

STATE OF MAINE

Lincoln, ss.

May Term, 2014

May 20, 2014

Present: William B. Blodgett, Chairman  
Hamilton W. Meserve  
Mary R. Trescot

Commissioner Blodgett opened the meeting by leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Trescot made a motion to approve minutes from the May 6, 2014 meeting; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Commissioner Blodgett acknowledged the presence of Maine County Commissioner Association's Executive Director, Rosemary Kulow.

County Treasurer, Richard Newell, presented for approval and signatures:

Warrant #5	\$ 33,509.44
Warrant #5B	\$194,062.74.

Commissioner Meserve made a motion to approve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved. All Commissioners signed.

The Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA) 2013 payment of \$16,630.29 has been received. It is expected that the 2014 MDEA payment of \$20,418.00 should arrive in about two weeks.

Outstanding accounts receivable include: 2013 Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$24,274.90; and 2014 EMA Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$8,406.64.

The amount of \$3,150,000.00 has been drawn against the 2014 \$6,000,000.00 Tax Anticipation Note, leaving a balance of \$2,850,000.00 from which to draw.

Chief Deputy, Major Ken Mason, reported a Jail count of 41 inmates being held at Two Bridges Regional Jail (TBRJ); Sagadahoc currently holds 39 at TBRJ; Waldo County holds 44 at TBRJ. Total prisoners currently held at TBRJ is 167.

As a result of a County Safety Meeting, concerns were brought forth for the lack of a hand rail from the parking lot to the first step toward the patio, especially for those who are handicapped. The County Administrator, John O'Connell, and Maintenance Supervisor, Jim Hopler, will look at the area of concern.

Sheriff Todd Brackett advised the Board that the next Animal Control Officer meeting will be held at the Damariscotta Police Department on May 29 at 4:00 p.m. The two officers, Kyle Emerson and Mike Witte, began their transition on May 5, 2014.

Sheriff Brackett informed the Board that an employee from TBRJ was recently deputized by Lincoln County for investigative purposes for incidents at the jail. Colonel Mark Westrum asked that Paul Rubashkin, be deputized after the previous appointed TBRJ employee left employment. Deputy Rubashkin is not an actual employee of Lincoln County, but can now write summonses.

Commissioners discussed with the Sheriff, Lincoln County's responsibility to other Counties' or the State's inmate medical concerns while they are being housed at TBRJ.

Emergency Management Agency (EMA)/Communications Director, Tod Hartung, and Assistant to the Director, Casey Stevens, met with the Board.

A County Animal Response Team meeting was held on May 8 and was well attended; Radio Committee meetings were held on May 8 and May 19; a Search and Rescue meeting was held on May 19 with Maine Wardens, Lt. Kevin Adam and Sgt. Bruce Loring.

A County Director's meeting will be held on May 21; a Local EMA Director's meeting will be held on May 22 and a Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) meeting will be held on May 29. An Open House will be held at Wiscasset Ambulance on May 24.

EMA began spending money last week from the approved 2013 HSGP Funding.

In Communications, a Radio Committee meeting was held on May 12 and 19, where a discussion was held about equipment upgrade. An E911 Council meeting will be held on June 3.

A 9-1-1 Awards Banquet was held on May 15.

Renewal contracts for dispatching services for the four Kennebec towns of Pittston, West Gardiner, Randolph and Farmingdale, will be due at the end of June.

Calls for service have decreased by 286, since the same period last year January 1 through May 20, or from 15,662 calls to 15,376.

Commissioner Meserve discussed overtime figures with Director Hartung.

Lincoln County Planner, Bob Faunce, distributed to the Board, copies of three Projects, entitled Lincoln County Restoration of Coastal Habitats and Phase II Coastal Hazards Resilience Project, that will be largely funded by the Federal Government with a minimal County match;

	Total Cost Est.	Federal	Local (County)
Project #1 Hurricane Mapping	\$4,320.00	\$3,456.00	\$ 864.00
Project #2 Revising Local Ordinance To address SLR	\$8,480.00	\$6,784.00	\$1,696.00
Project #3 Public Roads, Culverts and Bridges Affecting Migratory Fish	\$7,190.00	\$5,752.00	\$1,438.00
Total County match is \$3,998.00.			

Administrator O'Connell suggested approving the projects, in the amount of a \$3,998.00 match and to take funding from the County Map Reserve account. Commissioner Meserve made a motion to approve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Lincoln County News reporter, Dominic Lobkowicz, was recognized by Chairman Blodgett. Mr. Lobkowicz is seeking approval from the Board to photograph documents in the Registry of Deeds and Vault area, without a camera flash. Several years ago the Commissioners created a policy banning any photographic equipment due to the harmful effects of the light which would cause the documents to fade over time.

