

September 5, 2013

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Regular Meeting held
September 5, 2013
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
Carla Manchester, Administration
Ken Daye, SCEC
William Tuell, Downeast Coastal Press
Harold Clossey, SCEC
Mike Hinerman, EMA
Tim Cox, Bangor Daily News
Sharon Strout, Deeds
Jill Holmes, Treasurer
Judy Alexander, Treasurer's Office
Joshua Rolfe, RCC
Renee Gray, Addison
Carlene Holmes, Probate
Heron Weston, UT

Commissioner Gardner called the Executive Department business to order at 5:28 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the August Regular Commissioners' Meeting Minutes (August 8, 2013) (Crowley / Cassidy, 3-0)

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports

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

AGENDA ITEM: Payroll Status Change Notices

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By consensus, the Commissioners accepted the following employees' resignation without prejudice:

- Michael Congelosi, as full-time ECS; will remain as a part-time ECS
- Samantha Young Small, as part-time ECS
- Susan Francis, as part-time ECS
- Misty Courchaine Stocks, as part-time ECS
- Daniel Thibodeau, as part-time ECS
- Jennifer Grant, as part-time ECS

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Daniel Clark as part-time ECS not to exceed 32 hours per week except for training or an emergency. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Cassidy moved to hire Jeremy Alley as full-time Correction Officer with the retro-active effective date of 08/25/13. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously

AGENDA ITEM: Six Month Certificates

Six month certificates were presented and signed for Christopher Simpson, Lee Bourget, and Jennifer Ward for their successful completion of their introductory period.

By the recommendation of Jail Administrator Rich Rolfe,

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to extend the introductory period for Shane Chute for three months. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Schedule Tax Abatement Hearing

The tax abatement hearing for Chablis vs. City of Eastport will be held on Thursday, October 10th, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM: Downeast EMS discussion

The County has been approached with a request to co-sign on a loan for Downeast EMS. Renee Gray was present to explain that Downeast EMS has had some financial struggles in the past and has been trying to

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recover after Calais withdrew and started its own ambulance service. Commissioner Gardner stated that there is still more information that will be needed before a decision can be made. The Downeast EMS financials need to be reviewed by the Treasurer, and the legalities will be reviewed by the County Attorney. Once the Commissioners are better informed and have had the opportunity for further discussion, they will be able to take a position. Commissioner Cassidy voiced his reluctance to become involved. Commissioner Gardner has concerns that Downeast EMS may not be able to continue to operate without help. The Downeast EMS provides service to many rural areas in Washington County.

AGENDA ITEM: Award Salt/Sand Bid for 2013-14 Season

On September 2, 2013, a bid opening was held in the County Commissioners Office. Attending the opening were Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager and Carla Manchester, Administrative Assistant. It was recommended by the County Manager that the bid be awarded to Cargill Salt as the low bidder.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to accept the bid from Cargill Salt with a bid of \$63.55 per ton as recommended by the County Manager. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405-A 6 A (3) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 5:45 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 5:50 p.m.

There were no motions or decisions made after Executive Session.

Adjournment 5:50 p.m.

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