

June 9, 2011

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners
Unorganized Territories Regular Meeting
held June 9, 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
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds
Alicia Jonah, Buildings & Grounds
Joshua Rolfe, RCC
Jen Peters, SCEC
Sara McConnell, WC:OC
Nancy Oden, Clean Earth Farms
Phil Duggan, DECP

The meeting continued with the UT portion of the agenda.

**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the May Regular UT Meeting Minutes
(May 12, 2011)**

MOTION Commissioner Shorey moved to approved the May Regular UT Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion. Commissioner Gardner abstained as he had not been here. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM: Monthly Report

(See attached) UT Supervisor Dean Preston noted the highlights of his monthly report. He stated that he would be training on his GPS

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to improve maps. He has received paving bids and summer projects would be proceeding soon. Regarding the issue of the #19 road, Dean noted that the State would be maintaining a part of it. He noted that the UT would be participating in the Household Hazardous Waste removal project in June and the Universal Waste Collection project in July. Regarding shellfish, Dean stated that the conservation project had gone well this year. Regarding fire and ambulance coverage, he noted that he was developing a map to reflect service areas and law enforcement coverage areas and would be forwarding it to the WCRCC as well as Orono. Dean also told the Commissioners that the UT is in collaboration with Axiom Technologies to submit a grant proposal to provide broad band in the identified areas in the UT lacking service.

Some discussion followed regarding cell phone towers, costs, their height and locations.

AGENDA ITEM: TIF Loan Committee update

(See attached) Diane Smith-Halkett, TIF administrator of SCEC was unable to attend. County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald told the Commissioners that the raised bed gardens project ad was in the papers and of the plan to provide the beds, soil and seeds for the project. It would require a gardening class to be taken and the participants would take pictures.

She also mentioned that a previous grant awarded to the Maine Coast Heritage Trust's organic blueberry study had been reduced by 25% due to a reduction in acreage.

Discussion followed regarding the raised bed gardens project. The UT Supervisor noted that he abstained when the TIF committee held their vote. Commissioners Shorey and Gardner both questioned the sustainability of the project. They also wanted to know where the balance of the funding would come from to which Dean replied it would be in in-kind donations. Commissioner Crowley was in favor of the project stating that the money needs to go back to the people. In the end, the Commissioners directed the County Manager to call the DECD to get their agreement on this project as presented.

***MOTION* Commissioner Shorey moved to table any approval or disapproval of the raised bed gardens until such time as an answer was received from DECD. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment
None

ADJOURNMENT
4:45 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.