STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the sixth day of October 2026 by adjournment from the fifteenth day of September 2026.

Present: David Levesque, Chair
William B. Blodgett
Evan Goodkowsky

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Commissioner Levesque, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Forum

None present.

Minutes

September 15, 2026 – Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

September 17, 2026 Budget Public Hearing – Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Finance Department

Warrants – Finance Director, Michelle Kane, presented Accounts Payable Warrant #76 in the amount of $48,628.80 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Director Kane presented Accounts Payable Warrant #77 in the amount of $517,652.29 for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant – Director Kane presented Payroll Warrant #2026-19, paid on September 18, 2026, in the amount of $288,725.44 for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant – Director Kane presented Payroll Warrant #2026-20, paid on October 2, 2026, in the amount of $329,475.61 for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Director Kane presented a Purchase Authorization to New England Baling Wire in the amount of $6,454.76 for purchase of two rounds of baling wire for Recycling. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Purchase Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Director Kane presented a Purchase Authorization to Maine Equipment Company in the amount of $2,619.39 for purchase of a hydraulic oil tank to replace the one which failed on the 2019 Kenworth truck. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve

the Purchase Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Sheriff's Office

Jail Count – Chief Deputy Rand Maker presented the inmate count for Two Bridges Regional Jail from this morning as follows: Lincoln 27, Sagadahoc 12, Knox 50, Penobscot 53 and Oxford 4 for a total of 146.

Payment Authorization – Island Tech Services - $13,480.85 – Chief Deputy Maker presented a Payment Authorization in the budgeted amount of $13,480.85 to Island Tech Services for equipment and installation of equipment for the new 2026 Dodge assigned to the patrol division. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Payment Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Hiring Authorization – Reserve Transport/Court Security – Martha "Lydia" Burnham – Chief Deputy Maker requested authorization to hire a new Reserve Transport/Court Security Officer, Martha "Lydia" Burnham, who is currently employed at Two Bridges Regional Jail and has past experience with the Department of Corrections in Knox County. She meets all the certification requirements but will need some core security training and is pending completion of the standard background check. She lives in Camden and would be a resource for when we have gaps in coverage. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the hiring of Martha Burnham for Reserve Transport/Court Security, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Axon Enterprise, Inc - $29,002.90 – Chief Deputy Maker presented a Purchase Authorization for Axon Enterprise, Inc. in the amount of $29,002.90 for the first year of a ten-year contract to replace its approximately 20 aging X26 Tasers with about 25 newer Taser 10 units. The annual cost would be roughly $29,000, funded this year from the capital budget and managed in future annual budgets. The agreement would stabilize costs, provide upgrades when newer models become available, and include training and duty cartridges, software for device data, and instructor training. Chief Deputy Maker said the newer units offer a longer range—about 45 feet instead of 25 feet—use a lower electrical level, and can hold up to 10 individual probes, improving the chance of establishing an effective connection.

Commissioners asked about battery weight, deployment mechanics, training, staffing growth, and whether additional units could be added during the contract. The Chief Deputy emphasized that Tasers are used only once or twice a year, are not the first use-of-force option and primarily serve as a de-escalation and safety tool that can reduce harm to deputies and the public. Training would cover operation of the new multi-probe system, use-of-force standards, de-escalation, and avoiding sensitive target areas. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Axon Enterprise purchase authorization and ten-year contract, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3–0 vote approved.

MOU Transport Services with Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Office – Chief Deputy Maker presented a short-term formal contract through December 2026 to provide Sagadahoc County with backup personnel for prisoner transportation and related coverage when staffing allows. Sagadahoc will reimburse wages, overtime, mileage, and other costs. Monthly billing will track use and expenses, and Lincoln County may end the arrangement with 30 days' notice if demands

become excessive. If the short-term contract is successful, it may be extended next fiscal year. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the transport contract with Sagadahoc County through the end of December 2026, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Promotion Recommendations for Detective and Detective Sergeant – Chief Deputy Maker reminded the Commissioners of staffing changes needed due to Sergeant Ron Rollins's temporary assignment to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. After a competitive, scored selection process involving outside assessments, specialty exercises, and interviews, Jared Mitkus was chosen as Detective Sergeant and Ethan Burns as Detective. Chief Deputy Maker said there was a strong candidate pool and noted that the collective bargaining agreement will determine pay and start dates. Both promotions, along with the resulting patrol vacancy, are temporary and depend on the duration of the drug-enforcement assignment; employees would return to their prior roles if Sergeant Rollins came back to his position as Detective Sergeant. Recruitment for the patrol opening is underway, and schedules may be adjusted in the interim to maintain operations without excessive overtime.

Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the promotion of Jared Mitkus to Detective Sergeant effective October 10, 2026, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the promotion of Ethan Burns to Detective effective date to be determined, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Communications

Employee Change of Status – Lucy Jameson – In the absence of Director Tara Doe, Administrator Carrie Kipfer presented a request for approval of an Employee Change of Status from full-time Communications Dispatcher to Reserve Dispatcher for Lucy Jameson effective October 6, 2026. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Employee Change of Status for Lucy Jameson, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Payment Authorization – Radio Tower Repairs - $34,816.59 – Administrator Kipfer presented a Payment Authorization to Radio Communication Management (RCM) in the amount of $34,816.59 for repairs and climbing fees for multiple towers including replacing antennas on the Nobleboro, Jefferson and Blin Hill Towers, dipole array replacement on two towers. The damage, some from icefall, was discovered during the routine annual inspections. The cost will be covered through the Communications Capital Funds. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Payment Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

LCRPC

Hiring Recommendation – Floodplain Manager – Paige Dolci – Executive Director Emily Rabbe presented a Hiring Recommendation for the new Floodplain Manager position, funded through the Maine Office of Community Affairs. There were a number of qualified applicants with two asked back for second interview which included mock presentations and panel Q&A. Director Rabbe would like to recommend hiring Paige Dolci for the Floodplain Manager position. Ms. Dolci is from Massachusetts and has worked with Mass Audubon Society. She has her degree in Environmental Science with a Masters in Climate Change with a focus on floodplain management. She would be starting towards the end of October. Commissioner Blodgett moved

to approve the Hiring Recommendation of Paige Dolci for Floodplain Manager, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

ARPA Distribution – Town of Waldoboro - $2,000 - Director Rabbe presented a proposal to distribute $2,000 to the Town of Waldoboro and the Volunteers of America Northern New England's project to extend three-phase power to the two co-located properties in Waldoboro. The work on the project is progressing with construction work and tree trimming scheduled for later this fall. There has been removal of native plant materials that encroached on the wires and lower growing plants are needed to fill the area. The $2,000 will allow for appropriate plant materials to be purchased, with the Town of Waldoboro handing the manual labor. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the distribution of $2,000 in ARPA Housing funds to the Town of Waldoboro, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

District Attorney

Employee Resignation and Vacancy Posting Request – Legal Secretary - In the absence of District Attorney Natasha Irving or Assistant District Attorney Kent Murdick, Administrator Kipfer presented an Employee Resignation for Acadia Violet Paris- Dodge effective October 23rd, 2026, and a request to post the vacant Legal Secretary position. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the Employee Resignation and authorize the posting of the vacancy, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Job Description Update – Legal Secretary – Administrator Kipfer presented an updated Job Description for the Legal Secretary position with changes based on recommendations from the newly hired DA Office Supervisor. Administrator Kipfer and the District Attorney have both had opportunities to review the changes. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Job Description Update for the Legal Secretary position, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Victim Witness Advocate Open Position – Administrator Kipfer informed the Commissioners that there were a good number of qualified applicants for the position and interviews will take place the next week.

Administrator

MCCA Risk Pool Safe Driving Award – Administrator Kipfer announced that the Maine County Commissioners Association presented the Risk Pool Safe Driving Awards at their recent Convention and Lincoln County was awarded first place. The prize was $5,000 and this was the first year in a while that the County won first place.

Employee Termination and Vacancy Posting Request – HR Manager – Administrator Kipfer presented the employee termination of the HR Manager, Jesse Tobia, effective September 28, 2026. She had conferred with Commissioner Levesque prior to that and received permission to post the vacancy and is now requesting a formal motion. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the Employee Termination and authorize the posting of the vacancy, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Draft Policy – Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan - Administrator Kipfer presented a draft policy for the Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan which is a result of our contract with the Maine Department of Transportation (DOT) and is a requirement of the Federal DOT for subrecipients of grants. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the Title VI Non-Discrimination Policy as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

