

January 10, 2013

Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners
Regular Meeting held
January 10, 2013
in the Commissioners' Conference Room
Machias, Maine

Attending the meeting were:

Commissioner Christopher M. Gardner
Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administration
Dean Preston, U.T. Supervisor
Tom Walsh, Bangor Daily News
Sharon Mack, Downeast Coastal Press
Melissa Farris, Roque Bluffs
Crystal Farris, Roque Bluffs
Hillary Savage, MVNO
Donald Smith, Sheriff
Sharon Strout, Deeds
Mary Zidalis, Jail
Ken Daye, SCEC
Darlene Wallace, Deeds
Eileen Mills, Jail
Patrick Spencer, Jail
Jill Holmes, Treasurer's Office
Judy Alexander, Treasurer's Office
Eleody Libby, WC:OC
Angela Fochesato, WC:OC
Terri Woodruff, WC:OC
Joe Ferrier, WC:OC
Carlene Holmes, Probate

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the December Regular County Hearing Minutes
on the 2013 Budget (December 13, 2012)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the December Regular
County Hearing Minutes on the 2013 budget. Commissioner
Gardner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the December Regular Commissioners' Meeting Minutes (December 13, 2012)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the December Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports

The Commissioners were provided monthly reports in their meeting packets. (See attached)

AGENDA ITEM: Payroll Status Change Notices

The Sheriff recommended Rebecca McKenna to be hired as a part-time office assistant.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6 A (3) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 4:30 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 4:34 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Rebecca McKenna as a part-time temporary office assistant to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

By consensus, the Commissioners accepted the resignation of Keith Albee as a part-time deputy. They thanked Keith for his work in the past years.

MOTION Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve a rate increase for Karl Pingree for his six-month introductory completion. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve a temporary increase in hours not to exceed 40 for Karl Pingree. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to terminate Jacob Randall as a part-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Melissa Farris as a full-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

By consensus, the Commissioners accepted and supported the Sheriff's termination of Chief Deputy, Michael St. Louis.

By consensus, the Commissioners accepted the resignation of Shelbie Ross as part-time Corrections.

By consensus, the Commissioners approved the promotion of Patrick Spencer to the rank of Sergeant in Corrections.

By consensus, the Commissioners approved the promotion of Eileen Mills to the rank of Corporal in Corrections.

AGENDA ITEM: Six-Month Certificate for Karl Pingree.

The six-month certificate presented was signed.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the Court House Expansion Project.

Betsy Fitzgerald stated that the State of Maine has recently contacted the County with an interest to take steps to further the Court House Expansion project. Betsy is on the committee along with Judge Romei and Pam McPherson of the Court System. There will be a walk-thru on January 11th to assess the needs of County and Court employees. Commissioner Gardner stated the need for the Commissioners to weigh in heavily on any recommendations to the expansion. He expressed the concerns for the long-term care and expenses of the building once renovated, as well as the burden that will fall on the tax payers of Washington County. It was suggested that Lyman Holmes be in the discussions. It was also recommended that the Sheriff or a designee be involved in the project when Mary Zidalis asked about the impact the renovations might have on the jail and its operations. Commissioner Gardner emphasized that he did not want to give the impression that the Commissioners are not grateful for the opportunity for improvements to the Court House, but believed that the County should proceed with prudence.

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AGENDA ITEM: Schedule Tax Abatement Hearing

The Commissioners agreed by consensus to schedule a Tax Abatement Hearing one hour before their regular meeting next month, 3:00 p.m., February 14, 2013.

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion of LUPC Process

This was discussed during the Unorganized Territories section of this meeting. See UT meeting minutes, page 3.

AGENDA ITEM: Recommendation by Treasurer of Banking RFP

The Treasurer, Jill Holmes, reported that two banks submitted banking service proposals, one from Machias Savings Bank and one from Bar Harbor Banking and Trust. After reviewing all materials and proposals, the Treasurer made a recommendation that the County utilize Machias Savings Bank's services for a three-year period beginning April 1, 2013 through April 1, 2016.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the recommendation of the Treasurer to accept the banking service proposal of Machias Savings Bank for three years. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Appointment of Commissioners and/or County Manager to Committees and Boards.

The Commissioners were provided with a list of committees and boards on which the Commissioners and the County Manager sit. Re-appointments were made as follows:

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to appoint Betsy Fitzgerald to sit on the Washington County Council of Government (WCCOG) Board of Directors. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to appoint Betsy Fitzgerald to sit on the WCCOG Brownfield Advisory Committee. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to appoint Commissioner Gardner to sit on the Aroostook / Washington County Workforce Investment Board. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to appoint Commissioner Gardner to sit on the Maine County Commissioners' Association Board. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Betsy Fitzgerald will attend meetings in the absence of Commissioner Gardner.

MOTION Commissioner Cassidy moved to appoint Commissioner Gardner to sit on the Sunrise County Economic Council Board. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gardner was nominated to sit on the board of the Down East Resource Conservation & Development Council then the nomination was withdrawn. After some discussion,

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to appoint Betsy Fitzgerald to sit on the DERC&D Board. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6 A (3) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 5:03 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 6:48 p.m.

No motions or decisions were made after Executive Session

Adjournment 6:49 p.m.

Attest: _____
Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.