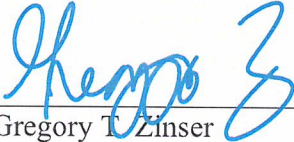
8. The County may exercise the Option at any time up to and including the date that the last of the 18 monthly payments is due to be paid by giving BHA written notice of its intention to exercise the Option.
9. BHA may not terminate this Agreement after the County has exercised its Option. Other than this exception, this Agreement may be terminated at any time for any reason by either party by giving written or email notice to the other party. In the event that the Agreement is terminated by BHA, BHA shall return to the County all amounts paid by the County. In the event that the County terminates this Agreement, BHA may retain all amounts paid by the County as of that date. No additional amounts will be due under the Agreement after notice of termination has been given.

10. Miscellaneous.

- a. Entire Agreement. This Agreement is the entire Agreement among the parties and, when executed by the parties, supersedes all prior agreements, understandings and communications, either verbal or in writing, between the parties with respect to the subject matter contained herein.
- b. Amendments. This Agreement may not be amended, modified or changed except by written instrument signed by all of the parties.
- c. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the parties and their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and permitted assigns.
- d. Captions. All captions and headings are inserted for the convenience of the parties and shall not be used in any way to modify, limit or otherwise affect this Agreement.
- e. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed simultaneously or in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- f. Waiver. Any failure by a party to comply with any obligation, agreement or condition herein may be expressly waived in writing by each of the other parties, but such waiver or failure to insist upon strict compliance with such obligation, agreement or conditions shall not operate as a waiver of, or estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure.

- g. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws in effect in the State of Maine.
- h. Severability. If any term, provision or condition of this Agreement is determined by a court or other judicial or administrative tribunal to be illegal, void or otherwise ineffective or not in accordance with public policy, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.
- i. Interpretation. In the event of a dispute or disagreement arising under this Agreement, this Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with its fair meaning and shall not be interpreted for or against any party on the ground that such party drafted or caused to be drafted this Agreement.

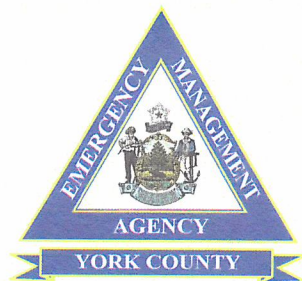
York County:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory T. Zinser  
York County Manager

Biddeford Housing Authority

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Guy M. Gagnon  
President/Executive Director





*York County Emergency Management Agency  
149 Jordan Springs Road  
Alfred, Maine 04002  
(207) 324-1578  
(207) 324-4997 Fax*



May 26, 2022

Chairman Sicard and Commissioners,

The York County Vaccination Center has provided over 77,000 vaccines since its inception in 2021. There have been several expansions to the center's services: primary series vaccination, vaccination for those who are immunocompromised, boosters, and pediatrics in addition to the other pandemic response services it provides all 29 towns. At its height, the center was serving up to 900 patients a day. While the demand has fluctuated over the last year due to the ever-changing case numbers and variants, the center continues to serve hundreds of patients a day.

The leadership team at YCEMA, including the center's Medical Director, has been continuously evaluating the need for public health services to remain available for the community at the York County Vaccination Center. The team is confident that there continues to be a need for these services in York County and that it will increase as we approach the later portion of the year. The center just saw a recent increase in demand for services with the approval of boosters for pediatric patients. Approval for vaccination of children under five is anticipated to be announced in mid-June and the Maine CDC advises that there will be a sharp increase in vaccination demand late this summer/early fall for boosters.

Thanks to the support of the County Manager and you, the County Commissioners, YCEMA has been able to utilize and then recoup the entirety of the near \$3 million in expenses that the center has incurred. Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the federal cost share will be reduced from 100% to 90/10%. The State of Maine is committed to 6%, which will leave YCEMA responsible for 4% of the costs incurred at the York County Vaccination Clinic beginning in July.

As a result of the continued demand for vaccination, we respectfully ask you to consider extending the State of Emergency for York County which will allow YCEMA to continue to utilize temporary staff for response and recovery. We also ask you to consider the authorization to utilize funding from the reserve account as a safeguard in the unlikely event that YCEMA is unable to cover the 4% cost.

We appreciate that support that you have continued to provide.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Megan