

February 3, 2011

Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
held February 3, 2011
in the Commissioners' Conference Room
Machias, Maine

Attending the meeting were:
Commissioner Christopher M. Gardner
Commissioner Kevin L. Shorey
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager
Gail Popham, Administration
Donnie Smith, Sheriff
Mike St. Louis, Chief Deputy
Robert Gross, Jail Administrator
Mary Zidalis, Jail
Mike Hinerman, EMA
Judy Alexander, Financial Accountant
Sharon Strout, Registrar of Deeds
Darlene Wallace, Deeds
Carlene Holmes, Probate
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds
Joshua Rolfe, RCC
Richard Moore, RCC
Dennis Perry, RCC
Eileen Alley, Jail
Crystal Sanborn, Cutler
Diane Smith-Halkett, SCEC - TIF Administrator
Scott Harriman, Down East Ambulance Authority
Phil Duggan, DECP
Sharon Mack, BDN

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the January 6, 2011 Regular UT Meeting
Minutes

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the January
Regular UT Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner
Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

February 3, 2011

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

(See attached) UT Supervisor Dean Preston was unable to attend. County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald explained to the Commissioners that the UT has developed a job description and advertisement for the position of Animal Control Officer and Shellfish Warden. The Commissioners did have questions about how the County would be indemnified from any wrongful actions.

Next was a discussion about ambulance service in the UT. The County has been asked by the Down East Ambulance Authority to become a third party co-signer on a \$500,000 line of credit they need to stay in operation. The need for public safety and how much service is being used was discussed. Mr. Harriman of the Down East Ambulance Authority told the Commissioners that the UT comprises about 30% of the population of the County with even more people in the summer. He said a vote was needed for the Authority to proceed.

***MOTION* Commissioner Shorey moved to have the County become a Guarantor for a \$500,000 line of credit for the Down East Ambulance Authority. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Gardner said to make sure there was no conflict. Mr. Harriman noted that he needed a copy of the minutes of this meeting and would also need a Resolution to execute the transaction.

***MOTION* Commissioner Shorey moved to have County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald write said Resolution allowing the County to become a Guarantor for a line of credit for Down East Ambulance Authority and to sign off on such line when it becomes available. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Loan Committee update

(See attached) Diane Smith-Halkett of SCEC told the Commissioners that the economic planning grant application that had been submitted by the Marion Transfer Station to expand their recycling program had the wrong information last month and that it should be for \$15,000 not \$10,000.

***MOTION* Commissioner Shorey moved to approve a \$15,000.00 economic planning grant to the Marion Transfer Station to expand their recycling facility. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

February 3, 2011

Next, Diane told the Commissioners about a grant that was being applied for by the Cobscook Bay Company seeking \$50,000 to expand their marketing. There was quite a lot of discussion regarding the responsibility of keeping track of how this money is spent. The ability to audit any company (by the County's Treasurer's office or an independent auditor) would address this aspect of the process. Commissioner Gardner noted that we are still learning this process and would be refining it as it goes.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to authorize \$50,000 to be awarded to the Cobscook Bay Company to expand their marketing with appropriate auditing guidelines in place before any money is disbursed. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Diane noted that she was working on a revision of the TIF Guidance Memo to simplify it. It was also noted that the cell towers were still being researched.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

None.

ADJOURNMENT

5:08 p.m.

ATTEST:

Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.