STATE OF MAINE

At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden in Wiscasset, within and for the County of Lincoln, on the twentieth day of October 2026 by adjournment from the sixth day of October 2026.

Present: Evan Goodkowsky, Acting Chair
William B. Blodgett
Excused: David Levesque

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Commissioner Goodkowsky, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Forum

None present.

Minutes

October 6, 2026 – Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 3-0 vote approved.

Finance Department

Warrants – Finance Director, Michelle Kane, presented Accounts Payable Warrant #79 in the amount of $540,950.53 for approval. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Payroll Warrant – Director Kane presented Payroll Warrant #2026-21, paid on October 16, 2026, in the amount of $290,455.32 for approval, noting that Recycling is over their annually budgeted overtime due to several medical leave of absences. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Unorganized Territory Audit – FY 2026 – Director Kane received the completed audit with no changes or recommendations, resulting in a clean report. Minor language updates were required to satisfy new supplemental observation reporting requirements, and the revised material was returned to the auditors on Monday. The fund balance has grown over approximately eight years to $168,464, primarily to support road and bridge maintenance. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the UT Audit for FY 2026, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Sheriff's Office

Jail Count – Chief Deputy Rand Maker presented the inmate count for Two Bridges Regional Jail from this morning as follows: Lincoln 23, Sagadahoc 14, Knox 49, Penobscot 42, Oxford 4, and Federal 1 for a total of 133.

Forfeiture of Funds - $1,322.14 – Chief Deputy Maker presented a request from the District Attorney's Office regarding $1,322.14 seized during a commercial burglary investigation in Boothbay. The DA's Office requested that the County transfer the funds so that, once the

court issues its final order, the money can be transferred to the county restitution fund and paid to the victim. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Forfeiture of funds, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Payment Authorization – Island Tech Services - $6,843.10 – Chief Deputy Maker presented a Payment Authorization in the budgeted amount of $6,843.10 to Island Tech Services for equipment and installation of equipment for one of the new 2026 Dodge Durango vehicles. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Payment Authorization as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Hiring Recommendation – Laurel Kragh – Chief Deputy Maker presented a hiring recommendation, effective October 19, 2026, for the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) of Laurel Kragh. Ms. Kragh is an employee of Waldo County who has helped with the ASP in the past. Administrator Carrie Kipfer reached out to Commissioner Levesque yesterday to get permission to have Ms. Kragh start her role yesterday. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the hiring of Laurel Kragh, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Employee Termination – Chief Deputy Maker regretfully requested a formal termination of employment for Michael Richardson, who recently passed away. Mr. Richardson was a long-time Civil Deputy and a valued employee who will be missed. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the formal termination with regrets and sympathy to Mr. Richardson's family, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Employee Resignation – Chief Deputy Maker informed the Commissioners of the resignation of Special Services Deputy Ryan Chubbuck effective October 7, 2026. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the resignation of Deputy Chubbuck, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

LCRPC

RFP – Lincoln County Economic Development Study and Strategy - Alex Zipparo, Economic and Community Development Planner, presented a request for proposals (RFP) to hire a consulting firm to develop a comprehensive countywide economic development analysis, strategy, and action plan. The project will assess current conditions and community needs, gather public input, identify local growth opportunities, establish a shared vision, recommend strategies, create an implementation plan, and define measurable goals. The RFP will be released immediately through LCRPC's networks, website and relevant RFP boards, with proposals due December 15, 2026, and a firm selected by January 21, 2027. Work is expected to begin in March, with a draft due October 31, 2027, and the final plan due December 1, 2027. Proposals will be evaluated on qualifications, experience, capacity, schedule, deliverables, and cost alignment. The budget for the proposal is $80,000. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the RFP, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Hiring Recommendation – Bekah Farmer -Floodplain Manager – Executive Director Emily Rabbe informed the Commissioners that the prior candidate had rescinded their

