

STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the second day of May 2023 by adjournment from the eighteenth day of April 2023.

Present: Hamilton W. Meserve
William Blodgett

Absent: Mary Trescot (medical leave)

Minutes

April 18, 2023 - Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Finance Department

Warrants

Finance Director Michelle Richardson presented for approval accounts payable warrant #51 for \$59,885.57. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Accounts payable warrant #52 was presented for \$499,746.27. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Payroll warrant #2023-8 for \$220,676.70 was presented for approval. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Sheriff's Department

Jail Count – Sheriff Todd Brackett reported the jail count as follows: Lincoln 14, Sagadahoc 21, Knox 23, Penobscot 64, Waldo 22, Cumberland 01, and Federal 07 for a total of 152.

Purchase Authorization – Training Ammunition – Chief Deputy Rand Maker reported quotes for the annual purchase of training ammunition were solicited from four known vendors. The lowest bid was received from T.J. Morris in the amount of \$7,821.05. Commissioner Meserve moved accept the quote presented, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Detective Promotion - Sheriff Brackett recommends the promotion of Deputy Matthew Ryan to the position of Detective effective May 20, 2023. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Memorandum of Understanding – Contracted Law Enforcement – at the request of the Town of Boothbay Harbor, a contract for law enforcement services was drafted by Sheriff Brackett. All parties have met to discuss and a final contract is presented for approval. Up to 50 hours per week may be provided and the Town will be invoiced for the actual costs to the County. The contract will be in effect through September 30, 2023. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Communications Department

Purchase Authorization – Deputy Communications Director Rob Bickford presented a request to purchase two VPN (Virtual Private Network) devices to remotely connect radio equipment to the 9-1-1 Dispatch network as part of a back-up dispatching system. The need of this equipment was discovered during a recent test of the existing emergency plan. Total cost, including configuration and installation is \$3,342.50. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Emergency Management Agency

Promotion Recommendation– County Administrator Carrie Kipfer recommends to the Board promoting Deputy EMA Director Maury Prentiss to the position of EMA Director effective immediately. She also requests the promotion be made retroactive to March 29, 2023, when Mr. Prentiss assumed the duties of the position on an interim basis. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved. Permission to post the vacant Deputy Director position was also granted.

LCRPC

Maine Sea Grant Update – County Planner Emily Rabbe updated the Commissioners on the status of a recent grant application in partnership with Maine Sea Grant. Although the grant was not approved, MSG has made funds available for one year in an upcoming budget allocation for the project to go forward. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve the continuation of the project under the new funding stream, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

At 10:00 a.m., an advertised Public Hearing for the **National Digital Equity Center** CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) was held. The \$100,000.00 grant, will fund Digital Skills Training. Commissioner Blodgett called the Hearing to order.

Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission Executive Director, Mary Ellen Barnes, gave an overview of the application.

National Digital Equity Center Chief Operating Officer, Marita Fairfield, was present to describe the substance of the work plan. These services are aimed at those who are low to moderate income residents of Lincoln County, Maine. Currently, National Digital Equity Center offers online and in-person digital skills training and this funding will assist in expanding their outreach. It will include equipment (funded from a different source), Affordable Connectivity Program subsidy enrollment, digital learning plans, and consider aging in place concerns of older adults.

The National Digital Equity Center Public Hearing ended at 10:25 a.m. There was no one present from the general public. If the funding is awarded, it is anticipated that programming could begin in July 2023.

Administrator

Payment Authorization – Administrator Kipfer presented an invoice in the amount of \$3,957.88 from DiMauro Electric for the replacement of a 3 phase 150A breaker in the main electrical panel of the Courthouse. During previous repairs to the generator, it was discovered that this breaker was malfunctioning. Commissioner Meserve moved to approve payment, second by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Recycling Food Scrap & Composting Community Meeting – a meeting of interested parties gathered on May 1st to discuss opportunities to improve food scrap collection in the community. Representatives from Maine DEP and Upstream Solutions attended. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for May 16th. The Board indicated their support and interest.

Consideration of Student Intern – A Lincoln County employee has suggested their high-school age child would be interested in an unpaid internship over the summer. The proposed work assignment would be relevant to the student’s intended field of study in college. The Commissioners are receptive to reviewing an internship proposal at a future meeting.

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

Commissioner Blodgett moved to enter into Executive Session, second by Commissioner Meserve; 2-0 vote approved. Out of Executive Session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to the 16th day of May, 2023 A.D.

ATTEST: 
County Administrator