

January 14, 2016

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'  
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting  
held January 14, 2016  
in the Commissioners' Conference Room  
Machias, Maine**

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**Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner Christopher Gardner  
Commissioner John Crowley, Sr.  
Commissioner Vinton Cassidy  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Carla Manchester, Administration  
Mike Remillard, Maine Guide, Grand Lake Stream Snowmobile Club  
Susan Hatton, SCEC  
Lora Whelan, Quoddy Tides, Eastport  
Barry Curtis, Sheriff  
Michael Crabtree, Chief Deputy  
Rich Rolfe, Jail Administrator  
Sharon D. Strout, Deeds  
Jill Holmes, Treasurer  
Sondra Small, Finance Clerk  
Lyman Holmes, Probate  
Carlene Holmes, Probate  
Michael Hinerman, EMA  
Joshua Rolfe, RCC**

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County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and requested that the Commissioners elect a Chairman for 2016.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to elect Christopher Gardner as the chair for 2016. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 2-0-1.**

The meeting for Unorganized Territories business was called to order at 4:01 p.m.

**Approval of the December U.T. meeting minutes of December 2, 2015  
(Crowley / Cassidy, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report**

Unorganized Territories Supervisor Heron Weston provided his monthly written report. (See attached)

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Heron Weston stated that on January 4<sup>th</sup> fifteen warning letters were issued to fishermen whose moorings were in violation of the Mooring Moratorium at the Edmunds boat landing. Of the fisherman that received the warning letters, three were removed from the list because their moorings had been cut and they were able to have that confirmed by others. Four of the moorings were removed the same day. On January 14<sup>th</sup> Heron checked the harbor to find that seven moorings still remained that should have been removed. Heron stated that he understands the next step is to issue summonses. Heron has conferred with the Sheriff and Chief Deputy to have guidance in the process of issuing a summons. Heron noted that an option in the State statutes is to remove moorings that the owners will not move. He did not include that information in the warning letters. Heron asked for guidance in this matter from the Commissioners. Commissioner Gardner stated that it is a Class E Criminal Offense if a mooring has been placed in the harbor after the moratorium was adopted, therefore summonses should be issued. Commissioner Crowley pointed out that there is a difference between a mooring and an anchor and the distinction should be made before a summons is given. Heron reported that Pembroke, which also adopted a moratorium, has decided not to issue any summonses. The fishermen in that area jointly hired a lawyer, and their stance is that an anchor can be used. Commissioner Gardner stated that the details will be dealt with as they come.

UT Supervisor Heron Weston reported that there has been no response from the request for interested parties to participate on a Harbor Committee. Heron asked the Commissioners for guidance and clarification for the process of selecting committee members. Commissioner Gardner suggested he seek fishermen for the board first then expand the pool of possible committee members to Edmunds and Trescott residents that may not be active fishermen but have experience in the fishing industry.

U.T. Supervisor Heron Weston presented the bid review submitted from CES, Inc. for the construction of the Cathance Lake Dry Hydrant installation. Based on their review of the low bid submitted by Hanscom Construction, Inc. and work experience history with Hanscom's, it is the recommendation of CES, Inc. that the bid be awarded to Hanscom Construction, Inc. Commissioner Gardner noted that the bid of \$21,895.00 from Hanscom Construction, Inc. is below the engineers estimated cost of the project.

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**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to award the bid of \$21,895.00 for the Cathance Dry Hydrant installation as low bidder to Hanscom Construction Inc., and authorize County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald to execute the paperwork. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

**AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update**

A report was submitted and is attached.

TIF Administrator, Susan Hatton presented a TIF grant and loan request from Grand Lake Snowmobile Club. Mike Remillard of the Grand Lake Snowmobile Club stated that the club maintains 64 miles of multi-purpose trails; 55 miles (about 81%) are in the Unorganized Territories. The request is for the purchase of a trail groomer with a drag. The loan request is for \$75,000 and the grant request is for \$25,000.00. Upon purchase of the equipment the Club is eligible to apply for a Maine State Capital Grant for \$20,000.00 that will be paid on the loan which will represent the clubs match. The Loan Committee recommended approval of the loan not to exceed \$75,000.00 for a term of ten years with the stipulation that the Maine State Capital Equipment Grant be applied toward the principal as soon as it is received.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve the loan request of \$75,000.00, Loan # GLSC-TIF-12-28-15 for Grand Lake Snowmobile Club as presented. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

The Grant Committee also recommended approval of the grant request. Although the request is for \$25,000.00, the Grant Committee recommends the Commissioners approve a grant for \$50,000.00 with the intention to treat the request the same as the Dennysville Snowmobile Club request. Commissioner Gardner recognized that a precedent has been set and agreed that the grant and loan package for the Grand Lake Snowmobile Club should be structured the same as the Dennysville Snowmobile Club.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the grant request of for the Grand Lake Snowmobile Club in the amount of \$50,000.00. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

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Mike Remillard thanked the Commissioners for their support.

TIF Administrator Susan Hatton updated the Commissioners on several grant recipients'.

Robinson's River Bend Ranch project was delayed due to a family tragedy. Commissioner Gardner noted that the delay was understandable and inquired as to whether plans will now move forward. Susan Hatton replied that they would.

Bayley Grant of Olde Mill Storage experienced some difficulty in finding someone to work on one of his barn roofs. This work has now been scheduled to be done in the spring.

An update from Alan Furth of CCLC regarding Cobscook Bay Company, LLC was submitted. (See attached)

**AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**4:20 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

**Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.**