

January 16, 2015

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Executive Session
held January 16, 2015
in the Commissioners' Conference Room
Machias, Maine**

**Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner Christopher Gardner
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.
Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administration
Charles Rudelitch, SCEC, Harrington
Susan Hatton, SCEC, Charlotte
Lora Whelan, Quoddy Tides
Jill Holmes, Treasurer**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussing the sale of Cobscook Bay Company's equipment and intellectual assets to Craig's All Natural.

Before entering into Executive Session, County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald requested the Commissioners to sign a revised version of the U.T. 2015/2016 budget. She explained that there had been a change in the Administration section but the bottom line did not change. The revised budget amounts line-by-line are as follows:

BUDGET LINE	PROPOSED BUDGET AMOUNT	REVISED BUDGET AMOUNT
Administration to County	20,000	20,000
Office Rent to County	2,400	2,400
Administration of U.T.	15,018	12,518
U.T. Comprehensive Plan Project	0	2,500
Supervisor Assistant	0	0
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	37,418	37,418

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to sign the revised U.T. 2015/2016 budget as presented. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRS § 405 (6) (C) to discuss a legal issue. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 3:15 p.m.

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Commissioner Gardner stated that he anticipated a formal decision would be made after the Executive Session.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 3:40 p.m.**

Commissioner Gardner stated that the Executive session pertained to the request for the Commissioners to sign-off on the potential sale of Cobscook Bay Company's equipment and intellectual assets as a secondary lender. The decision to agree to the sale had already been made by two other secondary lenders FAME (Finance Authority of Maine) and CEI (Coastal Enterprises, Inc. Both FAME and CEI hold a greater interest than the County. A \$50,000 loan was made by the U.T. TIF program; FAME gave a loan of \$150,000 and CEI loaned \$100,000. It was recognized that there would be no potential in voting against the sale. Allowing the sale of equipment and intellectual property may allow for the seafood products and Maine Fresh brand to be revived and successful by Craig's All-Natural. In turn, that would mean a continued need for the resource that local seafood providers supply.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve signing-off as second lenders for the sale of Cobscook Bay Company's equipment and intellectual assets in the amount of \$10,000 to Craig's All Natural. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

3:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.