

M.C.C.A.

Peter Baldacci, President
Penobscot County

Thomas Coward, Vice President
Cumberland County

Michael Cote, Secretary-Treasurer
York County



Maine County Commissioners Association

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Rosemary Kulow
Executive Director

Lauren Haven
Office Manager

MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

MCCA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes 10:00 a.m., December 14, 2016

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

President Peter Baldacci called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and all present introduced themselves.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. Beth Bell; *Aroostook* – Comm. Norman Fournier; *Cumberland* – Comm. Thomas Coward; *Franklin* – Comm. Gary McGrane; *Kennebec* – Admin. Bob Devlin proxy for Comm. George Jabar, II; *Hancock* – Comm. Steven Joy; *Knox* – Comm. Roger Moody; *Lincoln* – Comm. William Blodgett; *Oxford* – Admin. Scott Cole proxy for Comm. Steven Merrill; *Penobscot* – Comm. Peter Baldacci; *Piscataquis* – Comm. Jim Annis; *Sagadahoc* – Admin. Pamela Hile proxy for Comm. Charles Crosby III; *Somerset* – Comm. Newell Graf; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; and *York* – Comm. Michael Cote.

OTHERS PRESENT: *Cumberland* – Comm. Steve Gorden, Manager Peter Crichton and Assistant Manager Jim Gailey; *Franklin* – Comm. Charles Webster; *Hancock* – Comm. Joe Brown; *Knox* – Comm. Carol Maines and Admin. Andrew Hart; *Lincoln* – Admin. Carrie Kipfer; *Somerset* – Admin. Dawn DiBlasi; *EMAD* – Sean Goodwin; *MACCAM* - Bill Collins; *MACT* – David Parkman; *MECCA* – Owen Smith; and *MSA* – Sheriff Troy Morton.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: *Kennebec* – Comm. George Jabar II; *Oxford* – Comm. Steven Merrill; *Sagadahoc* – Comm. Charles Crosby III; and *Washington* – Comm. Chris Gardner.

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

II. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

Comm. Blodgett moved and Comm. Joy seconded approving the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of November 9, 2016 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Comm. Moody **moved** and Comm. McGrane **seconded** approving the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on November 9, 2016. The **motion** was **passed** unanimously.

IV. Old Business

A. Approve Signatory for NACo public Employee Benefits LLC Subscription

Comm. Fowler **moved** to approve the acting president as the signatory. Comm. Cote **seconded** the **motion** and it was **passed** unanimously.

B. Discussion & Clarification of Medicaid/Medicare Suspension or Termination while Jail Inmates are Incarcerated

The group discussed the confusion around the number of days before benefits are suspended or terminated. Locally it's thirty days for food stamps and MaineCare. The goal is to ensure that benefits are not terminated for non-convicted inmates. States can control suspension rather than termination of benefits to lower recidivism rates due to eradicating the lapse in coverage. Sheriff Troy Morton mentioned that studies show that few inmates qualify for these benefits.

C. Consideration of Venue for 2017 Annual Convention

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported the Convention Planning Committee worked with Point Lookout to lower the cost of the venue. The revised estimate was lower, but still high. As there were no other appropriate meeting facilities in Waldo County, the committee looked at several venues outside of Waldo County and ultimately received proposals from Sebasco, Sunday River and Sugarloaf. After careful review, the committee agreed to recommend Sunday River.

Comm. Fowler stated that Waldo County would love to host the convention, but would graciously step aside under the circumstances.

Oxford County has been approached with the request to accept the Sunday River proposal. Administrator Scott Cole said the commissioners would make a decision at their next meeting. Comm. Fowler made a **motion** to move the 2017 convention to Oxford County and accept the Sunday River proposal subject to the commissioners' approval. The motion was **seconded** by Comm. Moody and the **motion** was unanimously passed.

D. News about the USDOL Overtime Exemption Rule

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow reported that a federal judge in Texas has issued an injunction against the implementation of the Department of Labor's overtime exemption ruling scheduled to go into effect on December 1st. For now the regulation is on hold. Comm. McGrane stated that it would be unfair to waiver back and forth on the subject of the salary of the Office Manager. Comm. Fowler made a **motion** to leave the decision in place which raised the annual salary of the Office Manager to \$47,476. The motion was **seconded** by Administrator Bob Devlin and the **motion** was unanimously approved.

V. New Business

A. Presentation of Proposed 2017 MCCA Budget (Budget & Finance Committee)

The group reviewed the proposed budget. Comm. Fournier stated there was a slight but reasonable increase. Comm. Fournier made a **motion** to recommend the proposed budget with no changes to be passed at the annual general membership meeting. The motion was **seconded** by Comm. Fowler and the **motion** was unanimously approved.

