

STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the sixteenth day of June 2026 by adjournment from the second day of June 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

June 2, 2026 – Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Finances

Warrant – Finance Director, Michelle Kane presented Warrant #57 in the amount of \$400,336.01 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Director Kane presented Warrant #58 in the amount of \$332,356.49 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant – Director Kane presented Payroll Warrant #2026-12 paid on June 12, 2026, in the amount of \$292,267.50 for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

FY 2025 Financial Audit – Director Kane presented the completed FY 2025 Audit done by RHR Smith & Company. The final financial statement was submitted to them on March 15, 2026, and they began the audit the last week of April. The findings were received on June 15, 2026, as an unmodified “clean” audit with no comments or adjusting journal entries. Commissioner Levesque expressed his congratulations on the clean audit and said that the citizens of Lincoln County know that the finances are maintained very well. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the audit report, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Contract Update – Gale Associates – Director Kane presented a contract amendment for the agreement with Gale Associates, the engineering firm who has been assisting in evaluating potential properties for the new Public Safety Building. The current contract has run out of approved funds. The contract amendment extends the approved funds by an additional

\$15,000 to assess an additional property as well as GIS map, utility tracking and other required tests. It is possible that the LCRPC will be able to do a portion of the tests in-house and it will not cost us the entire amount. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the contract amendment with Gale, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved. Commissioner Blodgett moved to allow Director Kane to sign and execute the contract when the time comes, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

EMA

Employee Resignation – Deputy Director Emma McKearney –County Administrator Carrie Kipfer let the Commissioners know that Deputy Director Emma McKearney, who was with the County for a short time, has submitted her resignation effective June 5, 2026. She and EMA Director Emily Huber request the Commissioners to accept the resignation and approve the posting of the vacant position. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the resignation of Emma McKearney and approved the posting of the vacant position, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Job Description Update – Deputy EMA Director – Director Huber presented a revised Job Description for the EMA Deputy Director position. A lot of the changes are format revisions as the new HR Manager, Jesse Tobia, is working on reformatting all the position job descriptions. A few of the tasks were revised, such how this position interacts with our team and volunteers and revising some of the physical requirements and the education component. The job grade will remain the same, but it is recommended that the position be changed to an exempt position. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the revised job description, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

LCRPC

National Association of Regional Councils Recognition Award – Executive Director Emily Rabbe brought the Recognition Award that was presented to LCRPC at the Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The President of the NARC spoke about how impressed they were, noted that housing is one of Maine's, and the nation's, biggest crises and praised LCRPC's site profile project as innovative and hopefully replicable by other agencies nationwide. The recognition felt especially significant because the LCRPC serves a much smaller geographic area than others. Director Rabbe also let the Commissioners know about the two presentations she did. The first on the Housing Site Study and the second on the Social Resilience Project. There was a lot of interest in how Maine and Lincoln County handled rebuilding after the storm events and the fact that LCRPC is focusing on our residents, not just the infrastructure.

Limited term contract for Planning Services with the Town of Damariscotta – Director Rabbe presented a limited term Planning contract with the Town of Damariscotta, while they are without their planner, for assistance in reviewing ordinance changes which include implementation of LD1829 and LD2173 density changes as well as reviewing standards and facilitating discussions on future land use needs around sewer and water infrastructure. The funding would be up to \$15,000 and the contract would go from June 15, 2026, to March 31,

2027. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the limited term contract with the Town of Damariscotta, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Regional Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) Position Update –Director Rabbe reported that she and Administrator Kipfer had previously met about a regional CEO program with the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments, who have a similar program, as well as had a focus group of Lincoln County representatives. On Monday, June 15, 2026, they met with additional local municipalities about the Regional Code Enforcement idea. The towns represented were Whitefield, Wiscasset, Westport Island, Alna, and Bristol. The idea of a Regional Code Enforcement Officer was well received and there was discussion around how it might operate and some ideas which they had not thought were raised. Some towns were interested in an immediate position, and others were interested in the position as a supplemental or back-up to their current Enforcement Officer in case of medical leaves or resignations/retirements to have someone immediately available during the backfilling of the position. They will keep refining the proposal and engaging their local legislature to assist with the funding that may be able to assist with the process. The Commissioners encouraged them to continue the conversations.

Sheriff's Department

Jail Count – In the absence of Sheriff Todd Bracket and Chief Deputy Rand Maker, Administrator Kipfer presented the jail count from this morning as follows: Lincoln 28, Sagadahoc 8, Knox 51, and Penobscot 46 for a total of 133.

Payment Authorization – Quirk Auto Group – 2026 Ford Explorer \$44,152 – Administrator Kipfer presented a Payment Authorization to Quirk Ford of Augusta, in the amount of \$44,152 for a 2026 Ford Explorer that was previously accepted in the bid process. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Payment Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Payment Authorization – Quirk Auto Group – 2026 Chevy Tahoe \$ 56,553 – Administrator Kipfer presented a Payment Authorization to Quirk Auto Group, Bangor, in the amount of \$56,553 for a 2026 Chevrolet Tahoe, also in the bid process. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Payment Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Quirk Auto Group – 2026 Ford Explorer \$47,982 - Administrator Kipfer presented a Purchase Authorization to Quirk Auto Group in the amount of \$47,982 for a 2026 Ford Explorer with a ready for the road package to replace the vehicle considered totaled by the insurance company. The insurance will cover some of the cost for the vehicle which was near the end of its life expectancy and the rest will come from the reserve account. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Purchase Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Approval of Transfer of Forfeited Assets – Administrator Kipfer explained that when an individual is prosecuted through the courts, if they have assets seized as part of the

prosecution, the assets get turned over to the State. If they are successfully prosecuted, the state retains the funds and sometimes they are distributed to the arresting law enforcement agency. We have a reserve account for forfeited assets which are set aside to be used for special purposes outside the normal County budget. There are two forfeited assets to be approved today.

