

Steven Joy, President Hancock County

Gary McGrane, Vice President Franklin County

Roger Moody, Secretary-Treasurer Knox County



Vacant Executive Director

Alice Schlosser Administrative Assistant

4 Gabriel Drive, Suite 2 Augusta, ME 04330 207-623-4697 www.mainecounties.org

MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

MCCA Board Meeting Minutes March 13, 2013 Maine Farm Bureau

Attendees:

DIRECTORS: [Proxy] Beth Bell of Androscoggin; Norman Fournier of Aroostook; Tom Coward of Cumberland; Gary McGrane of Franklin, Steven Joy of Hancock; George Jabar II, of Kennebec; Roger Moody of Knox; William Blodgett of Lincoln; [Proxy] Scott Cole of Oxford; Peter Baldacci of Penobscot; James Annis of Piscataquis; [Proxy] Phillip Roy of Somerset; Amy Fowler of Waldo; [Proxy] Vinton Cassidy of Washington; Sallie Chandler of York; Kathleen Ayers, Maine Association of Registers of Probate; Owen Smith, Maine Emergency County Communications Association; Bill Collins, Maine Association of County Managers, Administrators and Clerks; Mark Westrum, Maine Correctional Administrators Association; Sheriff Todd Brackett, Maine Sheriffs Association; David Parkman, Maine Association of Treasurers

COUNTY MANAGERS/ADMINISTRATORS: Bill Whitten of Cumberland; Bob Devlin of Kennebec; Andrew Hart of Knox; John O'Connell of Penobscot; Pam Hile of Sagadahoc; Betsy Fitzgerald of Washington

OTHER PARTICIPANTS: Commissioner Tom Davis of Penobscot; Tim Urban, LPL Financial, Arnold Chandler

STAFF: Risk Pool Manager Malcolm Ulmer; Administrative Assistant Alice Schlosser

- 1. Introductions of Board Members and Others in Attendance
- 2. Approval of the Agenda/Additions
 - The agenda was approved.
- 3. Approval of the February 13, 2013 BOD Meeting Minutes
 - A motion was made to approve the minutes from 2-13-13, Fournier/Fowler and passed unanimously.
 - Scott Cole made a clarification regarding the attendees list and asked that all voting members are listed.

New/Old Business

1. Commissioner of Labor Jeanne Paquette Gave a Quick Update and Request for Next Steps by County Commissioners.

- Commissioner Paquette said she sent the State Work Force Development Plan to the Feds today with the revisions from her Department.
- She showed the Feds a chart that she agreed was very confusing.
- She wants input from the Commissioners to find the best way to make the system efficient and effective.
- She spoke about there being a lot of destructive behavior in the last 18 months.
- What is the best way to achieve efficiency?
- She said she did not receive a lot of response from her email to Commissioners to comment on the Plan.
- There was discussion that it was short turnaround time for response.
- Commissioner Paquette wants to invite all Commissioners to attend a workshop on Wednesday, May 1 from 9:00am 12:00pm.
- There was a lot of discussion and suggestions on how she could achieve efficiency
- She invited anyone to meet with her anytime to give input and bring their best practices forward.
- It was suggested to deal with the 5 Chief Local Elected Officers (CLEO's) and not all the Commissioners.
- There was discussion on how the funds should stay in the counties to reinvest the money into our people.
- There was further discussion on this issue
 - O Steve said she is going to send us an invitation, and we have never discussed it at a meeting. We are just trying to figure out what is happening.
 - o Beth Bell said we all should respond to the Commissioner with an email. We owe her a response.
 - Charles said he knows a lot about work force development and that each county has different factors.
 - o Gary said that his board is working towards having more funds for training.

2. Legislative Update- Bill Whitten

LD 559 the Registry of Deeds Bill

- o Simpson's bill LD 465 was voted ONTP with 1 dissenting vote.
- o There was unexpected opposition at the meeting.
- o Aroostook County spoke in opposition to LD 559, which MCCA is supporting.
- Bill W. is working with Peter Marchesi to come up with an acceptable amendment to LD 559.
- o Bob D. said the legislative committee did not like the Association setting the fees nor the Commissioners.

• LD 211 Growth Factor – Scott Cole

- o The state economist has several options.
- Scott and Bob Devlin are part of an informal work group headed by Rep. Hayes
- o They are meeting Monday, March 18.
- Scott said the status quo is better than a change, and they can put the bill in next session.
- o Bob agrees that it will take a lot of consensus to get a workable solution.
- o Everybody agrees it's a broken system.

