

## STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the fifth day of May 2026 by adjournment from the twenty-first day of April 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

**April 21, 2026** – Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

### Finances

**Warrants** – Finance Director, Michelle Kane presented Warrant #51 in the amount of \$595,126.38 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 #2026-9 paid on May 1, 2026, in the amount of \$268,211.05 for approval. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

### Sheriff's Department

**Jail Count** – Sheriff Todd Brackett presented the jail count from this morning as follows: Lincoln 39, Sagadahoc 16, Knox 52, Penobscot 41, and Federal 2 for a total of 140. Sheriff Brackett noted that the pretrial inmate length of stays are quite high compared to other counties and continue to remain high. Pretrial inmates are not allowed to participate in work crews for local community or non-profit organization projects which cuts down on our ability to assist the community.

**Sale of Surplus Property** – Sheriff Brackett let the Commissioners know that a group of work release inmates recently went through the surplus equipment that is being stored at the Sheriff's Offices. There are a number of items from past cruisers such as lightbars, cages, computer mounts, etc. that are no longer needed and might have some value in an online auction. He requested authorization from the Commissioners to sell the surplus materials. Commissioner Blodgett moved to authorize the sale of surplus materials, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

**Payment Authorization – DCF Investigative Services LLC \$10,362 for six ballistic vests** – Sheriff Brackett presented a Purchase Authorization in the amount of \$10,362 for six (6) ballistic vests to replace six expired vests. The vests have a shelf life of three to five years depending on

usage and this is a budgeted amount. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the purchase authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

#### **Administrator**

**Purchase Authorization – Employee Training Consultant** – County Administrator Carrie Kipfer presented a Purchase Authorization for up to \$3,750 for hiring of a Training Consultant to lead the County staff in Department of Labor required annual training. This is a budgeted amount. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the purchase authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

**Employee Termination – David Gallagher (Recycling)** – Administrator Kipfer requested the Commissioners acceptance of the termination of an employee, David Gallagher from Recycling, effective April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Verbal acceptance was given by Commissioner Levesque previously. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the termination, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

**Lincoln County Semiquincentennial Celebration** – Administrator Kipfer informed the Commissioners of her recent visit to the Pownalborough Courthouse in Dresden where she viewed the Courtroom and had a tour of the building and grounds in anticipation of having the July 7, 2026, Commissioners Meeting there, followed by tours and a possible lawn party, in conjunction with the celebration of the United States Semiquincentennial. She has also had meetings with local historical groups, and the County will be hosting a page on the website for all celebration activities in Lincoln County. One of the anticipated events is the visit of an original 1776 Dunlap Broadside version of the Declaration of Independence which will be on display at Bigelow Labs in East Boothbay on July 24-25, 2026. The Commissioners will forward any ideas for celebrations to the Administrator who will continue to work with the local historical groups in the planning.

**Opioid Settlement Grant Awardee Time Extension Request** – Administrator Kipfer presented a request from Healthy Lincoln County to extend their grant deadline from the end of July to the end of the calendar year. This would allow them to use other funds which were granted to them first and still use the Opioid Settlement Grant by the end of the year. The original deadline was not imposed by the Settlement award but was set by the County. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the grant extension to December 31, 2026, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

**Purchase Authorization – Hibberts Gore Road Maintenance Request** – Administrator Kipfer presented an added agenda item in the form of a Purchase Authorization in the amount of \$2736 for purchase of 144 yards of gravel to regrade the road in Hibberts Gore this spring. There will be a grader on site to do the Palermo portion of the road, and it would be an opportune time to regrade our portion of the road. This is a budgeted amount. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to approve the purchase authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

## **Old Business**

**Public Safety Building Project** – Administrator Kipfer informed the Commissioners that she had had a meeting with our legal counsel, and they have prepared an option to purchase draft which she distributed to the Commissioners for review. She has an Executive Session scheduled for Real Property where the details can be discussed.

## **Commissioners' Updates**

**CCWI** – Commissioner Goodkowsky informed the Commissioners that the CCWI is going through a staffing change with the current Executive Director retiring or going to part-time. The group is meeting on May 15, 20206, at 8:45 AM to discuss planning for this event.

**LCRPC** – Commissioner Goodkowsky informed the Commissioners that the next meeting will be an Executive Committee on May 26, 2026, at 6 PM via Zoom.

**Jail Authority** – Commissioner Goodkowsky informed the Commissioners that the Executive Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, and the next Jail Authority meeting will be on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 3 PM.

## **CLC YMCA Community Navigator Update**

Karen-Ann Hagar-Smith, Director of Outreach and Community Navigation with support from Abby DeLena and YMCA Operations Director Brian Hayes from the Central Lincoln County YMCA's Community Navigation program in Lincoln County joined the meeting. Ms. Hagar-Smith presented the 2025 Annual Report and shared that overall interactions are trending down, which she views as positive because it suggests people are learning how to access resources and needs are being met more effectively. She describes ongoing outreach efforts, including visiting Monhegan Island to explain available services and work on building trust with communities that tend to be self-reliant.

A major focus of the Community Navigation work is utility and heating assistance, including coordinating with the Salvation Army to issue vouchers across multiple towns. The team spends significant time coaching residents to communicate with providers and understand bills, and they've strengthened partnerships with CMP by hosting "community days" at the YMCA where residents can get help directly while the Community Navigators support intake and de-escalate difficult conversations. Beyond financial help, the Community Navigators emphasize a "one contact" model that protects dignity, reduces overwhelm, and helps people complete next steps while still encouraging them to build skills to manage systems themselves.

Ms. Hagar-Smith also highlighted an expanding mental-wellness component, including a well-received PTSD/trauma training for first responders (EMS, police, dispatch) funded through partners and sponsors, with plans to continue and potentially tailor future sessions for public-safety leadership and retirement transition. The Commissioners asked about multi-year County support for navigation and related programs in other regions (including the Boothbay Region Navigator program), and Ms. Hagar-Smith described how the program grew out of COVID-era response and cross-town collaboration. Town officials and general assistance administrators are increasingly grateful for the relief and clarity the program provides, as it helps exhaust local

resources appropriately and can reduce General Assistance demand through better referrals and education.

Ms. DeLena added examples showing how detailed intake leads to better outcomes, especially for housing insecurity when shelters are full. In one case, deputies referred a homeless couple living in their car to the Community Navigator staff, where the team provided immediate food and warmth, short-term gas and hotel support through donors, and ultimately helped the couple enroll in Job Corps for housing and training. The Commissioners and the Navigator team discussed the importance of strong relationships with agencies like Tedford Shelter, hospitals, and public offices, as well as flexible donor funds for one-off emergencies (e.g., home safety needs). The Commissioners expressed appreciation for the program's impact and a reminder that the public can reach the navigators through a dedicated phone line (207-403-4116) answered only by Ms. Hagar-Smith and Ms. DeLena.

### **Executive Session**

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

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to come out of Executive Session for Discussion of Personnel per 1 MSRA 405 (6) (A), seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved. No votes taken.

**Discussion of Real Property – 1 MRSA 405 (6) (C)** – Commissioner Blodgett moved to enter Executive Session for Discussion of Real Property per 1 MSRA 405 (6) (C); seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

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

Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to appoint Commissioner David Levesque as representative of the Commissioners in Option to Purchase Negotiations, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 3-0 vote approved.

Commissioner Blodgett moved to appoint Commissioner Evan Goodkowsky and County Administrator Carrie Kipfer to the Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate District 6 Jail Authority Expansion, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

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 11:52 AM to the nineteenth day of May 2026 A.D.

ATTEST:

  
Executive Assistant