

STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the sixth day of July 2021, by adjournment from the thirtieth day of June 2021.

Present: William B. Blodgett, Chair
Hamilton W. Meserve
Mary Trescot

Commissioner Meserve moved to approve minutes from the June 8, 2021 meeting; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Commissioner Meserve moved to approve minutes from the June 15, 2021 meeting; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Commissioner Trescot moved to approve minutes from the June 30, 2021 meeting; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Finance Director Michelle Richardson presented for approval:

Warrant #35 \$86,945.42

Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Warrant #37 \$382,530.67

Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant #2021-13 \$176,212.92

Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant #2021-14 \$201,796.88

Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Sheriff Todd Brackett reported a current Jail count at Two Bridges Regional Jail (TBRJ): 25 Lincoln County inmates; Sagadahoc County holds 29 inmates at TBRJ; Federal 2; Oxford 26; Cumberland 2; Penobscot 6; Knox 4; Waldo 2, for a total of 96.

Two hiring recommendations for vacant Deputy Sheriff positions were presented for approval. Ethan Burns and Joshua Chouinard were offered a conditional offer of employment, pending a successful background check and other pre-employment approvals. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3-0 vote approved.

Chief Deputy Rand Maker requested authorization to apply for a \$6,000 *Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws* grant that would provide funding for compliance checks. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; seconded by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved.

A retirement notice was presented for Deputy Chad Gilbert. His last day of work is planned for July 23, 2021, and will use accrued paid time off until his retirement dated. Motion to accept with regrets by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved.

Sheriff Brackett requested permission to allow retiring department employees to keep their service weapon upon retirement. The replacement of the firearm will be funded through the Sheriff's Office operational budget. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

An authorization for payment for three ballistic vests from Admiral Fire & Safety in the amount of \$4,237.67 was presented. Reimbursement for half the cost is expected through the Department of Justice bulletproof vest grant program. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3 – 0 vote approved.

County Administrator Carrie Kipfer presented on behalf of EMA Director Casey Stevens, who was on a Project Lifesaver search call in the Town of Jefferson. A hiring recommendation for the Operations and Training Specialist position was presented, Brandon Look of Jonesboro was recommended for the part-time position, with a start date of July 6, 2021. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3-0 vote approved.

The CodeRED annual subscription contract in the amount of \$8,400 was presented for approval. This is a budgeted expense shared by EMA and the Sheriff's Office. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3 – 0 vote approved.

Communications Director Tara Doe presented three employee hiring recommendations, pending successful background check. Carrie White, of Waldoboro, Curtis Bigelow, of Florida and Richard Hasch, of Boothbay Harbor have been offered conditional offers of employment as Emergency Communications Officers. Motion to approve all three recommendations by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved. If successfully hired, this will fill all vacant ECO positions.

Director Doe also presented a Memorandum of Understanding with the two bargaining units to agree to a temporary schedule change for the ECOs. The agreement will take effect July 3, 2021 and will be in effect through August 28, 2021, when it may be reconsidered. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved.

A purchase order in the amount of \$17,450.59 was presented for an emergency replacement of a microwave link on the Huntoon Hill tower site. The corresponding equipment on the Nobleboro tower was also required to be replaced. The cost includes the hardware, installation, certified tower climbers and licensing for the new equipment. This replacement was budgeted in the capital improvement plan and those funds will be used. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved.

The Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission's Strategic Projects Manager, Sandy Gilbreath, presented a grant opportunity from the Good Shepherd Food Bank. This grant would provide funds for a "Community Connector" position that would coordinate resources across different organizations and community contacts in Lincoln County as they relate to food security. Additional funds would also be available in the first year for specific projects the Connector will undertake. The Board approved applying for the grant, which is due July 23rd. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved.

Administrator Kipfer presented a purchase order on behalf of Recycling Department Supervisor Tim Richardson for the purchase of eight truck tires for the Mack packer truck. The tires will be purchased from Maine Commercial Tire for a total cost of \$4,094.30. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3-0 approved.

A contract to purchase diesel fuel for Recycling vehicles was presented. Dead River Company will supply and deliver fuel through May 31, 2022 at a fixed rate of \$2.6235 per gallon, for up to 14,000 gallons. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3-0 approved.

A Tax Abatement Decision for the Commissioner's hearing on June 8, 2021, Daniel I. Billings vs. Town of Southport, Maine was reviewed. The Board approved the Decision as presented. Motion to approve by Commissioner Trescot; second by Commissioner Meserve; 3-0 approved.

Two Tax Abatement Decisions for the Commissioner's hearings on June 15, 2021, Michael Chase vs. Town of Bristol, Maine were reviewed. The Board approved the Decisions as presented. Motion to approve by Commissioner Meserve; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 approved.

Administrator Kipfer proposed drafting a "Remote Meeting Participation Policy" to allow Commissioners to participate remotely in future meetings, as allowed by the new State law. The Board instructed the Administrator to draft such a policy to be reviewed at a future meeting.

Information was shared with the Board about condensation in the air exchange unit in the District Courtroom and the judge's chambers. The State's recent upgrades to the ventilation system seem to be the cause and an HVAC engineer has been contacted to evaluate the system.

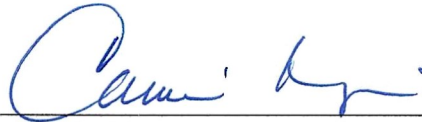
The Register of Deeds has provided data for the Board to review in regards to their year-to-date recordings and filings. When compared to previous years, the office has experienced an increase of about 25% in overall filings and an increase in e-filings of about 15%. They are assessing ways to provide training to users who could benefit from e-filing services.

At 11:00 am, Commissioner Meserve made a motion to enter executive session with Attorney Linda McGill according to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (F) to consult with legal counsel; second by Commissioner Trescot; 3-0 vote approved.

Out of executive session; no votes were taken.

There being no further business, the Commissioners adjourned to meet on the twentieth of July A.D. 2021.

ATTEST:



County Administrator