• LD 76 Inverse Debt Funding – Phil Roy

- The committee voted ONTP with a commitment for the \$2 million from DOC budget for 1 year.
- o Phil Roy said this will not be labeled for inverse debt.
- o The minority report is not out yet.

• LD 502 An Act to Allow County Jails to Apply Savings to Debt Service Without a Reduction in State Payments

- o Senator Gerzofsky wants to tweak the language.
- o It will fund counties other than curtailments.
- o Federal revenues are off the table.
- Phil Roy explained Somerset County will apply savings to debt service. 75% will go to debt service the balance will go to CIP.
- Bill said all the legislative information is sent out prior to the conference call on Friday, so please let me know if you are in opposition of a bill.

3. Discussion and Nomination of New Executive Director- Peter Baldacci

- The nominating committee recommends Rosemary Kulow for the Executive Director position.
- Peter gave some information on her background and said she is excited about the challenge and available to start next week.
- Peter asked to negotiate a contract for Rosemary.
- A motion was made by Peter Baldacci Fournier/Roy to negotiate a contract with Ms. Kulow, and passed unanimously.
- There was discussion on the salary and whether it was separate from the legislative affairs/lobbying.
- Steve said we would finish the legislative session with Bill Whitten and ask Rosemary to meet with Bill.
- It was assumed there is a probationary period of 6 months.
- Peter said he would work on a severance package that would protect both parties.

4. By-Laws Update Committee Report- Norm Fournier

- Norman emailed the By-Laws to the BOD only asking for comments.
- Norman received 3 responses and incorporated the comments in the By-Laws.
- A hard copy letter will be mailed to all Commissioners 20 days prior to a membership meeting to review/approve the By-Law updates.
- All By-Laws changes require 20 day notice and must be a full membership meeting. If changes are going to be made at the April meeting the notice will have to go out by March 20, 2013.
- Phil asked if changes can be made from the floor and Norman said they cannot.
- There was discussion about whether there will be suggested changes in the April meeting. Could we table this and take them up at the May meeting, the consensus was yes.

5. Treasurers Report- Roger Moody

- Roger said the audit is complete and he signed off and asked for management letter from Ron Smith.
- Roger said there is not anything new to report on the budget.
- He said we use QuickBooks Pro which is a standard format.
- A motion was made to accept the budget by Crosby/Fowler, and accepted unanimously.

6. NACo report Peter Baldacci

- Peter went to the NACo convention held on March 4-6 in DC.
- Peter was appointed to the Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee.
- This committee deals with the Sheriff's Dept, Jails, EMA and Regional Dispatch.
- Most of the counties outside New England do everything.
- Peter talked about FirstNet First Responder's National Network. FirstNet received \$7 billion dollars to build the network.
- FirstNet has grant programs that allocate 80% of the money to go to localities and they want to hear from more counties.
- Jail experts spoke about the California jails and how they reduced the jail population; transferred inmates to the counties, and pay them \$78.00 a day.
- California changed the sentence for non-violent offenders from 1 yr served to 1 yr suspended.
- Peter advised NACo of the incoming Executive Director and that Maine may want to use NACo in developing the Executive Director's responsibilities.
- There will be another NACo conference held in July.

7. Association Reports

- Maine Association of County Clerks, Administrators, and Managers (MACCAM) has no report, as they are meeting next month.
- Owen from Maine Emergency County Communications Association (MECCA) said they have 3 bills that were defeated or in a work session.
 - o LD 774 is a pilot program for protocols for fire and police.
 - o If we move forward with this they will be looking for volunteers for the pilot program.
- Kathleen Ayers from Probate said they have 20 bills in session.
 - o LD 376, is a sibling visitation after adoption legislation which is a bad bill and she is speaking in opposition.
 - LD 551 and LD 975 could cut down on the availability of Guardian ad Litem and she is speaking in opposition of these two bills. Kathleen said DHHS and the State Court system are opposing this legislation.
 - A motion was made by Baldacci/Fowler for MCCA to support the Registers of Probate in opposition of LD 376, LD 551 and LD 975, and accepted unanimously.
- Mark Westrum from BOC
 - o He's been given strong direction from the AG's office when discussing BOC matters.
 - He was told any discussion should be in a public setting.
 - o BOC is taking on a different role now.
 - o He is frustrated with the counties expenditures not matching their audit report.
 - \circ The budget focus group meets next week and will make recommendations to the BOC on the 3^{rd} and 4^{th} quarter payments.
- Peter introduced Rosemary Kulow.

8. Right to Know - Joe Brown

No report

9. Adjournment

• Adjourned at 12:30pm.