

September 8, 2011

Minutes of the Washington County Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
held September 8, 2011  
in the Commissioners Conference 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  
Mike St. Louis, Chief Deputy  
Robert Gross, Jail Administrator  
Mary Zidalis, Jail  
Sharon Strout, Registrar of Deeds  
Darlene Wallace, Deeds  
Carlene Holmes, Probate  
Jim Lucas, Buildings & Grounds  
Eleody Libby, WC:OC  
Diane Smith-Halkett, SCEC  
Ted Gessler, Judicial Branch  
Mike Coty, Office of Judicial Marshalls  
Phil Duggan, DECP  
Sharon Mack, BDN  
Darren Prout, The By "Us" Co.  
Greg Parker, Mid-Atlantic Salt, LLC  
Mike Crabtree, MDEA  
Jeff Davidson, Attorney  
Albert Alley, Jail  
Linda Cox, East Machias  
Corin Dowling, East Machias  
Sam Denson, Lubec  
Roliza Bartlett, Calais

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**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA § 405-A 6 (3) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 3:20 p.m.

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**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Gardner moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 3:30 p.m.**

No decisions or motions were made after Executive Session.

A Tax Abatement Hearing and two Public hearings were held next. The regular meeting reconvened at 4:06 p.m.

**AGENDA ITEM: Update from Ted Gessler from the Maine Court System**

Mr. Gessler stated that he was here to brief the Commissioners on the court security, entry screening, and about plans for a possible expansion of the building.

Mr. Gessler stated that the purpose of the entry screening was not just to protect judges but all people who come to the courthouse. He said they are hoping to conduct more screening in the entire state in the coming months with a goal of 100% eventually.

Mr. Gessler also informed the Commissioners that there is now authorization to issue bonds for a building project at the Machias courthouse. It was noted that there have been plans for the building for ten years. He said needs have changed and conversations needed to be had in order to decide the best course of action. Commissioner Gardner raised the question of who would own any new addition. Mr. Gessler stated that should be the first question asked. He indicated something could start happening by next spring. Commissioner Gardner directed Betsy to start exploring and reaching out to everyone involved. Attorney Jeff Davidson asked if local land abutters and users of the building will be included in discussions to which Mr. Gessler stated yes, all stakeholders would be involved.

**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the August Public Hearing on the Fiscal 2012 County Budget Minutes (August 11, 2011)**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Shorey moved to approve the August Public Hearing Minutes as presented. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the August Regular Commissioners Meeting Minutes (August 11, 2011)**

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

**AGENDA ITEM: Monthly and Quarterly Reports**

The Commissioners were provided monthly reports in their meeting packets. (See attached) EMA Director Mike Hinerman informed the Commissioners that the BIDP project contract language had been agreed to and would be signed soon. Work is to begin next Monday, September 12.

**AGENDA ITEM: Payroll Status Change Notices**

The resignations of Raymond Mills as part-time Corrections Officer and Crystal Sanborn as part-time Cook were accepted by consensus and without prejudice.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to transfer Christopher Correll as a full-time Corrections Officer to a full-time Patrol Deputy. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to transfer Albert Alley from a part-time to a full-time Corrections Officer. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**\*MOTION\*** Commissioner Crowley moved to hire Duane McLellan, Samuel Denson, Corin Dowling and Roliza Bartlett as part-time Correctons Officers. Commissioner Shorey 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 Crowley moved to hire Linda Cox as part-time Cook. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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

**It was agreed by consensus to accept the retirement/resignation letter of Kathy Maker from the Machias DA's office.**

Commissisoner Gardner noted that she had done an excellent job in the years she has been here and wished her all the best.

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**AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the disposal of DA's office chairs**

**The Commissioners agreed by consensus to approve the disposal of the DA's office chairs to an employee for the cost of \$1.00.**

**AGENDA ITEM: Award sand/salt bid for the 2011/2012 season**

Four bids were received. Darren Prout was at the meeting on behalf of Cargill Deicing Technologies. Last year he emphasized the jobs being kept in Washington County. Greg Parker was at the meeting representing Mid-Atlantic Salt, LLC. He stated that since Mid-Atlantic had the low bid, they should get the award. Commissioner Gardner asked Administrative Assistant Gail Popham to retrieve some information from the file and the matter was tabled.

**AGENDA ITEM: Extend contract for snowplowing with the By "Us" Co. for the 2011/2012 season**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to extend the snowplowing contract with the By "Us" Co. for the 2011/2012 season. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**AGENDA ITEM: Award truck bid (Lubec)**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to accept the bid from Darling's for a 2011 Ford F150 Super Cab - 3.7L V6 in the amount of \$22,243.00. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The sand/salt issue was removed from the table and discussed. Commissioner Gardner stated that the reason the County goes out to bid is to get the lowest price for the towns. He said the County has to think of the towns. Commissioner Shorey agreed and Commissioner Crowley concurred.

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Shorey moved to accept the bid of \$63.55 per ton from Mid-Atlantic Salt, LLC. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**\*MOTION\* Commissioner Shorey moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 M RSA § 405-A 6 (3) to discuss a personnel issue. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 4:55 p.m.**

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\*MOTION\* Commissioner Gardner moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Crowley seconded the motion which passed unanimously. It was 5:10 p.m.

\*MOTION\* Commissioner Crowley moved to place Jim Lucas on Administrative Leave with pay effective 9/8/11 until further notice. Commissioner Shorey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Adjournment 5:10 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gail Popham, Administrative Asst.