

May 12, 2011

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners  
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting  
held May 12, 2011  
in the Commissioners' Conference Room  
Machias, Maine**

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Attending the meeting were:  
Commissioner Kevin L. Shorey  
Commissioner John B. Crowley, Sr.  
Betsy Fitzgerald, County Manager  
Dean Preston, UT Supervisor  
Gail Popham, Administration  
Neil Kiely, First Wind  
Donnie Smith, Sheriff  
Mike St. Louis, Chief Deputy  
Mary Zidalis, Jail  
Mike Hinerman, EMA  
Jill Holmes, Treasurer  
Judy Alexander, Financial Accountant  
Sharon Strout, Registrar of Deeds  
Darlene Wallace, Deeds  
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds  
Joshua Rolfe, RCC  
Harold Clossey, SCEC  
Diane Smith-Halkett, SCEC - TIF Administrator  
Eleody Libby, WC:OC  
Nancy Oden, Clean Earth Farms  
Sharon Mack, BDN  
Ruth Leubecker, MVNO  
Phil Duggan, DECP  
Wayne Jones, Trescott  
Sandra Jones, Trescott  
Linda Schofield, UT  
Bob Schofield, UT  
Heidi Herzberger, Trescott

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Commissioner Gardner was unable to attend. Commissioner Shorey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and noted that the first item on the agenda was a presentation by Neil Kiely of First Wind on the tangible benefits to Washington County from the Bowers Mountain Project. Mr. Kiely introduced himself and began his presentation by stating that the reason he was here was to inform the Commissioners of the

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tangible benefits now required by recent legislation. First Wind intends to deliver those benefits in three ways. (See attached memo) First, they will establish a "Conservation Fund" to support conservation efforts in the project area. Second, they will establish an "Energy Fund" to assist Kossuth residents in reducing energy costs. Finally, First Wind intends to make direct payments to Washington County in the amount of \$10,000 per year for twenty years to use for public purposes, including but not limited to property tax reductions, economic development projects, land and natural resource conservation, tourism promotion or reduction of energy costs. Mr. Kiely concluded by asking the Commissioners for a letter accepting these tangible benefits projects. Commissioner Crowley added that this was a good proposal.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to authorize County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald to write a letter accepting the Tangible Benefits Package from First Wind. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The meeting continued with the UT portion of the agenda.

**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the April Regular UT Meeting Minutes  
(April 13, 2011)**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to approved the April Regular UT Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report**

(See attached) UT Supervisor Dean Preston noted the highlights of his monthly report. He stated that the budget had been reviewed in front on the Taxation Committee with no questions or concerns. He has received paving bids and summer projects would be proceeding soon. Regarding the issue of the #19 road, Dean explained that he had met with FEMA and they have visited and assessed the bridge over Northern Stream and he believes the UT will be receiving about \$51,750 for repairs.

Next, Dean provided the Commissioners with the new UT Shellfish Ordinance and requested their approval of it.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the UT Shellfish Ordinance as amended May 11, 2011 and forward it to the**

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**DMR. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Dean also had an authorization form that needed to be sign to permit Bangor Hydro to place two utility poles on the East Ridge Road in Marion Twp. **The Commissioners agreed by consensus to sign this.**

His third action item was to request the Commissioners to vote to hire Evan Ackley as the new UT Animal Control Officer/Shellfish Warden. He noted that Evan had completed his Shellfish Warden training last week and would be completing his Animal Control Officer training this week in Augusta.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Evan Ackley as the UT Animal Control Officer/Shellfish Warden. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session for a personnel issue pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6 A(3). Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 4:15 p.m.**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 4:30 p.m.**

No decisions or motions were made after Executive Session.

The meeting continued.

**AGENDA ITEM: TIF Loan Committee update**

(See attached) Diane Smith-Halkett of SCEC told the Commissioners that the Grant Committee was recommending the following award:

Proposal #1103-06-CF-A: Up to \$25,000 from the Capital Project Fund to WS Transport of Trescott (Wayne and Sandra Jones) toward the purchase of a good used tractor and trailer for long-haul trucking, contingent on securing other necessary financing or funds for the project. Total budget is \$65,000 - \$75,000.

A short discussion was had regarding the Jones' wanting to build back their business.

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**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to approve Proposal #1103-06-CF-A in the amount \$25,000 to WS Transport. Commissioner Shorey second the motion which passed unanimously.

More discussion was had on what more projects were in the works including three that Dean is working on, cell towers and possibly expanding broadband with Axiom Technologies.

**AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment**

Nancy Oden wanted to speak regarding her proposal to the TIF Committee on making raised bed gardens available to any UT resident who requested one. She again wanted the Commissioners to vote on her proposal. Commissioner Shorey explained to her that they (the Commissioners) had faith in the Committee's recommendation not to fund her proposal. Discussion continued. Finally Commissioner Crowley stated that maybe she should scale down her proposal. Three members of the audience stood and stated that they were in favor of this idea. Commissioner Shorey suggest Nancy work with the County Manager to try and work out a proposal that would stand up to the Committees' requirements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**4:55 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

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**Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.**