

October 13, 2011

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners  
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting  
held October 13, 2011  
in the Commissioners Conference Room  
Machias, Maine**

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Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner Christopher M. Gardner  
Commissioner Kevin L. Shorey  
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Dean Preston, UT Supervisor  
Gail Popham, Administration  
Donnie Smith, Sheriff  
Robert Gross, Jail Administrator  
Mary Zidalis, Jail  
Mike Hinerman, EMA  
Carlene Holmes, Register of Probate  
Sharon Strout, Registrar of Deeds  
Darlene Wallace, Deeds  
Judy Alexander, Financial Accountant  
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds  
Carletta Bassano, District Attorney  
Joell Pratt, DA's Office  
Susan Spencer, DA's Office  
Sara McConnell, WC:OC  
Harold Clossey, SCEC  
Kenny Daye, SCEC  
Phil Duggan, DECP  
Sharon Mack, BDN  
Mike Crabtree, MDEA  
Ben Fritz, East Machias  
Emily Sanders, Machiasport  
Andy Hutnik, Jonesport  
Donald C. Woodward, Jonesport

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**AGENDA ITEM:** Approval of the Public Hearing Minutes regarding the  
Bowers Mountain TIF Project

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the Public Hearing  
Minutes on the Bowers Mountain Project as presented.

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Commissioner Shorey second the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained as he had not been in attendance. The motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM:** Approval of the Public Hearing Minutes regarding the close out of the Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) grant

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the Public Hearing Minutes regarding the close out of the JMG grant as presented. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained as he had not been in attendance. The motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM:** Approval of the September Regular UT Meeting Minutes (September 8, 2011)

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to approved the September Regular UT Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained as he had not been in attendance. The motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM:** Monthly Report

(See attached) UT supervisor Dean Preston noted the highlights of his report. He is continuing to update all roadways and landmarks with the GPS system. The septage site will not need a variance from DEP as earlier thought. Most of the summer road maintenance has been completed with some still ongoing. A bridge on the #19 Road was put out to bid and Dean requested the Commissioners award the bid to Calderwood Engineering of Richmond, Maine. He noted that all permits needed to be in place before FEMA would release funds.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Shorey moved to award the bridge construction contract on the #19 Road to Calderwood Engineering. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained as this road is in his district. The motion passed.

Dean also noted that he had successfully enlisted the partnership of the Salmon Habitat Share Project to help with the restoration of the stream and road.

Dean noted that he had ordered the winter bulk salt/sand. He also stated that he would be meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers

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Regarding snow removal at the new International Crossing at Forest City Twp. Discussion followed regarding the TIF funded broadband tower project in Brookton and Forest City. Dean stated that Axiom is anxious to get started but that land has to be acquired first. He has made contact with the Baskahegan Company who owns land that is the first choice for the location of the tower. Negotiations will take some time.

Dean had two more action items he asked the Commissioners to approve.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Gardner moved to approve the Solid Waste Disposal Agreement between the Town of Machias and Twps. 24, 29, 30 and 31. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to certify the Rural Initiative funds will be used "only for Capital improvement of public roads." Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: TIF Loan Committee update**

Kenny Daye, new TIF administrator of SCEC, introduced himself and stated that the Committee had voted in favor to recommend the Brookton and Forest City broadband Project grant proposal (#1109-10-CF). Commissioner Gardner welcomed Kenny and asked what the time frame would be for obtaining land. Discussion continued on the land, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> choices, the ConnectME portion of the project, who would own the site, maintenance plans and what verbage would be in the contract.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Shorey moved to approve Proposal #1109-10-CF to build a wireless and DSL broadband network in Northern Washington County. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner called for more discussion.

It was noted that with up to \$150,000 from the Capital Project Fund and an additional \$98,000 from ConnectME, the project budget is estimated to be \$250,000.00 total.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment**

Harold Clossey stated that he was pleased to see the Commissioners support the teamwork between Axiom, Dean, Betsy, Diane and now Kenny.

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Commissioner Gardner noted that he is now on the committee studying LURC and they have several upcoming meetings. There has been lots of public opinion and if anyone had any opinions or ideas, to please reach out to him prior to the meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**4:29 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

**Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.**