



Sagadahoc County Commissioners Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2016

A regular meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the County Courthouse, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530.

Present: County of Sagadahoc Commissioners: Mr. Charles Crosby III, Chair, Ms. Carol Grose, Vice Chair, Mr. Max Dawson; Pamela Hile, County Administrator; Brett Strout, Chief Deputy; Lt. Scott Stewart; Eric Sawyer, EMA Director; Steve Edmondson, DV Investigator; Mary Kay Blatz, Asst. to the Administrator

Guests: Bruce Fitzgerald, Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency

I. Vice-chair Grose called the meeting to order and established the presence of a quorum at 3:00 p.m.

II. Public comments

1. Presentation – Bruce Fitzgerald, Director, Maine Emergency Management Association made a presentation on the state of MEMA as well as a plea for continued support of County Emergency Management programs (presentation available upon request.)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Minutes for March 8, March 11 and March 15, 2016
- 2. Approval of Warrants
- 3. March Financial Statements
- 4. Departmental Reports (Written)
- 5. Upcoming Meeting(s):
 - a.) Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2016
 - b.) Joint Public Hearing with BAC on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
 - c.) Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 IF NEEDED

Commissioner Dawson notes that with the correction of an error in the minutes mistakenly referring to Lt. Stewart as “Sergeant”, the minutes and Consent Agenda should be accepted.

Upon **MOTION** by Chairman Crosby and seconded by Vice Chair Grose, **the consent agenda was unanimously approved as presented.**

III. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Domestic Violence Investigator – Steve Edmonson

DVI Steve Edmondson reports that looking back over his tenure as DV Investigator for the County he noticed a trend that warranted analysis. This resulted in his documenting DV arrests from 2004 to present, dividing the results into the first six years (2004-09) with 83.7 annual DV arrests, and the second six years (2010-2015), which were reduced to an

average of 68.9 DV arrests annually. Speculating on the contributing factors, the DVI feels that people are “getting it.” Also contributing is the evolution of a better response team which includes better training for law enforcement, with a strong response and arrest; better support through the DV investigator and Maine Pretrial Services; stronger Courts; and more aggressive probation. An additional factor is the closing of Brunswick Naval Air Station in 2007. The current 2016 statistics follow this trend, with the rate io arrests even lower than 2015. While there is always a degree of non-reporting or under-reporting, , these numbers are encouraging. The DVI also noted that he has done a series of lectures to area high school students on the signs and behaviors of dating violence, which is often a precursor to domestic violence.

2. Sheriff’s Department – Chief Deputy Brett Strout

Lieutenant Scott Stewart expressed his thanks to the Sheriff and Chief Deputy for their great support and the Sheriff’s Office, Commissioners and entire County staff for making his time here a positive experience, and advised that he has absolutely no issues or complaints and will miss the closeness and positivity within the organization. He wishes to convey to the Commissioners and to the Administrator the difficulty in reaching the decision to leave, but feels that it is a necessary next step in his career, as he will be going into the position of Captain with the associated supervisory responsibilities. Chief Deputy Strout replied that Lt. Stewart is leaving a tremendous role to fill and that the County is better because of his contributions over the time that he served. The Sheriff and Chief Deputy will take their time in filling this position.

Chief Deputy Strout reported that there are 19 sentenced and 20 pre-sentenced Sagadahoc County inmates at Two Bridges Regional Jail. At the recent Sheriff’s Department meeting, Officer Greg Siegel was named Deputy of the Year. The cruisers have been received and striped and are awaiting outfitting, which is scheduled to be completed next week.

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Appropriation of State Funds for TBRJ

The Administrator presented the following summary: The County has received \$13,072.01 from the State, which represents our share of Board of Corrections funds previously set aside to pay off a potential law suit settlement with Somerset County. As the State subsequently won an appeal of this suit, the funds have been disbursed to the Counties. As this money would have been distributed to the jails under the BOC structure, it is respectfully requested that the Commissioners authorize its transfer to Two Bridges.

The County also received \$2,638.48 for last quarter’s share of “fines and forfeitures”. As has been the case with previous such payments, it is requested that these funds also be appropriated for transfer to TBRJ.

Upon MOTION by Vice-Chair Grose and second by Commissioner Dawson, the Commissioners unanimously approved the transfer of the BOC funds (\$13,072.01) and the Fines and Forfeitures funds (2638.48) to Two Bridges Regional Jail.

2. Appointment of County Health Officer

The Board of Health has requested that Sharon Bagalio, BSN, MPH, CPHRM be appointed to serve as the Sagadahoc County Health Officer. Sharon, a Topsham resident, has been a Registered Nurse in the Greater Portland and Mid Coast Region for over 35 years. Her background is in critical care nursing and nursing administration. She has a

passion for public health and disaster preparedness and response, and she holds a Masters of Public Health from A.T. Still University.

Upon **MOTION** by Vice-Chair Grose and second by Commissioner Dawson, **the Commissioners unanimously approved the appointment of Sharon Bagalio, BSN, MPH, CPHRM to the position of Sagadahoc County Health Officer.**

3. Authorization to begin hiring process for EMA Deputy Director

As EMA Deputy Director Jason Shedlock has accepted a position with the City of Portland, EMA Director Eric Sawyer is respectfully requesting that the Commissioners authorize him to initiate the hiring process to fill this vacancy.

Upon **MOTION** by Vice-Chair Grose and second by Commissioner Dawson, **the Commissioners unanimously approve EMA Director Eric Sawyer to begin the hiring process to fill the position of EMA Deputy Director.**

4. Request to Use County Property

Several County employees have inquired if it would be permissible for them to set up their sale tables on the Courthouse grounds on the day of Main Street Bath Mayfair and City Wide Yard Sale, on May 7th. The Commissioners are asked to deliberate this matter with consideration of potential liability to the County. Commissioner Dawson stated that previously Maine Street Bath had liability for this event, and that this would be a good initiative for goodwill and employee morale. Administrator Hile offered to follow up with the Malcolm Ulmer (MCCA Risk Director) for additional information regarding liability.

5. Update FY 2016-17 Budget

The Budget Advisory Committee met for approximately one hour on Thursday, March 31st. At that time, they reviewed the various departmental operating requests, as well as the salary survey and market adjustment proposals. They met on April 7th with the EMA and Communications Directors to review their requests for part-time administrative assistance (these meetings were at the BAC's request). Capital requests were also reviewed, and preliminary recommendations to the Commissioners were drafted.

The BAC voiced support of the entire budget and also recommended an assessment of the Communication Department to ensure that the managerial depth is adequate. They also felt strongly that the Communications/EMA request for an administrative assistant was justified.

The Administrator advised that a joint Public Hearing (Budget Advisory Committee and Commissioners) will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26th in the third floor jury room to receive public comments on the proposed FY 2016-17 budget, after which the BAC will make their formal recommendations to the Commissioners.

6. County Administrator's Report – *Available upon request.*

V. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

None requested

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon **MOTION** by Commissioner Dawson and second by Vice Chair Grose, **the Board voted by unanimous acclamation to adjourn at 4:29 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kay Blatz, Assistant to the Administrator