

April 8, 2010

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
held April 8, 2010
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
Mike Hinerman, EMA
Jill Holmes, Treasurer
Judy Alexander, Financial Accountant
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds
Dean Preston, UT Supervisor
Judy East, WCCOG
Eleody Libby, WC: OC
Diane Smith-Halkett, SCEC
John Ferland, ORPC
Dennis Perry, RCC
Joshua Rolfe, RCC
Larry Hayward, RCC
Travis Oakes, RCC
Adam Davis, RCC
Nancy Oden, CEF & MVNO

**AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Ocean Renewable Power Company's
EDA TAA grant application**

Mr. John Ferland of Ocean Renewable Power Company thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to make his presentation today. Because the County is eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), the County is being asked to be the lead applicant on a grant proposal to the DOC's Economic Development Administration (EDA), Administrators of the "Community Trade Adjustment Assistance Program." (See attached e-mail) Collaborating with the County on the application are the City of Eastport, the Eastern Maine

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Development Council (EMDC), the Sunrise County Economic Council (SCEC) and ORPC of Maine.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to support the grant application of ORPC as described. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the February Special Emergency Meeting (Feb. 26, 2010)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approved the February Special Emergency Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of March Regular Meeting Minutes (March 4, 2010)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the March UT Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion. Commissioner Shorey abstained. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the March Special Meeting Minutes (March 18, 2010)

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the March Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion. Commissioner Shorey abstained. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports

The Commissioners were provided monthly reports in their meeting packets. (See attached) There was no discussion.

AGENDA ITEM: Sign Six Month Certificates for Leslie Look and Gregory Schorrs

Six Month Certificates were signed for Leslie Look and Gregory Schorrs.

AGENDA ITEM: Payroll status change notices

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MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to terminate Donna Crocker as a temporary financial accountant in the Treasurer's Office. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Leslie Smith as a part-time cook. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Keith York from a temporary full-time deputy to a permanent full-time deputy beginning the week of May 2, 2010 after the retirement of John Fuller. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Sign Criminal Forfeiture Transfer of Assets

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to sign the Criminal Forfeiture Transfer of Assets with \$2,000 going to the Washington County Sheriff's Office and \$217 going to the Milbridge Police Department. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of extending the existing snow plowing contract with the "By Us" Company.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to sign and extend the existing snow plowing contract with the "By Us" Company for the 2010/2011 season. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The cost will remain the same as it was for the 2009/2010 season.

AGENDA ITEM: Award asset forfeiture bid on 1992 Mercury Sable
Only one bid was received:

MOTION Commissioner Shorey moved to award the bid on the 1992 Mercury Sable to Paul Holmes in the amount of \$107.00. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion of closure of Calais Dispatch

With the closure of the dispatch in Calais, the Washington County RCC will be responsible for taking on the extra calls generated from the Calais area, including fire and EMS calls. At issue is how is

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the WCRCC going to be able to maintain and pay for its current response load plus the new influx of the Calais calls. Ideas discussed included charging a fee based on the number of calls and/or an increase in taxes to make up for the additional cost. Discussion was had about whether it was best to pay overtime or hire new ECSs. Also discussed were the ramifications of exceeding the current budget. To that end, the Commissioners agreed to hold a special meeting with the Budget Advisory Committee on April 22, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. with the dollar figures available so an educated decision can be made.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6 E to discuss a legal issue. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

After Executive Session:

MOTION Commissioner Crowley moved to retain Attorney Tim Pease of Rudman & Winchell as the County's legal counsel at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 without prior approval of the Commissioners. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

It was agreed by consensus to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

6:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.