

July 8, 2010

**Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
held July 8, 2010  
in the District Court Room  
Machias, Maine**

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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  
Mary Zidalis, Jail  
Mary Lou Huntley, Jail  
Greg Schorrs, Jail  
Mike Hinerman, EMA  
Jill Holmes, Treasurer  
Judy Alexander, Financial Accountant  
Sharon Strout, Registrar of Deeds  
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds  
Carlene Holmes, Probate  
Valdine Atwood, Archives  
Harold Clossey, SCEC  
Diane Smith-Halkett, SCEC  
Sara McConnell, WC:OC  
Nancy Oden, CEF & MVNO  
Sharon Mack, Bangor Daily News  
Albert Alley, Jonesboro

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**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the June Regular Commissioners Meeting  
Minutes (June 3, 2010)**

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to approve the June Regular  
Commissioners Meeting Minutes as presented.  
Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion which passed  
unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports**

The Commissioners were provided monthly reports in their meeting  
packets. (See attached) Sheriff Smith noted that Nancy Oden

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had given a gardening class at the jail to the male inmates and it was well received.

**AGENDA ITEM: Sign Six-Month Certificates**

Six-Month Certificates were signed for Caron Hood, Eileen Alley, John Lingley and Caleb Ross.

**AGENDA ITEM: Payroll status change notices**

A payroll change notice was signed for Shawn Donahue who resigned to take the job of Chief of Police in Baileyville. Sheriff Smith noted that he would be missed and the Commissioners offered to write a letter congratulating him.

A discussion ensued regarding the Sheriff's Office staffing crisis. The Maine Criminal Justice Academy training time commitment was discussed along with the lack of applicants. Commissioner Shorey stated that the Sheriff's Office needs to be more pro-active in searching for qualified applicants. Harold Clossey stated that he may be able to help through the Workforce Development Board.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Gardner moved to hire Ryan Murry and Karen Redman from part-time Emergency Communications Specialists to Temporary full-time ECSs. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

It was noted that this is to be for six months at which time it will be considered whether to keep them as full time or change them back to part-time.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Gardner moved to hire Mary Lou Huntley from part-time Corrections Officer to full-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Gardner moved to hire Albert Alley as a part-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Shorey moved to promote Thomas Chambers from Patrol Deputy to Patrol Sergeant. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to promote April Fuller from Corporal to Sergeant, Corrections. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Gardner moved to hire Greg Schorrs from part-time to Temporary full-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

It was noted that this is for six months at which time it would be decided whether to keep him as full-time or revert back to part-time.

Also, a payroll change notice had not been generated for this hire and would be signed at the next regular meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of a Preferred Provider for Worker's Comp.**

County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald told the Commissioners that the Worker's Comp. office had recommended Trenton Health Care which is 62 miles one-way from Machias as the Preferred Provider for employees with injuries that fall under Workers Comp. Commissioner Gardner stated that he thought the first Doctor to see someone who had been injured on the job should be someone local. The item was **tabled** while a search could be made locally by the County Manager.

**AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of purchase of large document scanner with the Archives Committee**

Val Atwood told the Commissioners of an opportunity available for a Rural Development Grant for the Machias Historical Society to get a \$25,000 scanner. It is a 55/45 match with the County's portion being about \$11,000. It was suggested that the match could come from the Deeds surcharge monies.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Gardner moved to support the Grant application to purchase a scanner with part County money from the Registry of Deeds surcharge money. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was noted that this equipment would be County owned.

**AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Land Ports of Entry (LPOE) at Forest City**

The Commissioners have heard from many residents of the area and they have made it clear that they do not want a physical expansion of the port of entry. The Commissioners agreed by consensus to support

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Option #3: LOPE Modernization and Operation via Repair and Alterations to the Existing LPOE.

**AGENDA ITEM: Update on bulk copy rates for the Registry of Deeds**  
Registrar Sharon Strout told the Commissioners that John Simpson (using his name instead of MacImage) wants copies from the Registry for free using the Freedom of Information Act. She stated that ACS can do copies for .02¢ per page and the Deeds office can do copies for .18¢ per page. She was still unsure which way to go and would be speaking with Attorney Pellegrini as soon as he was back from vacation.

**AGENDA ITEM: Sign WCRCC SOP (Approved at June 3 meeting)**  
The Commissioners all signed the WCRCC SOP. It will be forwarded to Chief Deputy Mike St. Louis for his signature also.

**AGENDA ITEM: Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) bid approval**

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to award the TAN bid to Machias Savings Bank in the amount of \$650,000 at 2.35 percent interest payable by December 31, 2010. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: Reschedule Tax Abatement hearings.**  
It was agreed by consensus to schedule the hearings on the next meeting day, August 5, 2010 at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Gardner moved to adjourn. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**  
5:05 p.m.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.