

M.C.C.A.

Peter Baldacci, President
Penobscot County

Thomas Coward, Vice President
Cumberland County

Michael Cote, Secretary-Treasurer
York County

Charles Pray
Executive Director

Lauren Haven
Office Manager



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MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION MCCA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes MCCA Offices, November 8, 2017 at 10:00 am

I. Call to Order, Introductions, Attendance and Pledge of Allegiance

President Peter Baldacci called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and all present introduced themselves.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: *Aroostook* – Comm. Norman Fournier; *Cumberland* – Comm. Thomas Coward; *Hancock* – Admin. Scott Adkins proxy for Comm. Percy Brown; *Kennebec* – Admin. Bob Devlin proxy for Comm. George Jabar; *Knox* – Comm. Carol Maines; *Lincoln* – Comm. William Blodgett; *Oxford* – Admin. Scott Cole proxy for Comm. Steven Merrill; *Penobscot* – Comm. Peter Baldacci; *Piscataquis* – Comm. Jim Annis; *Sagadahoc* – Comm. Charles Crosby III; *Somerset* - Admin. Dawn DiBlasi proxy for Comm. Newell Graf; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; *Washington* – County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald proxy for Comm. Chris Gardner; and *York* – Comm. Michael Cote.

OTHERS PRESENT: *Cumberland* – Comm. Steve Gorden; *Lincoln* – Comm. Mary Trescot and Admin. Carrie Kipfer; *Sagadahoc* – Admin. Pamela Hile; *Somerset* - Comm. Robert Sezak; *EMAD* – Sean Goodwin; *MACT* – David Parkman; and *MECCA* – Owen Smith.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. Sally Christner; *Franklin* – Comm. Charles Webster; *Hancock* – Comm. Percy Brown; *Kennebec* – Comm. George Jabar, II; *Oxford* – Comm. Steven Merrill; *Somerset* – Comm. Newell Graf; and *Washington* – Comm. Chris Gardner.

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Charles Pray, Risk Pool Manager Malcolm Ulmer and Office Manager Lauren Haven.

II. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

Comm. Cote moved and Comm. Fowler seconded approving the agenda with no additions. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of October 11, 2017 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Comm. Fournier **moved** and Manager Betsy Fitzgerald **seconded** approving the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on October 11, 2017 with no changes requested. The **motion** was **passed**.

IV. New Business

A. Consideration of 2019 Convention Host

Administrator Dawn DiBlasi offered Somerset as a potential host. Research could be conducted on appropriately sized venues in the Waterville area. Comm. Fowler stated Waldo County was still interested in hosting. Point Lookout is a great venue for the convention and the management seems to be interested in submitting a more cost-effective proposal for a future event. Lauren said she had been contacted by the venue and agreed the Convention Planning Committee could request a proposal for the fall of 2019 for comparison. The Committee will also ask for a multi-year proposal, as there may be a discount for fees if MCCA will agree to consecutive events at the venue or if the venue is placed in a three-year rotating cycle.

V. Reports

A. Executive Director Report

Executive Director Charles Pray presented his report and the group explored the items listed one by one. Following are two topics resulting in a vote and one no action:

Regarding State funds for the efficient delivery of local & regional services review panel: The panel will review and make recommendation for funds, communities or regions striving to work in conjunction and collaboratively in efforts to reduce costs of governmental operation and or services.

The group discussed the letter from Commissioner George Gervais from the Maine Dept. of Economic and Community Development (DECD) requesting at least three recommendations for Governor LePage to appoint to the review panel by December 1st. The panel will be charged with selecting proposals for projects using set criteria determined by the DECD. Several meeting attendees were interested in being on the panel. Comm. Norm Fournier **moved**, and County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald **seconded** recommending Comm. Cote, Comm. Gorden, Admin. Pam Hile, and Comm. Graf for the review panel. The **motion** was **approved unanimously**.

The group discussed a letter from Ed Upham, Director of the Bureau of Employment Services in which the method for the distribution of funds was outlined. The requirements specified are not able to be met and therefore not simply burdensome, but prohibitive. However, the law states the Governor must disperse the funds within thirty days. Comm. Crosby explained the details drawing from his experience and involvement. Comm. Cote **moved**, and Comm. Fournier **seconded** publicly supporting the position of Coastal Counties. The **motion** was **approved unanimously**.

The Director raised the Marijuana in the U.T. issue in reference to Counties and the lack of specific language for Social Clubs and Commercial Growers activities in the U.T. Only Oxford expressed no desire to have the Legislature provide the same options of towns and cities in having a degree of control and a sharing of revenues if and when the State enacts legislation on

the regulation of use and commercialization of marijuana. The issue will again be address in upcoming session. The MCCA took no action.

B. Financial Report

Office Manager Lauren Haven presented the October financial reports and invited questions. She mentioned the convention net income was approximately \$9,732. Higher attendance is expected for the 2018 convention in Cumberland County due to the location and scheduled gubernatorial forum. Local vendors might also be persuaded to exhibit or sponsor as there's an abundance in the Portland area. Comm. Coward **moved** and Comm. Fowler **seconded** approving the financial reports. The **motion** was **approved** with no opposition.

C. Legislative Report

There was no further discussion on legislative matters.

D. Association Reports

EMAD: Sean Goodwin reported Homeland Security checks are waiting for signatures to distribute allocated money. Damage and Injury Assessment Form (MEMA Form 7) will help facilitate the reimbursement of expenses incurred from disaster damage repair. The EMA deadline is November 9th. The Department of Transportation kicked in \$1.9 million.

MACCAM: Admin. Scott Cole reported the Association met on Monday with representation from 15 out of 16 counties. The group is working with an HR consultant to implement a wage and benefit survey to be conducted annually or bi-annually.

MACT: Treasurer David Parkman reminded the group of the situation with Maine Registers of Deeds regarding proposed Rule 104 which, if passed, will mandate attorneys' offices to fill out forms online rather than submitting paper forms at local Deeds offices. Eventually, this change is likely to result in the loss of transfer tax revenue as more forms are required to be submitted online. Mr. Parkman encouraged Board members to actively speak out against this proposed rule.

E. Corrections Report

There was no further discussion on this topic.

F. Annual Convention Report

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported the Convention Planning Committee met on October 20th in Portland. Several Cumberland County employees have joined the committee to assist in the planning process for the 2018 convention being hosted by Cumberland County at the Double Tree by Hilton in South Portland on September 14, 15 and 16. Minutes of the meeting were included in the agenda packet with more detail on discussions during the meeting. The Committee is scheduled to meet next on November 16th to continue their work.

G. NACo Report

The group discussed Franklin County's notice to withdraw from NACo. In 2018, Maine will no longer be at 100% participation, and will therefore lose their second voting seat on the NACo Board. In the interest of supporting NACo membership, Comm. Coward made a **motion** to bill

MCCA dues and NACo dues together, but list the two expenses separately on the invoice for accounting purposes. Comm. Fowler seconded the **motion**, which was **approved**. Some counties have already paid 2018 dues for NACo, therefore this change will be implemented in 2019.

VI. Other Business

Executive Director Charles Pray reminded the group of the Jail forum taking place after lunch at 1:00 pm. He reported MSA was amenable to the idea of MCCA partnering with their legislative breakfast. However, the sheriffs prefer to take the lead in the event.

VII. Adjournment

Comm. Cote made a **motion** to adjourn at approximately 11:25 a.m.; Comm. Fowler seconded the **motion**, which was unanimously **approved**. The group adjourned to lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

MCCA Office Manager, Lauren Haven

Attested:

MCCA Secretary-Treasurer, Michael Cote