

## STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the eighteenth day of March 2025 by adjournment from the fourth day of March 2025.

Present: William B. Blodgett  
David Levesque  
Evan Goodkowsky

### Public Comment

Bremen resident, Walter Voskian addressed the Board with concerns about traffic speeding on Route 32 in Bremen. Mr. Voskian previously contacted the Maine Department of Transportation to request a reduction in the speed limit on the road, but the request was denied. Sheriff Todd Brackett addressed Mr. Voskian's request to have more speed enforcement deployed. Sheriff Brackett offered to contact the Waldoboro Police Chief, to install the traffic speed sign and to assign a Sheriff's Office Deputy to patrol the area for additional hours. Mr. Voskian expressed his appreciation for those solutions and the willingness of the Sheriff's Office to work with him to address the situation.

Lincoln County Television Executive Director Larry Sidelinger and LCTV Board Vice President Marva Nesbit attended at the request of the Board. They discussed opportunities to televise County Commissioners' bi-monthly meetings. Mr. Sidelinger offered to prepare an estimate of equipment needs and administration costs for the Board to consider.

### Minutes

March 4, 2025- Commissioner Levesque moved to approve, second by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

### Finance Department

**Warrants** – Finance Director Michelle Richardson presented for approval accounts payable warrant #43 for \$359,060.20. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve, second by Commissioner Levesque; 3-0 vote approved.

Payroll warrant #2025-05 for \$244,773.74 was presented for approval. Commissioner Levesque moved to approve, second by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

### Sheriff's Department

**Jail Count** – Sheriff Todd Brackett reported the jail count as follows: Lincoln 18, Sagadahoc 29, Knox 22, Penobscot 55, Waldo 22, Federal 03, Border Patrol 02, and Immigration Control 25 for a total of 176.

**Out of State Travel Requests** – Sheriff Brackett requests permission to have Detective Sergeant Ron Rollins to attend a training in New Orleans, LA from 4/29-5/1 regarding illicit labor trafficking. Travel and registration costs are being paid by the conference organizers. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve, second by Commissioner Levesque; 3-0 vote approved.

A request to have four LCSO employees attend the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington DC from 5/13-5/16 was presented. The estimated total cost is \$2,400 and will include Honor Guard representation for state law enforcement. Commissioner Levesque moved to approve the travel, second by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

**Acceptance of Grant** – Chief Deputy Rand Maker presented a grant opportunity with Anti Trafficking Organization “Our Rescue” for \$15,400 that would provide funding for the annual Cellebrite subscription, plus 15 mobile device “unlocks.” Since we have already paid the Cellebrite annual fee for 2025, a refund will be issued to Lincoln County for the payment amount. Commissioner Levesque moved to approve acceptance of the grant, second by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

### **Administrator**

**Tax Abatement Hearing Decision – Bossler v. Town of Bremen** – The Commissioners reviewed the Decision and Order prepared in response to the Tax Abatement Appeal received from Annette Bossler v. Town of Bremen. A hearing was held on March 4, 2025, where both the Petitioner and parties for the Town were in attendance to present their positions. The Board has found in favor of the Town of Bremen and denies the Petitioner’s appeal for a tax abatement. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the Decision and Order, second by Commissioner Levesque; 3-0 vote approved.

**Tax Abatement Application** – County Administrator Carrie Kipfer presented to the Board a tax abatement appeal application from Whitefield property owners Adam and Amy Harkins. The applicants appealed to the Town of Whitefield and their request was denied. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the application and proceed with the scheduling process, second by Commissioner Levesque; 3-0 vote approved. Administrator Kipfer will contact all of the parties.

**Job Description Update** – Administrator Kipfer presents a revised job description for the Administrative Assistant to the County Administrator position. After consulting Finance Director Michelle Richardson, several changes were made to the duties of the position to reflect the current administrative needs in the department. An increase in skills and abilities for the position has been added and Administrator Kipfer recommends the Board consider regrading the position if the changes to the job description are accepted. Commissioner Levesque moved to approve the changes, second by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to regrade the position to a Grade 12 on the County pay scale and to make the minor changes to the job description needed to reflect this increase, second by Commissioner Levesque; 3-0 vote approved. Permission to post the vacancy both internally and externally granted.

**Maine Connectivity Authority Digital Opportunity Networks Grant** – Administrator Kipfer updated the Board on a Letter of Intent submitted to the Maine Connectivity Authority to secure a Digital Opportunity Network Grant in the amount of \$750,000. The proposed project would provide digital devices, training and technical support to each of the 15 County Jails in the State, with the pilot first rolled out to Two Bridges Regional Jail and then on to the other counties. The next step in the process is to be invited to complete an application, and notification of an invitation should be received by April 1<sup>st</sup>, if accepted.

**Opioid Grant Award Payment Authorization** – At a previous meeting, seven grant applications, for a total of \$264,884, were awarded, using funds in the Opioid Settlement Reserve Account. Administrator Kipfer prepared and distributed MOUs and reporting requirements for all of the grantees. Payment will be issued after all of the required documents are received in good order. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve issuing payment of the grant awards, totaling \$264,884.00, second by Commissioner Levesque; 3-0 vote approved.

**Executive Session: Discussion of Personnel-1MRSA 405 (6) (A)**

Commissioner Levesque moved to enter Executive Session, second by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved. Out of Executive Session, no votes were taken.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 AM to the 1st day of April 2025 A.D.

ATTEST:   
County Administrator