

**Sagadahoc County Board of Commissioners**  
***Meeting Minutes***  
**July 25, 2014**

A special meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held on Friday, July 25, 2014, in the County Commissioners' Meeting Room, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530.

Present: Chair Max Dawson, Vice Chair Charles Crosby, III, Commissioner Carol Grose, Administrator Pamela Hile, Deputy Administrator Robin Dayton, Mrs. Judy Barrington, Trustee, Sagadahoc County Preservation Society

Chair Dawson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and established the presence of a quorum.

1. Discussion of Weathervane/Cupola Repairs

Administrator Hile introduced Mrs. Judy Barrington, a trustee with the Sagadahoc County Preservation Society. Judy explained that the building is not separately listed as a historic building but the Courthouse is included in the Bath Historic District.

Administrator Hile summarized that the roof of the Court House is in need of repair, the weathervane is leaning to one side and needs to be removed in order to make necessary repairs to the roof. The Country received 2 recommendations. GE roofing provided an estimate of \$19,000 just to install scaffolding to assess the damage and provide further costs to make all necessary repairs. Penobscot Company provided an estimate of \$21,165 which includes the cost of a crane to remove the weathervane and put it back, assess the damage, and repair on site what can be repaired. Mrs. Barrington suggested a third option utilizing steeple jacks. This idea was rejected as steeplejacks need to tie into the roof which, in its current state is not advisable.

Known repairs include removing the copper spine to the larger section of the roof, making repairs and then replacing the copper. The weathervane itself is not the problem; it needs to be removed to fix the roof. Administrator Hile added that the engineer was unable to get directly into the copula; there is a lot of rot under the weathervane and beams need to be replaced.

The Commissioners began with a discussion of the necessity to return the weathervane to the roof. Several suggestions were made about what to do with the weathervane. Chair Dawson expressed his concern that if the Commissioners are not stewards of the building, no one else will be either. The weathervane is important. Commissioner Grose indicated her appreciation for history noting the weathervane dates back to at least 1885 if not earlier and therefore should stay together. Vice Chair Crosby stated that the price tag to return the weathervane to the top of the building is an issue for him. It is not an urgent to put it back. Mrs. Barrington suggested that the Preservation Society may be able to help with the cost to return the weathervane to the roof. The Courthouse with the weathervane on the roof is an iconic architectural style recognized across New England and is very visible as you enter Bath.

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Commissioner Dawson suggested as an alternative, to raise the funds to return the weathervane to the roof. Mrs. Barrington will ask the Preservation Society to assist with raising \$4,000 to \$5,000 dollars.

Upon **MOTION** by Chair Dawson and second by Vice Chair Crosby, the Board **voted unanimously to authorize up to \$17, 165, plus a \$1,000 contingency, from operating, reserve and contingency accounts, to make the necessary repairs, with the condition that we to raise funds to place the weathervane back on the roof.**

2. Audit Engagement Letter

Administrator Hile submitted the audit engagement letter in the amount of \$14,000 to the Board for approval. The Auditors will be here in August.

Upon **MOTION** Vice Chair Crosby and second by Chair Dawson the Board **unanimously authorized the Chairman and Administrator to execute the audit engagement letter. .**

3. Joint Pre-Trial Services Contract – Update

The Administrator advised that Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox and Waldo counties agreed to work together to contract with Maine Pre-Trial Services to reduce administrative costs. Once this effort is implemented, we hope to generate a combined total savings of roughly \$350,000.

Upon **MOTION** by Vice Chair Crosby and second by Commissioner Grose, the meeting was **adjourned by unanimous acclamation at 2:15 p.m.**

Respectfully, submitted,

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Robin Dayton, Deputy Administrator

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