RFP – Regional Governance Facilitation and Development Services (District 6 Jail Collaboration) – Administrator Kipfer explained that the RFP Sub-Committee for the District 6 Jail Collaboration had reviewed the RFPs received and reported back to the full Collaboration with their recommendation. The top recommendation was a unanimous choice for Verrill, with Jim Cohen as the lead partner. Verrill has a strong relationship with the State Legislatures and has a very positive relationship with Lincoln County. The total cost of the proposal, which will be divided three ways, is $81,100. The Sub-Committee is bringing the proposal to each of their commissioners for approval and has already been approved by Knox and Sagadahoc County Commissioners. Administrator Kipfer recommends approving the proposal from Verrill and authorizing a payment of up to $30,000 which would allow for incidentals such as mileage or other travel expenses related to this. The funds would come from our contingency account. The process will start with individual conversations with the consultant at the County levels and will then consolidate common themes and provide recommendations on what path should be taken. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the proposal with Verrill and up to $30,000 in payment, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

DOT Fisal Agent Request – Boothbay Harborside Park - Administrator Kipfer presented a request from the Boothbay Waterfront Preservation group looking for a fiscal agent for a grant they received through the Department of Transportation. The DOT cannot send the funds directly to the non-profit and it must go through a municipality or county agency. The Town of Boothbay Harbor declined to be the fiscal agent. The County has been a fiscal agent in the past but always for projects which we are an active participant in. Administrator Kipfer has confirmed with the DOT that the County would strictly be a pass-through entity and not held liable or have responsibility for managing the project. The Commissioners questioned why Boothbay Harbor had declined to be the fiscal agent as well as how much staff time this would entail. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to table the item until more information was received, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Old Business

Public Safety Building Project – Administrator Kipfer gave the Commissioners an update on the recent crash of a vehicle into the existing Sheriff's Office. A claim has been filed with the Risk Pool, and the adjuster has been out to review the site. A mason will need to come out to review the bricks and see if there is structural damage, and an engineer might need to review if there is. The wall is a double layer of bricks which prevented the vehicle from going right through the wall and the damage inside is to the drywall and the heater which bent but did not break.

Administrator Kipfer drove by one of the possible locations for the new Public Safety Building, but the owner was not available. She hopes to connect with him soon. The Chief Deputy had a couple recommendations for other sites that he is going to start conversations

about. The goal has been to have the location in the center of the county but that might not be realistic.

Commissioner Updates

MCCA – Commissioner Goodkowsky reminded the Commissioners that the Convention was September 23-24 at Sunday River and was very informative.

County Budget – Commissioner Goodkowsky reminded the Commissioners that the Budget Advisory Workshop will be Friday, October 16, 2026, at 9 AM at the LCRPC Offices.

LCRPC – Commissioner Goodkowsky informed the Commissioners that the next Full Board meeting will be October 21st, 2026, at 6 PM.

Employment Law Session - Commissioner Levesque informed the Commissioners that Commissioner Goodkowsky, Emily Rabbe and he attended the Employment Law Session recently and learned what is currently going on in the area of employment and compliance.

Recent Awards – Administrator Kipfer announced that Emily Rabbe, the Planning Executive Director, was recently awarded the Planner of the Year Award from the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association. The Award will be presented on October 22nd, 2026, at the luncheon at the upcoming Conference in Manchester, NH. The staff will be attending, and Laura Graziano will be a presenter.

Commissioner Goodkowsky announced that the trade publication Light Reading awarded the Lincoln County broadband project with Fidium the Outstanding Use Case for Bridging the Digital Divide. The project won against several other projects around the country as well as internationally.

Executive Session

Discussion of Personnel – 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A) – Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to enter Executive Session for a Discussion of Personnel per 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A), seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved. Finance Director Michelle Kane and Chief Deputy Rand Maker joined the Executive Session Discussion.

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to come out of Executive Session for Discussion of Personnel per 1 MSRA 405 (6)(A), seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved. No votes were taken.

Discussion of Legal – 1 MRSA 405 (6)(E) – Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to enter Executive Session for a Discussion of Legal – 1 MRSA 405 (6)(E) seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to come out of Executive Session for Discussion of Legal – 1 MRSA 405 (6)(E), seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved. No votes were taken

Additional Finance Item

Finance Director Kane rejoined the meeting and presented an item just received for the Maine Power Options Annual Contract with the electricity supply rate quoted at $.1198 kw/hour, which is only good to the end of the day. Director Kane has been monitoring the rates, and this reduction would represent annual savings of about $11,000. She recommends locking in at the 12-month option. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the contract as recommended, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Commissioner Blodgett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 PM to the twentieth day of October 2026 A.D.

ATTEST: _____
Executive Assistant