B. Choose Venue for January 11, 2017 Annual MCCA General Membership Meeting

Office Manager Lauren Haven recommended having the meeting at the Senator Inn. The estimated cost was lower than Governor Hill Mansion and The Elks Lodge, and the food was good last year. There were a couple of issues at the Senator. There was construction going on in the area of the meeting room, and the room was difficult to find. Lauren was assured there would be no construction if the meeting takes place there on January 11. Comm. Coward objected to the Senator Inn as a meeting venue. Administrator Bob Devlin recommended the Governor Hill Mansion if the price was negotiable. Comm. Fowler made a **motion** to accept the Senator Inn, provided that the room be upstairs, larger and easily accessible. If not, the Governor Hill Mansion would be the better choice. Comm. Fournier **seconded** the motion, and it was passed with one opposing vote.

VI. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow presented her report and invited questions. She was continuing to obtain sponsors for legislation supported by MCCA.

Ms. Kulow inquired about the appointment of a nominating committee. Comm. Baldacci said he would appoint a committee prior to the annual meeting to allow time for discussion.

Ms. Kulow reminded members to notify MCCA staff of the 2017 representative for each county by December 28th. Several counties had not yet reported their nomination.

B. Executive Director's Financial Report

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow presented her report. As there were no questions, Comm. Joy **moved** and Comm. Moody **seconded** approving the report. The motion was unanimously passed.

C. Legislative Report

Sheriff Troy Morton suggested that MCCA lead, and MSA support legislation. Comm. Cote said MSA should contribute language for legislation that directly affects Sheriff's and jails. For instance, video arraignments should be used whenever possible, but is not the best option in all cases. It should not be made mandatory, only encouraged as a cost savings. Comm. Graf said a Somerset senator will sponsor legislation for boarding rates. He is meeting with MMA's Geoff Herman today to discuss legislation.

Administrator Bill Collins reported that Penobscot County hosted a breakfast with legislators. Although the weather was not ideal, they met with ten legislators in an effort to educate them on current topics and areas of concern.

County Manager Peter Crichton would like to see a coordinated approach going forward. MSA and MCCA should meet with MMA together. Ms. Kulow requested if county's get legislative sponsors, the pertinent facts should be shared with MCCA to keep everyone informed.

D. Professionalism in Management Committee (PMC) Report

Comm. Cote reported the Newly Elected Official Training Day was a success. There were only a couple of new commissioners not able to attend. He suggested the handouts be made available upon request. Lauren Haven offered to add them to the MCCA website. She will also compile the submitted evaluations. Comm. Cote recommended continuing the PMC for future projects. Comm. Coward said the attendees actively participated in the workshop and the discussions were very worthwhile.

E. Association Reports

No report was given for the following associations:

- EMAD
- MARP
- MRDA
- MSA

MACCAM: Administrator Bill Collins reported that Greg Zinser was elected as the new president with Administrator Pam Hile as second in command.

MACT: Treasurer David Parkman reported that Vickie Braley of Franklin County will be the 2017 president of the association. He thanked MCCA board members for their support of County Treasurers.

MECCA: Communications Director Owen Smith reported the association would be watching legislation concerning funding, especially regarding the communication system computer interface being incorporated and a potential surcharge increase.

F. Corrections Report

No report was given.

G. Annual Convention Report

(The convention was discussed in item IV. C.)

H. NACo Report

Comm. McGrane said he has been attending committee meetings via conference. A winter conference for NACo is scheduled that will not be attended by Maine representatives. The next meeting will be the legislative conference in February. As Comm. McGrane will no longer be a NACo board member, a new representative should be nominated to get the paperwork to NACo

as soon as possible. The group discussed who might be a willing candidate. Comm. Webster of Franklin County said their commissioners were not committed to renewing their NACo membership. President Baldacci encouraged Franklin County to continue their membership as one of the many advantages to full state membership is the second representative from Maine on the NACo board. Comm. McGrane moved to nominate Comm. Fowler as his replacement seconded by Comm. Moody and the motion was passed. The nomination of Comm. Fowler will to the annual general membership meeting for a final vote.

VII. Other Business

Comm. Bell reported that this would be her last MCCA meeting. She thanked board members for helping her develop a stronger appreciation of county government.

VIII. Adjournment

Comm. Fowler made a motion to adjourn at approximately 11:52 a.m.; Comm. Joy 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