acceptance of the offer for another position with a different company. Director Rabbe moved forward with the next top candidate, Bekah Farmer, who has accepted the position. She is currently doing permitting work at the DEP and has a strong desire to work with communities. After her start date of November 2, 2026, she will go through the certification process for becoming a Floodplain Manager with the State. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the Hiring Recommendation for Bekah Farmer, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Employee Resignation – Curtis Brown – Director Rabbe presented an Employee Resignation for Curtis Brown, longtime Land Use and Transportation Planner, who stepped out of the full-time role in December 2025 but continued to do remote work for the County while getting his master's degree. He is now formally resigning as he has a new full-time planning position with the Greater Portland Council of Governments. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the Employee Resignation with thanks, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Purchase Order Request - $3,540.00 to Mine Oyster for Catering of 11/9/2026 Workshop – Director Rabbe presented a Purchase Order request for $3,540.00 to Mine Oyster for catering of the Shoreline Erosion Workshop that is being hosted at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science. The workshop is in partnership with the Maine Coastal Program and the Municipal Planning Assistance Program who will be providing the $7,000 budget for the workshop so the cost of the catering will be covered. The focus will be for Lincoln County shoreline residents and municipalities seeking solutions to riverbank and coastal erosion. Representatives from state agencies and local conservation organizations will give presentations, provide information about available services, and participate in an interactive session where property owners and municipal officials can discuss specific shoreline stabilization concerns. Local high school students are also being invited to learn about planning, climate change, environmental science, and related career opportunities. Commissioner Blodgett moved to accept the Purchase Order as presented, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Employee Update - Director Rabbe informed the Commissioners that Lydia Pease, the 2026 Summer Intern through the Margaret Chase Smith Program, has officially accepted a Assistant Planner position in Old Orchard Beach.

Snapshot - Director Rabbe presented the third quarter 2026 Snapshot summary of what the LCRPC had accomplished. From July through September 2026, they delivered more than 800 hours of technical assistance to municipalities, businesses, and nonprofits; supported eight grant applications; assisted 14 communities and several countywide initiatives; and hosted four workshops across Lincoln County. The team also published three online resources: an energy efficiency and resilience guide for municipalities and residents, a recycling and transfer-station disposal guide, and a two-page guide to help municipalities implement recent state housing legislation. LCRPC plans to maintain this momentum through the end of 2026.

Administrator

Purchase Authorization – Comm Center Elevator Control Modernization – Administrator Carrie Kipfer informed the Commissioners the Comms Center elevator has been out of service for several weeks because its control system is obsolete and replacement parts are unavailable. Pine State Elevator estimates that modernizing the controls will cost $110,600, excluding additional electrical work, inspections, and alarm-system upgrades. Although the Courthouse elevator previously avoided a full overhaul through supplemental repairs, the approximately 25-year-old Comms Center elevator now appears to require a major investment. People who are unable to use the stairs must go outside and cross the parking lot to access different levels. Administrator Kipfer recommends using money reserved for the elevator in the capital fund and proceed with the modernization and presents a Purchase Authorization to Pine State Elevator in the amount of $110,600 for their portion of the repairs. There will be additional costs for the electrical work, alarm costs and state inspections. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Purchase Authorization for the elevator repairs, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Courthouse HVAC flange replacements $5,117.00 – Administrator Kipfer presented a Purchase Authorization to authorize $5,117 in repairs to the Courthouse boiler system. Two aging, leaking flanges need to be completely replaced, and their existing gaskets likely contain asbestos, requiring specialized removal and remediation before new gaskets and flanges can be installed. Because the regular HVAC contractor cannot perform asbestos-related work, CCB Construction Services from Westbrook provided the quote, with the cost proposed to come from capital funds to keep the heating system operational. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Purchase Authorization, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Purchase Authorization – Hibberts Gore Road culverts $5,738.10 plus road repair – Administrator Kipfer presented a Purchase Authorization paid to Steve Childs for up to $50,000 to cover $5,738.10 replacement culverts on Hibberts Gore Road and additional funds for installation and rebuilding the road over the new culverts. The rebuild of this section of road is estimated to be about $26,000 plus $18,000 for culvert installation and would be funded by the UT budget in reserve funds that are set aside for this. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Purchase Authorization of up to $50,000, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Payment Authorization – CRC Boothbay Region Navigator $36,472.85 – Administrator Kipfer presented a Payment Authorization in the amount of $36,472.85 with is calculated per-capita for the 2026 ARPA allocation to CRC Boothbay Region Navigator. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the Payment Authorization, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Volunteer Maine Service Fellows Program – Administrator Kipfer is exploring participation in the Volunteer Maine Service Fellows Program, which places a recent college graduate with a sponsoring organization for 10 months to develop a new initiative. The County's contribution

would be $1,800, plus a computer, mileage, and incidental expenses. One proposed project would create a countywide volunteer coordination program with a database to connect people seeking volunteer opportunities with organizations needing assistance. The Fellow would be required to live in and engage with the community, and housing assistance or other benefits could be considered. County staff and Planning Commission representatives will refine the project scope and bring a proposal to the next meeting ahead of the November 15 application deadline for the 2027 program. This is informational only, no vote needed.

