

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 December 2022 by adjournment from the sixth day of December 2022.

Present: Hamilton W. Meserve (remote)
William Blodgett, Acting Chair
Absent: Mary Trescot (medical leave)

Minutes

November 3, 2022 - Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

December 6, 2022 - Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Finance Department

Payroll Warrant

Bookkeeper, Caitlin Tardif, presented for approval payroll warrant #2022-25 for \$198,450.82. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Sheriff's Department

Jail Count – Chief Deputy Rand Maker reported the jail count as follows: Lincoln 16, Sagadahoc 20, Knox/Waldo 25, Penobscot 72, Cumberland 01, York 1, and Federal 4 for a total of 139.

Animal Control Contracts – Chief Deputy Maker presented Animal Control Contracts for the towns of Boothbay Harbor, Somerville, and Bristol for the term of January – December 2023. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve each contract, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett on each; 2-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Chief Deputy Maker requested permission to purchase 3 Alcohol Monitors (\$1,000 each) and 3 GPS Monitors (\$900 each) from Securus Technologies for a total of \$5,700. Grant funding in the amount of \$2,841 is available to supplement the purchase, with \$2,859 coming from the operating budget. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Communications

Contract Renewal – Communications Director, Tara Doe presented a contract renewal for the I Am Responding software system in the amount of \$16,188. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Employee Change of Status– ECO Lana Ferry has requested changing her employment status from full-time to part-time effective December 21, 2022. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Hiring Recommendations– Director Doe updated the Board on the status of a recent hiring round. Several applicants were tested and some of those were interviewed by a panel.

Two applicants are being recommended by the panel for a conditional offer of employment, pending a successful background check. Commissioner Meserve moved to accept the recommendation and proceed, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Administrator

Communication from the Town of Edgecomb – A letter was received from the Select Board of the Town of Edgecomb in regards to affordable housing access across the region. Commissioner Meserve moved to acknowledge receipt, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Recycling Diesel Fuel Contract Renewal – Diesel fuel contract with Dead River Company for 11,500 gallons to be used at the Recycling Center was reviewed. The agreement is in effect through November 2023 and is for a fixed price of \$3.83 per gallon. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved. Administrator Kipfer authorized to sign the renewals.

Opioid Settlement Payment Received – A third payment in the amount of \$27,216.35 has been received through the Opioid Settlement process. This payment has been recorded in the Reserve Account specifically assigned to these settlement funds. Commissioner Meserve moved to accept the funds, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

MMA Workers Comp Fund Safety Enhancement Grant Program – The Board voted to accept a grant in the amount of \$2,924.45 to purchase 5 Rescue Harnesses and 11 Helmets for the EMA Search and Rescue Team. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission

Regional Broadband Partners Grant Award – Executive Director, Mary Ellen Barnes, updated the Board on the grant application that was submitted in the amount of \$234,000. These funds were formally awarded at the *Maine Broadband Summit* on December 8, 2022. A final contract is pending. Commissioner Meserve motioned to accept the funds, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved. Administrator Kipfer authorized to sign on behalf of the Board.

Employee Change of Status - Part-time EMA employee, Brandon Look, will be made a full-time employee effective December 8, 2022. His additional duties will include work for the Regional Broadband Partners Grant. Additional cost of the position to be paid using grant funds. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve the change, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

MDOT 2023 Work Plan Update – County Planner, Emily Rabbe, presented an update to the scope of work with the Maine Dept. of Transportation. The amendment will extend the contract through 2023 and is in the amount of \$16,500. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve the draft work plan, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

ARPA Broadband Grant Applications - One grant application has been received to supplement a town application to the *Maine Connectivity Authority* "Reach ME" grants. Bremen is requesting \$5,000 to address locations that were unserved in a previous Broadband project. The application was reviewed by the Grant Review Committee and has received the unanimous recommendation of approving the funding, pending successful approval of the

"Reach ME" grants. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Interim Housing Study Report – Director Barnes updated the Board on the Housing Study commissioned by Camoin Associates. An Interim Report has been issued and the final report is expected in February.

Executive Session: Discussion of Real Property-1MRSA 405 (6) (C)

Commissioner Meserve moved to enter into Executive Session, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved. Out of Executive Session with no votes taken.

Executive Session: Discussion of Legal-1MRSA 405 (6) (E)

Commissioner Meserve moved to enter into Executive Session, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved. Joined by Legal Counsel on Zoom call. Out of Executive Session with no votes taken.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to the 3rd day of January, 2023 A.D.

ATTEST:


County Administrator