

Sagadahoc County Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 26, 2019

A special meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held at 3:00 pm Tuesday, February 26, 2019 in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the County Courthouse, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530.

Present: Vice-chair Carol Grose; Commissioner Brian Hobart; County Administrator Pamela Hile; Assistant to the County Administrator Mary Kay Blatz
Absent: Chair Charles Crosby III

I. Vice-chair Grose called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m. and established the presence of a quorum.

II. Business

1. Authorization to Renew Contract for Health Insurance Services and Establish Rates for April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020

Upon motion by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously to authorize the Administrator renew the contract with Meritain for Health Insurance Services for April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.**

Administrator Hile presented the proposed rates to the Commissioners, which reflected a 4% increase to the current year's rates. When compared to the rates of the Maine Municipal Employers Health Trust over the past three years, the resulting in premiums that are still 10% less than the Health Trust.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously to increase the current Health Insurance premiums by 4% for April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.**

Administrator Hile presented to the Commissioners information regarding a new program by Meritain to manage high-cost prescription drugs. This would involve the oversight of expenses for individuals who have prescription medications costing over \$2,000 monthly. Management would include pre-approval, alternate drugs, medical necessity, other providers or care settings, and education to the patient. The cost to the County is \$130/hour, which would be used only if the service was utilized. The provider is estimating that it may be 10-15 hours per patient per year. Participation by the County is currently voluntary and, while it may be a good cost management tool, it is a new program with no data to support the actual cost. This program could also involve the unions, as it may be perceived as a change to the benefits.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously not to add the high-cost prescription drug management option at this time.**

III. Other

1. Administrator Hile respectfully requested that the Commissioners add the formal approval of propane contracts for the coming year to the agenda

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously add the award of the propane contracts to the agenda.**

Commissioner Hobart stated that the price of \$1.599/gallon is a very good rate and Administrator Hile noted that this rate is the same as the previous year.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously to authorize the Administrator accept the propane contracts at \$1.599/gallon.**

2. Administrator Hile advised the Board that the Bath Public Works is looking for a new tower site for their radio communications antenna and recently approached the County about the possibility of using the tower on the Courthouse. In discussion with Communications Director Hinckley, Administrator Hile would like to propose that we explore bartering with the City for various services. The Commissioners agreed that this would be a good option to pursuit.
3. Administrator Hile respectfully requested that the Commissioners add discussion and authorization to commence the hiring process for the position of Senior Deeds Clerk to the agenda.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously add the discussion and authorization to commence the hiring process for the Senior Deeds Clerk.**

Administrator Hile reported that Senior Deeds Clerk Karen Brown has decided to retire, and has tendered her resignation effective March 15. As that office is very busy, and in consideration of upcoming scheduled vacations, Register Lynn Moore would like to move forward as quickly as possible to fill the position. Administrator Hile therefore respectfully requested authorization to begin the hiring process for the position of Senior Deeds Clerk.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hobart and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Board voted **unanimously to authorize commencing the hiring process for the position of Senior Deeds Clerk.**

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hobart, and second by Vice-Chair Grose the Board voted by **unanimous acclamation to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:25 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Kay Blatz
Assistant to the County Administrator