ARPA Account Balance Transfer Among Allocations – Administrator Kipfer presented a proposal to transfer $23,507.70 from unspent ARPA allocations to cover a shortfall in the County Community Navigator allocation. The transfer would consist of $4,250 reserved for a single audit that auditors advised is unnecessary for 2026 since spending is below the $1 million threshold, $2,915.76 remaining in the Boothbay Community Navigator allocation after its approved $36,472.85 payment, and $16,341.94 left in the Community and Economic Development Planner allocation due to a delay in filling the position. The transfers total the amount needed, would not change the overall allocated funding and are permitted under ARPA rules. Commissioner Blodgett moved to approve the transfer of funds between the allocations, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

CommonSpace Opioid Funding Grant Extension Request – Administrator Kipfer presented a proposal to extend the end date of the Opioid Funding Grant given to CommonSpace, a non-profit in Newcastle and Bath, from October 31, 2026, to January 31, 2027, to allow them time to complete their project and spend the remaining $8,000 of their grant. Commissioner Blodgett moved to extend the grant deadline for CommonSpace from October 31, 2026, to January 31, 2027, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

MaineHealth Opioid Funding Grant Extension Request - Administrator Kipfer presented a proposal to extend the end date of the Opioid Funding Grant given to MaineHealth from October 31, 2026, to January 31, 2027, to allow them time to complete their project and spend the remaining funds of their grant as they are seeing an increase in demand on their services since the close of the Addiction Resource Center in Damariscotta. Commissioner Blodgett moved to extend the grant deadline for MaineHealth from October 31, 2026, to January 31, 2027, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

MCCA Executive Director Consideration – Administrator Kipfer presented a proposal from the Maine County Commissioners Association asking counties to consider establishing a full-time Executive Director position following a board discussion that revealed divided support. Although some funding is available, the position could increase Lincoln County's annual dues by as much as $7,000. Concerns expressed at the last MCCA Board meeting centered on a proposal to reduce the cost and scope of the association's existing legislative lobbying contract, requiring the Executive Director to assume those responsibilities. A comprehensive job description and salary estimate were developed using comparable county organizations and similarly sized Maine nonprofits, but the estimated salary was substantially higher than

anticipated. After intense discussions, the counties were asked to discuss the proposal before a full-board vote at the next MCCA meeting. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to express opposition to the proposal of an Executive Director position being created, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved with Administrator Kipfer noting that Commissioner Levesque had expressed opposition as well.

Old Business

Public Safety Building Project - No updates.

DOT Fiscal Agent Request – Boothbay Harborside Park – Administrator Kipfer reached out to the Boothbay Harbor Select Board Chair, who had recommended that the Boothbay Harborside Park contact us. He is in support of their request and does not have any concerns with the Town's position not to take on the role of Fiscal Agent and does not feel it would have any negative impact on the Town's relationship with the County. She also confirmed with the Department of Transportation that the County would not assume any liability that the project was completed and would only be a pass-through of funds, verifying the invoice amount and the amount paid are the same. Commissioner Goodkowsky moved to accept the role of Fiscal Agent for the DOT Grant to Boothbay Harborside Park, seconded by Commissioner Blodgett; 2-0 vote approved.

Budget Advisory Council Member Update – Administrator Kipfer let the Commissioners know that former BAC Member, George Richardson, from Westport Island, passed away on October 12, 2026. He was a long-time BAC member and very thoughtful and engaged in the Budget process. He will be missed.

Commissioner Updates

MCCA – Administrator Kipfer informed the Commissioners that there was a meeting last week of the Risk Pool and the MCCA Board. Most of the conversation was a follow-up on the Convention and the Executive Director position and the budget is still being worked on pending that decision.

Budget Advisory Board Meeting – Commissioner Goodkowsky reminded the Commissioners of the BAC Meeting last Friday and found the meeting very efficient and the Board very engaged.

LCRPC – Commissioner Goodkowsky informed the Commissioners that the next meeting will be October 21, 2026, at 6 PM on Zoom. Also, the Planning Director will be awarded the Northern New England Planner of the Year award on Thursday, October 22, 2026, in New Hampshire.

Executive Session

Discussion of Personnel – 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A) – Commissioner Blodgett moved to enter Executive Session for a Discussion of Personnel per 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A), seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

Commissioner Blodgett moved to come out of Executive Session for Discussion of Personnel per 1 MSRA 405 (6)(A), seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved. No votes were taken.

Commissioner Blodgett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Goodkowsky; 2-0 vote approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM to the third day of November 2026 A.D.

ATTEST: _____
Executive Assistant