

## STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the seventh of May 2024 by adjournment from the sixteenth day of April 2024.

Present: William B. Blodgett  
Hamilton Meserve

### **Award Presentation**

Sarah Krajewski, Systems Coordinator with SASSMM (Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine) was in attendance to present the "Outstanding Community Partnership Award" to Sgt. Detective Ronald Rollins from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Rollins exhibited great leadership in a recent abuse case that involved a minor. His detective work and participation in the prosecution of the offender lead to a multi-year conviction and a positive conclusion to the legal process for the victim. SASSMM recognizes the dedication Sgt. Rollins commits to his profession and commends him on his role in the legal system. Congratulations and appreciation were offered by the Board.

### **Minutes**

**April 16, 2024-** Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

### **Finance Department**

#### **Warrants**

Finance Director Michelle Richardson presented for approval accounts payable warrant #51 for \$279,355.97. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

Warrant #52 in the amount of \$56,224.28 was presented for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

Payroll warrant #2024-08 for \$224,065.65 was presented for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

Payroll warrant #2024-09 for \$223,446.48 was presented for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

#### **Reallocation of Fund Balance**

Director Richardson presents a recommendation to transfer \$575,000 of FY 2023 undesignated fund balance to the FY 2023 Capital Improvement Plan Reserve Account. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve as presented, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

### **Sheriff's Department**

**Jail Count** –Sheriff Todd Brackett reported the jail count as follows: Lincoln 25, Sagadahoc 27, Knox 29, Penobscot 58, Waldo 35, Androscoggin 17, Oxford 02, and Federal 03 for a total of 196.

**Auction of Surplus Property** – Chief Deputy Rand Maker presented a 12-page inventory of surplus property that is prepared for disposal. Some items are lost and/or forfeited, some is evidence that remains unclaimed after all attempts to reconnect with the owner have been exhausted and some items are property of Lincoln County that is no longer needed. A recommendation was made to contract with *Auctions International* to inventory, photograph and list for auction on their online website. A local representative of the company is available to offer services and make the necessary arrangements post-sale. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the contract and to dispose of the inventoried property, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved. Chief Deputy Maker is authorized to sign the contract on their behalf.

**Alternative Sentencing Program** – Sheriff Brackett reviewed the summary prepared by Lt. Murphy on the recent Alternative Sentencing Program held at Camp Wavus. Forty-six participants from ten counties were part of the 2-day and 7-day program. In addition to the education programs, a variety of community service projects were completed by the participants.

**Payment Authorization** - An invoice from Coastal Electronics in the amount of \$11,326.10 for equipment and installation in a new 2023 Ford Interceptor was presented for payment. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

**Animal Control Contract** – Chief Deputy Maker presents an Animal Control contract renewal for the Town of Alna. The contracts reflect an update in cost plus indemnification language changes. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

### **Emergency Management Agency**

**Homeland Security Grant FY 2025** - EMA Director Maury Prentiss presents a list of priorities he has identified in preparing his application for Homeland Security Grant funds in 2025. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve applying for the funds as discussed, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

**EMPG Grant FY 2025** – Director Prentiss recommends applying for Emergency Management Performance Grant funds in FY 2025 to be used towards the cost of departmental salaries. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

**Hazard Mitigation Grant Program** – Director Prentiss presents an application for funding to update Lincoln County's Hazard Mitigation Plan in the amount of \$40,000, reimbursed at 75% (\$30,000 total). A previous BRIC grant application was unsuccessful for this same project and this opportunity may provide the funding resources necessary to complete the work. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve applying for the funds, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

**FEMA Disaster Recovery Efforts** – The FEMA representatives that have been in the area to provide assistance to those affected by recent natural disasters have completed their local mission and have moved on to other regions. The last day an application can be submitted for consideration is May 20, 2024.

## **Communications**

**Hiring Recommendations** - On behalf of Communications Director Tara Doe, County Administrator Carrie Kipfer presents two hiring recommendations for full-time Emergency Communications Officers. Bryan Clement of Appleton and April McCaslin of Randolph have received Conditional Employment Offers, pending successful background checks and testing. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

**Status Change** – Part-time Emergency Communications Officer Lana Ferry requests to change her status to Reserve ECO effective May 3, 2024. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved.

## **Commissioner Mary Trescot joined the meeting**

**CLC YMCA Community Navigation** – Community Navigators Karen-Ann Hagar-Smith and Mark Hymbaugh were joined by CLC YMCA Executive Director Casey Clark Kelley to update the Board on the progress made in expanding the Community Navigation program across the County. Previously, some towns in Lincoln County did not have Navigation services available to their residents. Using ARPA funds awarded by Lincoln County, CLC YMCA has been able to enlarge their coverage area and has subsequently been able to reach 46 new households while assisting a total of 197 individuals. An unmet need that still exists is the ability to provide repair assistance for people who need car repairs to an existing vehicle.

## **Administrator**

**Bid Opening – Recycling Parking Lot Paving** – County Administrator Carrie Kipfer presents one bid received for the Recycling Parking Lot Paving Project. Commissioners opened the bid from St. Laurent & Son from Lewiston totaling \$244,000. Administrator Kipfer recommends tabling a decision until a future meeting. Commissioner Blodgett moved to table the bid, second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved.

**ARPA Broadband Grant Amendment** – The Town of Somerville was previously awarded \$20,000 in Lincoln County ARPA funding to assist with the costs of their Municipal Broadband Network. The scope of the project has changed and the Town has submitted an amendment to the application, with a total request of \$22,000. Three members of the review committee have evaluated the application and Administrator Kipfer makes a recommendation to approve the request. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Meserve; 3-0 vote approved.

**Hibberts Gore Road and Bridge Maintenance** – Administrator Kipfer updates the Board on a recent review of Gore Road in Hibberts Gore. Upcoming maintenance projects include brush cleaning and tree trimming along the entire roadway, ditching and grading as necessary, filling in washed out areas with gravel, power washing the bridge deck and vegetation removal from the bridge area. Capital improvement projects include replacement of the road culvert near the gravel pit and adding bridge approaches as outlined by the Department of Transportation bridge report. Palermo Road Commissioner Steve Childs will prepare quotes for all of the projects and will schedule the work this summer.

**Communications Center HVAC replacement project** - An update of the HVAC replacement project was provided by Siemens, the contractor managing the project. The project is on schedule and completion is expected within the week.

**Purchase Authorization – Recycling Tractor** – On behalf of Recycling Supervisor Tim Richardson, Administrator Kipfer presents a purchase request for a 2024 John Deere Utility Tractor with a loader attachment from United Ag & Turf in the amount of \$71,277.00. The quote includes a trade in option of the existing 2001 John Deere tractor, but the recommendation is to accept bids for the 2001 tractor instead. Additional quotes were discussed, but were rejected due to the cost. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve, second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved.

**Executive Session: Discussion of Personnel-1MRSA 405 (6) (A)**

Commissioner Blodgett moved to enter into Executive Session, second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved. Out of Executive Session, no votes taken.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to the 21st day of May, 2024 A.D.

ATTEST:   
County Administrator