

Washington County Budget Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – 9/22/26

Location: 28 Court St., Machias, ME

Attendance – Brian Schuth; Ben Edwards; Harry Fish, Jr; Harry “Sonny” Beal, Jr; Wayne Jones; Nelson “Tony” Santiago; Ken “Skip” Colson; Martha Howell; Crystal Gallina; Tiffany Strout

Via Zoom – Tim Call (non-voting)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Brian Schuth.

The first order of business was to schedule the next meeting date and determine the Depts to be invited. Sonny Beal made a motion to hold the next meeting on 9/29/2026 at 9:00 in this same location and to invite the Admin and Finance Departments to discuss their budgets. Tony Santiago seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Chair Brian Schuth discussed the need for a motion regarding the budget, along with a second, before discussion could begin. He explained that there would be a first and a second, but no vote would be called for until after the presentation from the Department Heads. This motion will remain open across multiple meetings.

Harry Fish made a motion to accept the 2027 County Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Skip Colson.

Sonny Beal made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for a presentation of the RCC (Regional Communications Center) 2027 budget. Motion carried with all in favor.

On a motion by Sonny Beal, seconded by Harry Fish, the minutes of the 9/15/26 meeting were approved as presented. All were in favor.

Harry Fish made a motion for a 10-minute recess, seconded by Tony Santiago. All were in favor. The meeting recessed at 10:16 am and resumed at 10:28 am.

Skip Colson made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for a presentation of the Sheriff’s Patrol Dept 2027 budget. Harry Fish seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Skip Colson made a motion to schedule the presentation from the District Attorney and the Enterprise Leasing company at the 10/20/2026 meeting. Tony Santiago seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

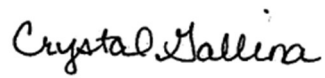
A scheduling conflict was brought up regarding the District Attorney. On a motion by Sonny Beal, seconded by Skip Colson, all were in favor (10-0) to reschedule the District Attorney’s presentation for 10/6/2026.

Wayne Jones made a motion to approve the RCC budget as presented and add an additional 5% to their budget. Sonny Beal seconded the motion. Motion failed 2-8, with Wayne Jones and Sonny Beal

in favor and Brian Schuth, Ben Edwards, Harry Fish, Tony Santiago, Skip Colson, Martha Howell, Crystal Gallina and Tiffany Strout opposed.

A motion was made by Skip Colson, seconded by Sonny Beal, to adjourn at 12:03 pm. Motion carried 10-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Crystal Gallina".

Crystal Gallina, BAC Secretary