Commissioners suggested that Mr. Lobkowicz put his request in writing and explain what technique he would be using, and bring it before the Board.

At 10:37 a.m., Commissioner Trescot made a motion to enter into Executive Session with Probate Register, Chester Fossett; and County Administrator, John O'Connell, to discuss a personnel matter, according to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A); second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 approved.

Out of executive session at 11:05 a.m., Commissioners made no immediate decision, but discussed the matter later. Commissioner Trescot then made a motion to set pay for the Deputy Register of Probate position at \$17.30 per hour, with an effective date of June 2, 2014, and to be reviewed in six (6) months; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

From Two Bridges Regional Jail, Col. Mark Westrum, along with County Administrator, John O'Connell, discussed two proposals for Bond Refunding for the TBRJ, one from Moors & Cabot and one from Piper & Jaffray. Commissioners sought additional information and Col. Westrum offered to contact the Lincoln/Sagadahoc Jail Authority Attorney, Jeff Peters, for an opinion, and then return to the meeting.

Col. Westrum returned to the meeting and distributed spread sheets which offered information about both firm's proposals. After some discussion, Commissioner Trescot made a motion to approve the proposal of Moors & Cabot, dated May 14, 2014; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

County Administrator, John O'Connell, reminded the Board about a letter to an employee who has been on unpaid leave for several months, Brent Barter. The letter, from Human Resources Advisor, Annalee Rosenblatt, states that the employee must advise Lincoln County of his intent to return to work, with his doctor's approval, by May 27, 2014, or his employment with Lincoln County will be terminated. Commissioner Trescot made a motion to terminate the employment of Brent Barter, since the County has not heard from him; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Administrator O'Connell brought the resignation of Recycling Supervisor, Mike Thompson, who has worked for Lincoln County for 18 years. Commissioner Trescot made a motion to accept the resignation with regrets; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved. Mr. Thompson's last day will be June 13, 2014. Commissioners wish him well.

Recycling Truck Driver, Quentin Brooks' last day was Friday, May 16, 2014. The County Administrator would like to get someone in that position for a temporary, part-time position, and has an individual in mind. The Administrator recommended for part-time, temporary hire, Robert Gryspeerd, pending a successful physical and pre-employment drug test. Major Ken Mason has performed a background check. Commissioner Trescot made a motion to give conditional approval, pending successful tests for temporary employment; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Administrator O'Connell recapped the events of May 13, Organic Composting Workshop that were held at Morris Farm in Wiscasset.

Commissioners recessed for a Wellness Luncheon at the Communications Conference Room.

In reference to the resignation of Recycling Supervisor, Mike Thompson, Administrator O'Connell would like to post the position in-house for the required period of time and then advertise the position next week in the local newspapers. Commissioners approved.

Business Manager, Carrie Kipfer, presented for approval and signatures, Payroll Warrant #10, dated May 16, 2014, in the amount of \$142,788.05. Commissioner Meserve made a motion to approve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved. All Commissioners signed.

Commissioner Meserve made a motion authorizing the Administrator to act as Supervisor over the EMA/Communications Director position, effective May 20, 2014; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Recommendation was made by Administrator O'Connell to move the Registry of Deeds Computer Servers downstairs in the Law Library where the heat and humidity are regulated. Currently, they are being housed in a small room next to the Registry of Deeds, but the temperature is too warm. The Law Library is kept locked and can only be opened by a County employee. Commissioner Meserve made a motion to approve the recommendation; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Commissioners acknowledged an announcement from the Midcoast Economic Development District (MCEDD) that the annual MCEDD General Assembly will be held on Thursday, June 12 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Skidompha Library in Damariscotta. Names of those representing Lincoln County must also be submitted, prior to the Assembly.

The Administrator brought two (2) purchase orders before the Board for approval: A purchase order request was made for repairs to a 36 yard Roll-off can, for the payment to West Alna Welding, at a cost of \$2,610.00; a purchase order request was made for repairs to a can, for the payment to A&B Welding of Union, in the amount of \$3,350.00. Commissioner Meserve made a motion to approve both purchase orders; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved. All Commissioners signed.

Morris Farm in Wiscasset will be having its annual Plant Sale on May 31. It is likely that Lincoln County will staff a Compost Information table.

Presentations will be given by Debbie Bridges from the Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust on Thursday, June 5, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Communications Center.

Lincoln, ss.

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There being no further business, the Commissioners adjourned to meet on the third day of June A.D. 2014.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Administrator