

STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the third day of February 2026 by adjournment from the twentieth day of January 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

Sharon Bailey, Jefferson resident and retired special education technician, spoke about how the accidental overdose death of her son in 2012 transformed her into an advocate for people affected by substance use disorder. Ms. Bailey explained her ongoing work facilitating grief groups, supporting bereaved parents, and promoting harm reduction, prevention, and stigma reduction, while emphasizing the severe lack of support in Maine communities, especially for youth. She expressed strong disappointment in the County's decision not to issue opioid settlement grants for 2026–2027, arguing that this choice could undermine highly effective community-based organizations which have been praised as a model for the state, and she urged the Commissioners to reconsider funding priorities to better support individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder.

Minutes

January 20, 2026 – Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Finances

Warrants – Finance Director Michelle Richardson presented Accounts Payable Warrant #98, the final 2025 warrant closing out the cash reconciliation, in the amount of \$6,094.86 for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Director Richardson presented Accounts Payable Warrant #37 in the amount of \$366,216.47 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Director Richardson presented Accounts Payable Warrant #38 in the amount of \$442,810.00 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant – Director Richardson presented Payroll Warrant #2026-02 paid on January 20, 2026, in the amount of \$265,976.64 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Payroll Warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Sheriff's Office

Jail Count – Chief Deputy Rand Maker presented the current jail count as follows: Lincoln 29, Sagadahoc 19, Knox 57, Penobscot 52, Somerset 1, and Federal 2 for a total of 160. Previously held Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) inmates were relocated last week.

Animal Control Contract Renewals – Town of Waldoboro and Town of Southport – Chief Deputy Maker recommends a renewal of the annual Animal Control contracts with the Towns of Waldoboro and Southport with the only changes being an increase in the Animal Control Officer rate and the dates of the contract. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the new contracts for the Towns of Waldoboro and Southport for FY2026, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – TimeClock Plus, LLC - \$3,840.00 – Chief Deputy Maker presented a Purchase Authorization for TimeClock Plus, LLC in the amount of \$3,840.00. This is a budgeted renewal of the contract for scheduling software. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Purchase Authorization, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Communications

Supervisor Change of Status – Emily Salley – Communications Director Tara Doe requested approval for changing the status of Supervisor Emily Salley, who has been on maternity leave, to Reserve status. Ms. Salley will not be coming back full-time but will be working as a Reserve Communications Officer for two shifts a month to cover gaps in scheduling. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve status change for Emily Salley, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

EMA

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP) \$10,095.84, Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) \$63,742.93 - EMA Director Emily Huber requested permission to accept funds for the HMEP and EMPG grants. These were grants which the County previously did not apply for due to changes in the terms in the Homeland Security contracts. A lawsuit was filed by 12 states and the states involved in the lawsuit were recently granted exception from those conditions. The county has received a bulletin confirming this. These grants are backdated to September 2025 and go through the end of August 2026. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve acceptance of the HMEP and EMPG grants, allowing Director Huber to sign on behalf of the Commissioners, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

LCRPC

Payment Authorization – Request for Full Amount of Fuss & O'Neill Contract for Sewer/Water Feasibility Study - \$204,900 – LCRPC Director Emily Rabbe presented a Purchase Authorization for monthly payments to Fuss & O'Neill totaling \$204,900. \$140,000 of this comes from a grant which was awarded for a housing opportunities program and the remaining \$64,900 comes from the Strategic Plan Reserve Account. Fuss & O'Neill began their work in December 2025, and plan to present the final report in August 2026. Commissioner

Goodkowsky moved to approve the Purchase Authorization, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

