

Sagadahoc County Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 9, 2018

A regular meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held at 3:00 pm Tuesday, October 9, 2018 in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the County Courthouse, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530.

Present: Chair Charles Crosby, III; Vice-chair Carol Grose; Commissioner Rabyrne Hutton; County Administrator Pamela Hile; Sheriff Joel Merry; Chief Deputy Brett Strout; Communications Director Brodie Hinckley; Deputy Communications Director Tammy Shiers; Assistant to the County Administrator, Mary Kay Blatz

I. Chair Crosby called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and established the presence of a quorum.

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes for September 11, 2018
2. September Financial Statements
3. Warrants
4. Departmental Reports (Written)
5. Upcoming Meeting(s):
 - a. Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2018
 - b. Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 IF NEEDED

Upon motion by Vice-chair Grose, and second by Commissioner Hutton, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

IV. Department Reports

1. Sheriff's Department/Two Bridges Regional Jail - Sheriff Joel Merry

Sheriff Merry reported that September is back to normal, and there were no significant happenings, with 430 calls for service, which is typical for this time of year. The Board received a copy of his monthly report prior to the meeting and, as the Commissioners had no questions, Sheriff Merry proceeded to report on TBRJ, stating that the current Sagadahoc inmate population stands at 34 with one individual being on home release and being supervised by our new Programs Deputy, AND two additional in the pipeline. The total population for TBRJ is at 173.

V. Business Items

1. Motion to Add Agenda Item – Administrator Hile

Administrator Hile respectfully requested that the board add the following item to the agenda: Authorize Sheriff Merry to solicit RFP's for three law enforcement vehicles; two patrol cruisers and one CID (Detective) vehicle.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hutton and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted unanimously to **add to the agenda the discussion item: Authorizing Sheriff Merry to solicit RFP's for three law enforcement vehicles.**

Administrator Hile informed the Board that the mileage on three existing vehicles is high and, with it currently at the end of the vehicle model year, there may be an opportunity to get lower than average pricing on new vehicles. Sheriff Merry shared that an additional reason to move forward with an RFP at this time is because Ford has discontinued production of the Interceptor SUV. They will be replacing that vehicle with a hybrid gas/electric police package for the 2020 model year. This limits the options for available vehicles, but there may still be leftover vehicles available for purchase. The vehicles warranting replacement are two Patrol vehicles and a CID vehicle. The cost of outfitting the Patrol vehicles are approximately \$7,500 each, and the CID vehicle likely around \$5,000, which has included in the FY 2019 budget. Sheriff Merry respectfully requested that the Board authorize him to solicit RFP's for three law enforcement vehicles.

Upon **motion** by Chair Crosby and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Board voted unanimously to **authorize Sheriff Merry to solicit RFP's for three law enforcement vehicles.**

2. Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Bowdoin

Administrator Hile presented to the Commissioners the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Bowdoin and County, to address maintenance and liability issues for a tower put on site at the Bowdoin Town Office. She also presented an assessment by Risk Pool Administrator Malcolm Ulmer who, as noted in his response, finds it to be adequate for the situation. Administrator Hile respectfully requested that the Commissioners authorize the County Administrator to forward this agreement to the Bowdoin Board of Selectmen for review and approval, and once approved, sign it on behalf of the Commissioners.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hutton and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted unanimously to **authorize Administrator Hile to forward the MOU to the Bowdoin Board of Selectmen as well as sign the agreement on behalf of the Commissioners, once ratified by the Bowdoin Select board.**

3. Retire/Rehire Policy/MEPERS Update

Administrator Hile updated the Board to some of the changes to the rules that govern the MEPERS PLD Consolidated Plan. Of specific concern to the County at this time are the changes to the "retire/rehire" provisions. Moving forward, it will be necessary that the County put in place a policy to address any new hires that may be affected by these changes, as well as several existing employees currently retired through MEPERS, but working for the County. Current employees have been temporarily grandfathered, but will be subject to a 5% payment as of June 30, 2021. The 5% contribution can be made by the employee, by the County, or shared. Sheriff Merry offered noted that, while this seems like a challenge, it is not severely detrimental to the County, as the County is currently contributing 10% for non-law enforcement and 12.9% for law enforcement MEPERS participants. Employees not

participating in MEPERS are eligible for up to a 6% match in a 457 Deferred Compensation plan. This information will all be taken into consideration as a policy is drafted, which the Administrator hopes to have ready for the Commissioners' review by the end of the year.

VI. County Administrator's Report – Full report available for review upon request

Administrator Hile advised the Commissioners that on December 20th the newly elected officers will be sworn in at 9:30 a.m., followed by the Spirit of America Presentations at 10:00 a.m., both to take place in the Courtroom on the 3rd floor. The employee Holiday Luncheon will follow at noon in the Commissioners' Conference Room. We have scheduled these events on the same day to make it easier for the Commissioners to attend all three events. Administrator Hile informed the board that all of the municipalities have nominated recipients for the Spirit of America Award with the exception of Topsham, and so the Commissioners may nominate a recipient. Administrator Hile respectfully asked that the Commissioners and staff take this into consideration and present possible candidates at the next Board meeting in November.

VII. Executive Session

Upon **motion** by Chair Crosby and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 3:30 p.m. pursuant to Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405, 6., D of the M.R.S.A. for the purpose of discussing union negotiations.

The Board came out of executive session at 3:53 p.m.

Upon **motion** by Chair Crosby and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Board voted unanimously to ratify the CBA with the Sagadahoc County Communications Association, and authorize Commissioner Grose to execute the CBA on behalf of the Commissioners, provided there are no significantly substantive changes moving forward.

Upon **motion** by Chair Crosby and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 3:55 p.m. pursuant to Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405, 6., A of the M.R.S.A. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

The board came out of executive session at 4:25 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

Upon **motion** by Vice-Chair Grose and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Board voted by **unanimous acclamation to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Kay Blatz
Assistant to the County Administrator