State v Troy Folk - \$3,495 -The first is for the State v Troy Folk in the amount of \$3,495. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the transfer of forfeited assets in the case of the State v Troy Folk in the amount of \$3,495, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

State v Dante Puello - \$1,090 - The second is for the State v Dante Puello in the amount of \$1,090. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the transfer of forfeited assets in the case of the State v Dante Puello in the amount of \$1,090, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Communications

Phoenix Award Presentations – Due to scheduling issues, Administrator Kipfer asked to table this until the next meeting. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to table until the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Vehicle Radio Installation \$4,545.75 – In the absence of Director Tara Doe, Administrator Kipfer presented a Purchase Authorization to RCM in the amount of \$4,545.75 to install an upgraded radio which ties into our Communications Center and is able to receive and transmit and will be an asset of the County but installed in Director Doe’s personal vehicle. The former radio will be repurposed for the amateur radio trailer for Emergency Management. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Purchase Authorization, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Administrator

Courthouse Boiler Repairs – Administrator Kipfer let the Commissioners know that the boiler at the Courthouse had a leak last Monday. It is the third leak in the boiler in the last 15 years so we should be preparing for a long-term plan for the boiler. It has been in place for over 20 years, and the maintenance technician said it is nearing the end of its lifespan. The current leak is not an extreme emergency since the weather is warm, but some of the boiler plates do need to be replaced. The replacement plates are 500-pound steel plates which need to be moved using a rigger and must be matched up perfectly. The recommendation is to replace both plates at the same time. As part of the Risk Pool Coverage, we have boiler insurance, so Administrator Kipfer received a quote, which does not include the rigger’s fee, for \$35,638. She has informed the Risk Pool Representative that this is pending. We would hopefully only be responsible for the deductible of \$1,000-2,000. The replacement of the whole boiler will need to be researched to determine where we will go, and what is the best fit for a building like the Courthouse. If the entire system needs to be replaced, that will involve radiators and piping as well as the boiler system.

Hiring Authorization – Timothy Coston, Truck Driver – Administrator Kipfer presented a hiring recommendation of Timothy Coston, Pittston, for the Recycling truck driver vacancy. She spoke to Commissioner Levesque for verbal permission. Mr. Coston has many years of experience working at a transfer station and in public works departments for a municipality. He has a Class B license and has driven snowplows and heavy equipment. He has passed his background check and is ready to start effective June 16, 2026. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Hiring Recommendation of Timothy Coston, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett, 3-0 vote approved.

Waldoboro Utility District ARPA Project Completion Report - Administrator Kipfer presented a letter from the Waldoboro Utility District about the ARPA funding of \$200,000 which we awarded in 2023. They used the funds to replace some pumps and other equipment which they have. The project is now complete, and they presented a final report with invoices detailing the use of the funds. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the report from the Waldoboro Utility District, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Old Business

Public Safety Building Project – Administrator Kipfer let the Commissioners know that she and Commissioner Levesque did a site walk at the potential property. After the visit, she had received verbal permission from the owner to engage with an appraiser to get an appraisal on the main property and the two adjacent properties. The County will wait on a formal option until the appraisal has been completed. There is a second property in Edgecomb on Route 27 which is for sale but after the Planning Commission did a GIS map, the terrain does not look conducive to building a public safety building as there are some very steep inclines.

Commissioners Updates

LCRPC – Commissioner Goodkowsky let the Commissioners know that the next meeting is on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 6 PM on Zoom.

Jail Authority – Commissioner Goodkowsky let the Commissioners know that there will be a special Jail Authority meeting on Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 3 PM to go over the budget.

Commissioners Meeting – Commissioner Goodkowsky reminded the Commissioners that the next meeting on July 7, 2026, will be held in the Courtroom at the Pownalborough Courthouse in Dresden in honor of the United States Semiquincentennial at 9 AM followed by a lemonade and cookie picnic on the lawn. The public is invited. Administrator Kipfer has staff preparing an invitation to be sent to our legislative delegates and town managers or clerks. LCTV will be there to record the meeting and hopefully broadcast it live. It will be posted for viewing after the event concludes.

MCCA – Commissioner Levesque let the Commissioners know that he attended the recent meeting in Augusta. They discussed the possible revisions to Title 30A section on counties. Administrator Kipfer is also meeting with a MCCA working group to discuss the issue.

Executive Session

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

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to come out of Executive Session for Discussion of Legal per 1 MSRA 405 (6) (E), seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

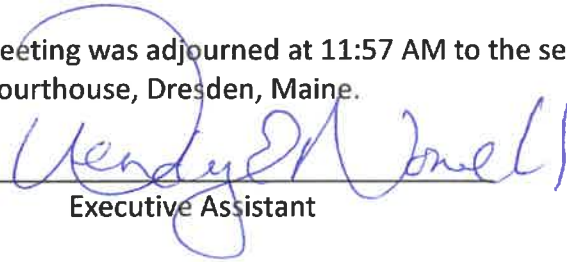
Discussion of Personnel – 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A) – This session was not needed.

Administrator Kipfer will send a letter to the Town of Somerville regarding the ARPA Broadband funding. The County requests proof of compliance with the award funding requirements or a return of funds. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the sending of the letter, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 AM to the seventh day of July 2026 A.D. at the Pownalborough Courthouse, Dresden, Maine.

ATTEST:



Wendy A. Jones

Executive Assistant