STATE OF MAINE
County of Lincoln
2026 Budget Advisory Committee
Workshop
October 17, 2025, 9AM

Present:

Commissioners:
David Levesque, Chair
William B. Blodgett
Evan Goodkowsky

Budget Committee Members:
Brent Hallowell, Whitefield, Chair
John Blodgett, Waldoboro
Reuben Mahar, Waldoboro
Karen Paz, Newcastle
Kenneth Rayle, Boothbay Harbor

County Employees:
Carrie Kipfer, County Administrator
Michelle Kane, Elected Treasurer & Finance Director
Wendy Nowell, Executive Assistant

Commission Chair, David Levesque, opened the meeting at 9:00 AM by introductions and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Finance Director, Michelle Kane, discussed the significant changes to the 2027 budget compared to the 2026 budget and will review each department individually.

Commissioner Levesque asked for nominations for the 2027 Budget Chair: Kenneth Rayle nominated Brent Hallowell, seconded by Reuben Mahar; no other nominations were presented; **5 - 0 Vote approved.**

Court Security
Total estimated revenue is **$ 171,855.00.** Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Brent Hallowell; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 207,119.00.** Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Karen Paz; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Emergency Management Agency
Total requested expenditures are **$ 390,453.00.** Motion to approve by John Blodgett, second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

District Attorney
Total requested expenditures are **$ 515,084.00.** Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

Administration
Total requested expenditures are **$ 980,709.00**. Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle, second by Karen Paz; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

County Buildings
Total requested expenditures are **$ 662,226.00.** Motion to approve after decreasing the electricity line by $10,000 and increasing the fuel line by $10,000 by Karen Paz; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

TBRJ Assessment
Total requested expenditures are **$ 2,420,839.00.** Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 0 vote Approved.**

Jail Transport
Total estimated revenue is **$ 306,213.00.** Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 962,529.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Communications
Total estimated revenue is **$ 92,000.00**. Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by John Blodgett; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 2,269,267.00**. Motion to approve by John Blodgett, second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Registry of Deeds
Total estimated revenue is **$ 465,000.00**. Motion to **approve increase in estimated revenue of $565,000** by Karen Paz, second by Brent Hallowell; **5 - 0 vote Approved**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 300,457.00.** Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle, second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved**

Registry of Probate,
Total estimated revenue is **$ 175,000.00.** Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Karen Paz; **5 - 0 vote Approved**.

Total requested expenditures are **$ 340,927.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

Sheriff's Department
Total estimated revenue is **$ 563,800.00.** Motion to approve **estimated revenue of $622,800 by increasing the SRO line to $111,000** made by Reuben Mahar; second by Karen Paz; **3 – 2 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 5,505,426.00.** Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved**.

LCRPC (Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission)
Total estimated revenue is **$ 151,000.00.** Motion to approve by Karen Paz, second by Kenneth Rayles; **5 -0 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 641,083.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Recycling
Total estimated revenue is **$ 220,000.00**. Motion to approve by John Blodgett; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 671,622.00.** Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Employee & Retiree Benefits
Total estimated revenue is **$ 12,480.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Reuben Maher; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Total requested expenditures are **$ 82,680.00**. Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Maher; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

Tedford Shelter
Total requested expenditures are **$ 14,621.00**. Motion to approve by Reuben Mahar; second by Karen Paz; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

County Navigator
Total requested expenditures are **$ 157,726.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz, second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

The Budget Advisory Committee requested Administrator Kipfer connect with Holly Stover of the Boothbay Region Community Resource Council to make sure an equitable expenditure is offered to that portion of the County.

Lincoln County Historical Association
Total requested expenditures are **$ 20,000.00**. Motion to approve by Reuben Mahar; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District
Total requested expenditures are **$ 36,502.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension
Total requested expenditures are **$ 54,375.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

ElderCare Network
Total requested expenditures are **$ 45,000.00**. Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Merrymeeting Adult Education
Total requested expenditures are **$4,727.00.** Motion to approve by Karen Paz; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

Insurance
Total requested expenditures are **$ 127,650.00**. Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Mahar; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

Contingency
Total requested expenditures are **$ 95,000.00**. Motion to approve by Kenneth Rayle; second by Reuben Mayer; **5 - 0 vote Approved**.

Capital Improvement and Reserve Funding
Total requested expenditures are **$ 1,717,000.00.** Motion to approve by Karen Paz, second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

County Interest General Fund
Total requested expenditures are **$ -30,000.00**. Motion to approve by Karen Paz, second by Kenneth Rayle; **5 – 0 vote Approved.**

It was moved by Kenneth Rayle and seconded by Reuben Maher to adjourn at 1:10 PM; **5 - 0 vote Approved.**

Next Meeting will be October 29, 2026, at 1:00 PM at the LCRPC Offices.

ATTEST: Wendy E Nowell

Wendy Nowell, Executive Assistant