

April 14, 2011

Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
held April 14, 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
Dean Preston, UT Supervisor
Gail Popham, Administration
Mike St. Louis, Chief Deputy
Robert Gross, Jail Administrator
Mary Zidalis, Jail
Jill Holmes, Treasurer
Judy Alexander, Financial Accountant
Sharon Strout, Registrar of Deeds
Darlene Wallace, Deeds
Mike Hinerman, EMA
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds
Joshua Rolfe, RCC
Samantha Young, Eastport
Michael Congelosi, Machias
Allen D. Rolfe, Jail
Diane Smith-Halkett, SCEC - TIF Administrator
Eleody Libby, WC:OC
Nancy Oden, Clean Earth Farms
Andrew W. Hatnik, Joneport

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the March Regular Commissioners Meeting
Minutes (March 10, 2011)

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

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AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports

The Commissioners were provided monthly reports in their meeting packets. (See attached) Commissioner Gardner asked Treasurer Jill Holmes for an update. She stated that the TAN is in place and very little of it had been used so far. She noted that very few tax payments had come in but that was not unusual for this time of year. Commissioner Gardner also asked if there were any anomalies, there were none. Commissioner Gardner encouraged all Department Heads to spend wisely and to coordinate any major purchases with the Treasurer's office.

AGENDA ITEM: Sign Six-Month Certificates

Six-Month Certificates were signed for Brian Knox, Michael Boucher, Amber Ward, Allen Rolfe, Shawn Kelley, Raymond Mills and John Peterson.

AGENDA ITEM: Payroll Status Change Notices

It was agreed by consensus to sign the payroll change notice for Kevin Nelson as he resigned before the UT job even started. A payroll change notice was also signed for Richard Rolfe promoting him to Sergeant with the Sheriff's Office.

A request to extend the Leave of Absence for Mike Anderson was briefly discussed. The Commissioners agreed they did not want to set a precedent.

***MOTION* Commissioner Gardner moved to extend the Unpaid Leave of Absence to Michael Anderson until July 1, 2011. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

It was noted that this motion was made with the understanding that the Union Contract or the County Personnel Policy were not being violated.

It was agreed by consensus to accept the resignation of Caron Hood as part-time secretary in the DA's office in Calais. Commissioner Gardner asked the County Manager to see if that office could possibly delay hiring a replacement in order to save money.

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MOTION Commissioner Shorey moved to hire Samantha Young and Michael Congelosi as part-time ECSs in the RCC. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

It was noted that they are not to work more than 32 hours per week except during training or in an emergency.

MOTION Commissioner Shorey moved to hire Allen Rolfe as a part-time ECS in the RCC noting that he is not to work more than 32 aggregate hours per week as he is already employed by the County as a part-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Sign Tax Abatement Decisions.

Two tax abatement decisions were signed: in the matter of Beal vs. Town of Milbridge and in the matter of Arey vs. Town of Milbridge.

AGENDA ITEM: Schedule Tax Abatement Hearing - Magee vs. Milbridge

Noting that they have what might be a lengthy grievance hearing scheduled prior to the next Commissioners meeting on May 12, 2011, the Commissioners agreed to schedule this tax abatement hearing for one hour before the June 9, 2011 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of increase in mileage rate paid to Civil Process Servers

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to increase the mileage rate to Civil Process Servers from \$.44 to \$.48 per mile. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion and opened it for discussion.

Commissioner Shorey posed the question, how can a mileage rate be raised just for the Civil Process Servers? Discussion ensued regarding the price of gas, the current County budget, what the State pays and what the statute says. Commissioner Shorey stated that he thought the rate should be the same across the board and called for a vote.

Both Commissioners Gardner and Shorey voted no and the motion failed.

Commissioner Gardner noted that they may bring this issue up again next month.

AGENDA ITEM: Award cruiser bid

Commissioner Gardner asked the Treasurer if there is money available to purchase new cruisers to which she replied yes. Three bids were

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received for two new police package cruisers. They were:

Pratt Chevrolet - Calais:	2011 Chevrolet Impala Police	\$21,700.00
Quirk Ford - Augusta:	2011 Ford P71 Crown Victoria	\$22,488.00
Profile Blueberry Ford/Cranberry:	2011 Ford Interceptor	\$26,646.48

MOTION Commissioner Shorey moved to award the bid to Pratt Chevrolet for two 2011 Chevrolet Impala Police Package Cruisers in the amount of \$21,700.00 each. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Authorization to place Buick LeSabre out to bid

MOTION Commissioner Crowley move to authorize the County Manager to put its 2004 Buick LeSabre out to bid. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6 A(3) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 5:12 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 6:13 p.m.

No decisions or motions were made after Executive Session.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Adjournment
6:13 p.m.

Attest:

Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.