District Attorney

Out of State travel request – Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women (Texas) – In the absence of the District Attorney, County Administrator Carrie Kipfer presented a request for Out of State Travel for the Deputy District Attorney and the Victim Witness Advocate to attend the Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women in Texas. The total cost, which has been budgeted for, will be approximately \$1,900 for each of them, including hotel, flights and the conference registration. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Out of State Travel Request, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Hiring Recommendation – Legal Secretary Violet Paris-Dodge – On behalf of the District Attorney, Administrator Kipfer presented a hiring recommendation for the open Legal Secretary position, pending background checks, for Violet Paris-Dodge, Nobleboro. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the hiring recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Employee Resignation – Legal Secretary Jessica Prentiss – Administrator Kipfer presented an Employee Resignation received from Legal Secretary Jessica Prentiss on Friday, January 30, 2026, which was accepted upon receipt. Administrator Kipfer also asks for permission to post the now vacant position for hiring. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the Employee Resignation effective January 30, 2026 and post the position for hiring, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Administrator

HVAC Control System Upgrade – Courthouse and Sheriff’s Office – Administrator Kipfer explained to the Commissioners that the HVAC system in the Courthouse, is controlled by software that cannot be updated beyond Windows 7. The computer supporting it cannot be updated, so it is isolated for security, but it limits the control of the system. Additionally, one of the HVAC control panels is outdated and needs to be replaced. The quoted cost of replacing the panel and software, which will include the ability to network any added facilities into the system, is \$73,264. If the computer failed, we could replace some of the parts and keep the system working but if the control panel breaks down, the system will not work. The choices are to take the funds from the reserve accounts or to keep it as it is now and budget for it in 2027. If we wait until 2027 and something fails, it would be an emergency repair. Administrator Kipfer recommends budgeting for the repairs in 2027. We are not currently having any issues, and we can address repairs if they occur. The Commissioners agree with the recommendation.

Payment Authorization – Maine Connectivity Authority Grant close-out \$8,410.68 Administrator Kipfer presented a Payment Authorization request for return of the remaining grant funds from the Maine Connectivity Authority in the amount of \$8,410.68. This is the balance of the remaining unspent 2025 grant funding. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Payment Authorization, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Old Business

Public Safety Building Project - Administrator Kipfer had Director Rabbe reach out to the Department of Transportation regarding the property the County was interested in on the Damariscotta/Nobleboro line. The location of that property is on a section of controlled access highway – only one entry is allowed in or out of the property, and no signage would be allowed within a certain distance from the road. DOT discourages development along these controlled areas due to traffic patterns. Director Rabbe is expanding her investigation into the extent of the controlled access area to see if we can identify a parcel which might work or if there is a possible secondary route into a property. We will continue to explore other options.

Opioid Settlement Funding Grant Application - The Recovery facility is still waiting for their 501 (c) 3 approval. This can take up to six months, and she is still very interested in working with the County once that comes through.

Commissioner Updates

Correspondence – Commissioner Levesque received a letter from the Lincoln County Historical Society thanking the County for the continued support through the annual grant. Administrator Kipfer received a similar letter from Tedford Housing, whose housing facility is now open at Cooks Corner for families and single residents. Administrator Kipfer encouraged the Commissioners to visit the facility.

MCCA – Commissioner Goodkowsky let Commissioner Levesque know that he had been elected to the position of Secretary Treasurer of MCCA.

CCWI – Commissioner Goodkowsky was elected to the position of Secretary Treasurer of the CCWI.

Executive Session

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

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved. No votes were taken.

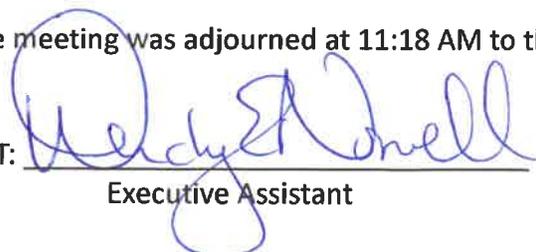
Discussion of Legal – 1 MRSA 405 (6) (E) - Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to enter Executive Session for Discussion of Legal per 1 MRSA 405 (6) (E); seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved. No votes were taken.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 AM to the seventeenth day of February 2026 A.D.

ATTEST:



Executive Assistant