

Sagadahoc County Board of Commissioners
Minutes
March 16, 2018

A regular meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held at 2:15 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018 in the new Commissioners' Meeting Room of the County Courthouse, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530. (This meeting was postponed from March 13, 2018.)

Present: Commissioners Charles Crosby III, Chair; Carol Grose, Vice Chair; Rabyrne Hutton. County Administrator Pamela Hile; Sheriff Joel Merry; Registrar of Deeds Lynn Moore.

Chair Crosby called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. and established the presence of a quorum.

There were no public comments

Consideration of Consent Agenda:

- 1. Approval of Minutes for February 13, 2018
- 2. Financial Statements for February 2018
- 3. Warrants
- 4. Departmental Reports (Written)
- 5. Upcoming Meeting(s):
 - a.) Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2018
 - b.) Budget Work Session with BAC at 8:45 a.m. Friday, March 16, 2018
 - c.) Special Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2018
 - d.) Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 IF NEEDED
 - e.) Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 IF NEEDED
 - f.) Joint Public Hearing on FY 2018-19 Budget at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Upon motion by Commissioner Grose and second by Commissioner Hutton, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as presented.
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Departmental Presentations: Sheriff's Department/Jails – Joel Merry

Sheriff Merry gave updates on some of the more serious matters handled by his department during the past several weeks, including the murder of a Bowdoinham woman by her grandson, and possible threats at Topsham schools. He advised that the department is in the process of reviewing its policy regarding response to school incidents. He noted that the County's jail population remained steady at 34/35. Discussion then followed concerning funding for TBRJ in the coming year. It was observed that at least one of our contracted Counties is in talks with another County, and that TBRJ will have to be very prudent when negotiating the contract renewal. Matters then turned to funding solutions in general, and the Sheriff noted that MCCA, MSA and MACCAM will be working together to propose legislation that will address this problem in the long-term.

Business Items:

1. Adjustment to Vehicle Purchase Contract Price – Sheriff Merry

The Administrator presented the following summary: As you will recall, the Commissioners previously approved the award of a contract to Tucker Ford for the purchase of three vehicles. A portion of the pricing was based on significant trade-ins, especially for the K-9

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unit (\$12,500). Unfortunately, this vehicle was struck by another car and sustained damage in the amount of \$4,628.15. The Risk Pool has issued a check for \$3,628.15, which reflects a deductible of \$1,000. Yankee Ford has advised that, as this is the vehicle's second accident, the resale value is decreased. After negotiations with Chief Deputy Strout, they have proposed the following: Offer \$10,500 for the trade "as is", with the County also providing them with a check for \$4,628.15 for the repairs (which Tucker will undertake themselves). The Risk Pool is confident it can recover the \$1,000 deductible from the other party's insurance company; however, they feel it unlikely they can also recover the \$2,000 in lost trade-in value. Thus the overall purchase contract will increase by \$2,000. There are sufficient funds available in the Sheriff's Vehicles Capital Reserve account to cover this expense.

After lengthy discussion, the Commissioners stressed that the Risk Pool should attempt to recover the \$2,000 in lost trade-in value. If unsuccessful, other options should be explored, such as filing with small claims court. Sheriff Merry will report back with recommendations at next month's meeting.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hutton and second by Commissioner Grose, the Commissioners voted unanimously to **authorize the issuance of a check for \$4,628.17 to Tucker Ford (or an adjustment to the final payment that would reflect that amount); an increase of \$2,000 in the contract price; and to direct the Risk Pool to attempt to recover both the deductible and the lost trade-in value from the other party's insurance company.**

2. Certificates of Appreciation for Cpl. Ian Alexander and Brix

The Administrator advised that Ian Alexander is stepping down as the County's K-9 Deputy after 14 years of service. Our current K-9 dog, B4rix, will be retired after serving for 6 years.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hutton and second by Commissioner Grose, the Board voted unanimously to **issue Certificates of Appreciation to Ian Alexander and Brix for their service to the County.**

3. FY 2018-19 Budget Overview

This item will be discussed at a special meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

4. Upcoming Budget Meetings

The Administrator asked that the Commissioners make note of the Special Commissioners Meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on March 20, 2018, and a Joint Public Hearing with the BAC to receive comments on the proposed FY 2018-19 Budget, scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018.

5. County Administrator's Report – Available for review upon request.

6. Other: Conversion of Deeds Space to Commissioners' Meeting Room/County Conference Room

Registrar of Deeds Lynn Moore advised the Commissioners that her department no longer needed to retain copies of all the deed books as they are all available on-line, on micro-film, and in storage (the originals). The County has not been printing books for several years, and discarding the extra books would make the entire back room available for conversion into a much needed Meeting/Conference Room. The Commissioners discussed disposing of the books (the binders will be offered to other County departments, and the rest will be recycled), and the shelving. Registrar Moore asked permission to see if Oxford County had need of the free-standing units; however,

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Commissioner Grose expressed concern over giving away items to another County that are purchased by the taxpayers of this County. Ms. Moore noted that the units had been purchased with preservation funds; however, Commissioner Grose remained uncomfortable with giving the property away.

Upon **motion** by Chair Crosby and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Board voted two to one to **donate to Oxford any units they needed and then to try to sell the remaining stand alone and wall shelving units. Ayes: Commissioner Crosby and Hutton. Nay: Commissioner Grose.**

The Commissioners also requested that the Administrator provide an estimate of the work necessary to convert the room, including the installation of a door and an additional thermostat.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hutton and second by Commissioner Grose, the Board voted by unanimous acclamation **to adjourn at 3:40 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Hile, County Administrator

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