

March 14, 2013

Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
held March 14, 2013
in the Commissioners' Conference Room
Machias, Maine

Attending the meeting were:

Commissioner Vinton E. Cassidy
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Carla Manchester, Administration
Ken Daye, SCEC
Sharon Mack, DECP
Jill Holmes, Treasurer's Office
Mike Hinerman, EMA
Sharon Strout, Deeds
Judy Alexander, Treasurer's Office
Darlene Wallace, Deeds
Donald Smith, Sheriff
Janet Robertson, WC:OC
Rich Rolfe, Jail Administrator
Josh Rolfe, RCC
Dean Preston, U.T.
Chris Chu, D.A.'s Office
Heather Mahar
Paul Cavanaugh, D.A.'s Office
Ethan Plaut, D.A.'s Office
Jeff Henthorn, State Admin.
Ted Glessner, State Admin.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6E to discuss a legal issue. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 3:00 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 3:55 p.m.

No motions or decisions were made after Executive Session.

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AGENDA ITEM: Court House Renovation Update

Jeff Henthorn and Ted Glessner from the State Court Administrative Office were present to give an update on the Court House renovation project. Mr. Glessner outlined the basic preliminary proposals stating that the goal would be a court house that is safer, more efficient and would better meet the needs of the public. He also stated that the floor plans that have been drawn up by the architect are a beginning point and that they will be looking for input from all interested parties to be sure the space will meet the needs of all. As well as an addition at the rear of the building, it is anticipated that a land acquisition will be needed to provide sufficient parking space. The estimated cost of \$8.5 million dollars would be a State expense. There is no anticipation of a cost to the County relating to the renovations of the building, but there would be shared costs of building maintenance that would be pro-rated. At this time, the State is asking for a general agreement to be reached with the County; that the Commissioners agree with the basic concept of the renovations and that a lease agreement will be negotiated between the State and County so that they can proceed with the project and bond preparation.

Commissioner Crowley stated that there are many advantages to this joint effort, that this has been a topic of discussion for many years and it has been a long time coming. With that

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to proceed with the Court House Renovation project and to agree to continue a lease with the State for the use of County property. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

At 4:20 p.m. the meeting proceeded to the Unorganized Territories section of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the February UT meeting minutes
(February 14, 2013)**

***MOTION* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the February UT meeting minutes. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

The monthly report was submitted and is attached. Dean Preston had two action items.

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A Solid Waste Management Plan agreement between the Unorganized Territories of Brookton Twp, Forest City Twp, Forest Twp, Kossuth Twp and the Town of Danforth was presented for approval. This agreement is a one-year contract.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the one year Solid Waste Agreement between Brookton Twp, Forest City Twp, Forest Twp, Kossuth Twp and the Town of Danforth as presented. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dean will be reviewing applications and interviewing candidates to fill the position of part-time Shellfish Warden / Animal Control Officer. By consensus, the Commissioners gave Betsy Fitzgerald authorization to temporarily hire Dean's recommendation for the position.

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Grant Committee Update

A report was submitted and is attached. There were two grantee summary reports submitted; one from Pioneer Broadband on the Big Lake internet expansion project and one from WS Transport, Inc.

Ken Daye reported that the Grant Committee is still working on a procedure for recourse for TIF Grant Applications that involve loans for assets that could be liquidated.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

None.

ADJOURNMENT

4:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.