

May 14, 2015

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Regular Meeting
held May 14, 2015
in the Commissioners' Conference Room
Machias, Maine**

**Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner Christopher M. Gardner
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.
Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Karl Pingree, Administration
Dean Preston, U.T.
Susan Hatton, SCEC
Lynn Dwelly, Machias
Lora Whelan, Quoddy Tides
Cat Cannon, MVNO
Kim Emerson, Axiom
Mark Ouellette, Axiom
M.F. Hinerman, EMA
Rich Rolfe, Jail
Barry Curtis, Sheriff
Mike Crabtree, Chief Deputy
Josh Rolfe, RCC
Jill Holmes, Treasurer
Judith Alexander, Treasurer's Office
Sharon D. Strout, Deeds
Darlene Wallace, Deeds
David Lund, Buildings and Grounds**

The meeting was called to order at 4:23 p.m.

**Approval of the minutes for the Regular Commissioners' meeting held on
April 9, 2015 (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports

The Commissioners were provided a written report from EMA. (see attached)

AGENDA ITEM: Signature on Six-Month Certificate

A six-month certificate was presented and signed for Thomas Johnson.

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AGENDA ITEM: Payroll Change Notices

The following payroll changes were approved by consensus:

- transfer of Ralph Pineo from Patrol Sergeant to Special Agent / MDEA effective 04/12/15;
- transfer of Gregory Sawyer from Special Agent / MDEA to Patrol Corporal effective 04/12/15;

By consensus the following resignations were accepted:

- resignation of Richard Quint as part-time Corrections Officer effective 04/14/15;
- resignation of Brandon Parker as full-time Patrol Sergeant effective 04/24/15. He will remain as a part-time deputy.

Commissioner Gardner made an observation that the pool of applicants for patrol deputies has decreased dramatically from years past. Once there may have been as many as five applicants for a patrol deputy position, now deputies transfer from one to another department as there are fewer people interested in this line of work. He lamented the situation, but offered no solutions.

With the recommendation of RCC Supervisor Josh Rolfe, by consensus Dawn Tolman was discharged as part-time dispatcher effective 05/14/15.

Captain Rich Rolfe recommended two new hires for the jail.

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Susan Bolles as part-time Corrections Officer effective 05/03/15 not to exceed 30 hours per week except for training and emergency purposes. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.**

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to hire James Robbins as part-time Corrections Officer effective 05/03/15 not to exceed 30 hours per week except for training and emergency purposes. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.**

County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald recommended David Lund as a new hire for the Buildings and Grounds department.

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MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire David Lund as full-time Buildings and Grounds Custodian effective 05/18/15. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

Emergency Management Director Michael Hinerman recommended the hire of Lynn Dwelley for the part-time Office Assistant position for his office.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Lynn Dwelley as part-time Office Assistant effective 05/18/15 not to exceed 30 hours per week except for training and emergency purposes. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

AGENDA ITEM: Appointment of Representative for Northern Maine Development Commission

Commissioner Gardner suggested that Commissioner Cassidy might consider the role. Commissioner Cassidy declined.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to appoint Betsy Fitzgerald as Representative for Northern Maine Development Commission. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval on Forfeiture Action

The District Attorney's Office requested that the forfeiture of a HiPoint 9mm SN#P1510937 in the case of State of Maine vs. Richard J. Murray, Jr., #MACSC-CR-2015-24, be approved to be transferred to the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the disposition and transfer of the forfeiture asset of case #MACSC-CR-2015-24. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

Commissioner Gardner asked for an update on the state aid for jail funding. Sheriff Curtis stated there had been no resolution regarding releasing funding from the state. Captain Rolfe indicated that the funding shortfall would be approximately \$262,000.00 effective July 1, 2015. A lengthy conversation ensued regarding the jail funding system. Commissioner Gardner asked the County Manager, Treasurer, Jail Administrator and the Sheriff to begin working on a contingency plan should the state funding not be forthcoming in a timely fashion. He requested to be kept informed and in the loop.

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MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405 6 (A) (3) to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 5:05 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Cassidy moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 5:47 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to reinstate responsibility of the IT position back to the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 5:47 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

5:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Karlton Pingree, Admin. Asst.