

STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the twentieth day of April 2021, by adjournment from the sixth day of April 2021.

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

In response to the Executive Order from the Governor's Office, the meeting was held at the Lincoln County Planning Office to maintain the social distancing requirements of the individuals participating. The meeting agenda reflects this change in protocol. One member of the press participated, in addition, several County departments were present.

Commissioner Meserve moved to approve minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

County Administrator, Carrie Kipfer requested the Board accept an amendment to the December 15, 2020 meeting minutes to record the acceptance of the 2021 County Budget. This vote was taken at the meeting, but the minutes did not reflect the vote. Motion to amend the minutes to reflect this change by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Finance Director Michelle Richardson presented for approval:

Warrant #21 \$201,716.98

Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant #2021-8 \$206,294.57

Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Chief Deputy Rand Maker reported a current Jail count at Two Bridges Regional Jail (TBRJ): 14 Lincoln County inmates; Sagadahoc County holds 27 inmates at TBRJ; Federal 2; Oxford 24; Cumberland 3; Penobscot 1, York 2; Aroostook 1 for a total of 74.

An authorization for payment of emergency equipment installed in a new cruiser by Coastal Electronics for \$7,813.80, capital budget item was presented. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

An authorization for payment of emergency equipment installed in a new cruiser by Coastal Electronics for \$7,827.80, capital budget item was presented. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

An employee resignation from Animal Control Officer Katherine Buehrer, effective May 2, 2021 was presented. Accepted with regrets and authorization to advertise the vacancy; Motion by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Emergency Management Director Casey Stevens presented a retirement notice from Ken Desmond, effective April 30, 2021. The Board thanked Ken, who was in attendance, for his 13 years of service to Lincoln County and remarked that he will be greatly missed. Motion to approve accept with regrets and authorization to advertise the vacancy by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot 3 – 0 vote approved.

Administrator Kipfer introduced Tara Doe to the Board as the newly appointed Director of Communications, effective April 9, 2021. The Board congratulated Director Doe on her promotion and Commissioner Trescot motioned to accept the recommendation; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

A contract renewal with Midcoast Tower for antenna space on a communications tower in Nobleboro for the Communications Center and Sheriff's Office was presented for consideration. The renewal includes an increase in the annual rent payment to offset additional maintenance that is required to meet FAA requirements. The new annual contract rate is \$14,400.00 and is effective retroactively to January 28, 2021. There are a few minor corrections that are needed to the contract, so Administrator Kipfer suggested approval of the contract pending those changes. Commissioners Trescot motioned to approve the contract renewal and rate increase; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

An authorization for payment of radio antenna maintenance at the Blinn Hill tower site by Radio Communications Mgmt. for \$3,920.00, to be paid from the Communications Reserve Account was presented. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

A pre-authorization for radio antenna maintenance at the New Harbor, Nobleboro and Boothbay tower site by Radio Communications Mgmt. for \$12,258.58, to be paid from the Communications Reserve Account was presented. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Administrator Kipfer provided an update on the *American Rescue Plan* Federal Funding. Guidance from the US Treasury was received advising on pre-award administrative steps that should be taken by counties in preparation of a transfer of funds. Lincoln County has all steps completed and is prepared to receive the deposit in May 2021. Additional guidance is expected in the upcoming weeks on acceptable uses of the funding.

A contract was presented on behalf of Lincoln County Recycling to address a rodent infestation that has developed at the center. Modern Pest has been consulted and presented an annual contract totaling \$2,786.50 effective April 7, 2021. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

A hiring recommendation was presented on behalf of Register of Probate, Catherine Moore. Register Moore is recommended that Probate Clerk, Toni Lorom is promoted to the position of Deputy Register of Probate, effective May 3, 2021. She also seeks permission to advertise for the Probate Clerk position. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Two summer interns have been selected from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center *Maine Government Internship Program*. Both interns will begin at the end of their current college semester and are expected to work 12 weeks over the 2021 summer. Shannon Harty of Bowdoinham was selected as the Planning Intern. Motion to approve hiring by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Nathan Mclvor, of Jefferson, was selected as the Administration Intern. Motion to approve hiring by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Commissioner Meserve made a motion to enter executive session with EMA Director Casey Stevens and Administrator Carrie Kipfer to discuss a personnel matter according to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A); second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved.

Out of executive session at 3:52 a.m. Commissioner Meserve made a motion to allow an employee to amend scheduled work hours as discussed, working a total of 40 hours per week; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved.

At 3: 55 p.m., Commissioner Meserve made a motion to enter executive session with Planning Director, Mary Ellen Barnes and Administrator Carrie Kipfer to discuss a personnel matter according to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A); second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved.

Out of executive session at 4:30 p.m. No votes were taken.

The Commissioners discussed the request to schedule an executive session and selected April 26, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. to hold the meeting at the Lincoln County Planning Office. Appropriate parties to be notified of the meeting.

There being no further business, the Commissioners adjourned to meet on the 26th day of April A.D. 2021.

ATTEST:

  
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County Administrator