

September 12, 2019

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners'  
Regular Meeting  
held September 12, 2019  
in the Probate Courtroom  
Machias, Maine**

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**Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner Christopher M. Gardner  
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.  
Commissioner Vinton Cassidy  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Carla Manchester, Administrative Assistant  
Nathan Pennell, Washington County Soil and Water, DERC&D  
Dean Preston, UT  
Paula Johnson-Rolfe, Sheriff's Office  
Lynn Dwelley, Emergency Management Agency  
Mike Crabtree, Chief Deputy  
Josh Rolfe, Regional Communications Center  
Jill Holmes, Treasurer  
Carlene M. Holmes, Probate**

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Executive Department business was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

**Approval of the Commissioners' Executive Session meeting minutes held on August 8, 2019. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**Approval of the minutes for the Regular Commissioners' meeting held on August 8, 2019. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports**

The Commissioners were provided written reports from the County Manager, EMA and the Treasurer's Office and were accepted under the gavel. (See attached)

**AGENDA ITEM: Payroll Change Notices**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to hire Jeffrey Gray as full-time Corrections Officer effective 08/18/19.  
(Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

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It was noted that Amanda Barnard was reclassified to full-time Corrections Officer effective 09/01/19 during last months' meeting and should have seniority over Jeffrey Gray.

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**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Peter Joyce as part-time Corrections Officer effective 09/15/19 not to exceed 30 hours except for training and emergency purposes. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Signatures on six-month certificate**

A six-month certificate for John Woodward was signed as presented.

**AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Maine County Commissioners Association (MMCA) Membership**

Commissioner Gardner suggested the Board of Commissioners consider the value of continuing membership with MCCA. Commissioner Gardner reported he has made contact with other counties regarding MCCA membership. The most relevant question concerning MCCA membership is the requirement to be a dues-paying MCCA member in order to participate in the MMA Risk Pool. At one time, there was an intergovernmental agreement between MCCA and the risk pool that required counties pay MCCA membership dues to be able to participate in the risk pool. Commissioner Gardner stated he requested that MCCA members vote to consider the mandated membership. Commissioner Gardner stated MCCA would not agree to even vote to ask the question. There was some discussion regarding the option to go with private insurance. Commissioner Cassidy asked what cost it would be to the County to seek private insurance. It was noted that the cost of private insurance was checked out at one point but it would have cost the County more than what was already being paid. Commissioner Gardner stated the MCCA membership cost will continue to go up each year. Commissioner Gardner stated it is not his desire to leave the Risk Pool but does not feel there is any value to continue the MCCA membership. Commissioner Crowley expressed concern at withdrawing from the MCCA before having a clear understanding of how the County's MCCA membership effects the County's Risk Pool coverage. By consensus, the Board of Commissioners agreed that a letter be drafted to Malcolm Ulmer of the MMA Risk Pool to ask his opinion on the County withdrawing from MCCA but remaining in the Risk Pool.

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**AGENDA ITEM: Approve Agreement between Town of Lubec and Washington County Sheriff's Office**

Chief Deputy Crabtree presented an agreement between the Town of Lubec and the Washington County Sheriff's Office for selective enforcement efforts in the Town of Lubec. Chief Deputy Crabtree stated the

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agreement is similar to the agreement the County recently entered in with the Town of Jonesport. The agreement is for coverage from August 18, 2019 thru June 28, 2020 for an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the agreement between Town of Lubec and Washington County Sheriff's Office as presented. (Crowley / Cassidy, 3-0)**

**AGENDA ITEM: Signatures on Healthy Acadia Release**

County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald presented a Mutual Release for the Commissioners' signatures. The mutual release is made with Healthy Acadia, Washington County: One Community and Washington County to release funds to fulfill an obligation to satisfy the outstanding balance due to the State of Maine under DHHS Contracts and their audits.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 2:35 p.m.**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed 3-0. It was 2:45 p.m.**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to proceed with Step 3 of the grievance process with the NCEU. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Cassidy moved to sign the Mutual Release of funds for Washington County: One Community. (Cassidy / Crowley, 3-0)**

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ADJOURNMENT

2:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carla J.R. Manchester, Admin. Asst.

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