

# M.C.C.A.

Peter Baldacci, President  
Penobscot County

Thomas Coward, Vice President  
Cumberland County

Michael Cote, Secretary-Treasurer  
York County

Rosemary Kulow  
Executive Director

Lauren Haven  
Office Manager



Maine County Commissioners Association

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## MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

### MCCA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes *Draft* March 8, 2017

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

President Peter Baldacci called the meeting to order at 10:12 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* – Admin. Pamela Hile proxy for Comm. Charles Crosby III; *Washington* – Manager Betsy Fitzgerald proxy for Comm. Chris Gardner; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; and *York* – Comm. Michael Cote.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** *Knox* – Admin. Andrew Hart; *Lincoln* – Admin. Carrie Kipfer; *EMAD* – Sean Goodwin.

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** *Androscoggin* – Comm. Sally Christner; *Franklin* – Comm. Charles Webster; *Hancock* – Comm. Percy Brown; *Kennebec* – Comm. George Jabar, II; *Oxford* – Comm. Steven Merrill; *Sagadahoc* – Comm. Charles Crosby III; *Somerset* – Comm. Newell Graf 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. Fowler moved and Comm. Cote seconded approving the agenda with no additions. The motion was approved unanimously.*

### III. Approval of February 22, 2016 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Comm. Blodgett **moved** and Comm. Fowler **seconded** approving the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on February 22, 2017. The **motion** was **passed**.

### IV. Old Business

#### A. Update on Executive Director Replacement

President Baldacci reported the Executive Committee has developed a job opening announcement. There has already been interest in the opening from Randy Greenwood, Lori Fowle, and Charlie Pray. The group discussed possible arrangements. Comm. Fournier **moved** to give the Executive Committee authority to negotiate a short-term contract through June with a legislative specialist as a contractor or consultant not an employee. Furthermore, the Executive Committee will move forward with the candidate search. Comm. Fowler **seconded** the motion and it **passed** with no opposing votes.

### V. New Business

#### A. County Government Day Proclamation

County Government Day will be celebrated on Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Hall of Flags at the Maine State House. Somerset County has generously sponsored the refreshments for the event. Comm. Blodgett spoke on the history of County Day. President Baldacci encouraged all counties to participate. Legislators are expected to be on site that day and have been invited. Comm. Fournier made a **motion** to approve the 2017 proclamation of County Government Month and County Government day, "Brilliant Ideas at Work." Comm. Fowler **seconded** the **motion** and it **passed** with no opposition.

### VI. Reports

#### A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow presented her verbal report outlining her activity in February. She stated Kennebec County's meeting with Governor LePage on March 21<sup>st</sup> could include up to seven county representatives. They plan to discuss the jail budget shortfall and get his support for supplemental funding. Comm. Coward, Comm. Fowler, Comm. Jabar, Admin. Bob Devlin are expected to attend. Bob said Comm. Crockett may not attend as her husband is gravely ill.

Comm. Baldacci mentioned an editorial in the Bangor Daily News about the Penobscot County expansion. They plan to acquire the nearby former YMCA building to address the issue of jail overcrowding. This will help alleviate the crowding problem, but not the funding issue. Ms. Kulow said there is a public hearing for several of the LD's the MCCA is monitoring on March 15 including LD 463 An Act To Improve the Funding of County Jails. Attendees should be prepared to answer questions.

Comm. Cote made a **motion** to approve the report. Comm. Fowler **seconded** the **motion** and it was **unanimously passed**.

## **B. Financial Report**

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow presented her report. There were no questions from Board members regarding the report. Comm. Blodgett **moved** and Comm. Fowler **seconded** approving the report. The **motion** was **passed** with no opposing votes.

## **C. Legislative Report**

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported that the MCCA website was being updated daily with the status of bills the MCCA is monitoring as well as a list of legislative events scheduled for those bills. Comm. Fowler asked if MCCA staff could email or text a reminder about these events. Lauren said she would put a widget on the webpage for interested parties to sign up for this service.

## **D. Association Reports**

*EMAD:* Sean Goodwin reported the association has been discussing the prospect of building a county disaster relief fund.

*MACCAM:* Administrator Andrew Hart reported the last meeting had been cancelled and was not aware of the next scheduled meeting date.

*MECCA:* Comm. Fowler recommended the NENA conference in May. The educational sessions and speakers are high quality and very engaging. There was a E911 council meeting March 7<sup>th</sup> in which the group discussed the issue of providing and/or asking for too much information in the service, "I Am Responding." The technology is crucial, but the system is not overly secure. The specifics about a call could be visible to anyone with access to a phone that uses the service installed. Ms. Fowler stated a policy should be developed limiting the extent of information shared to protect the privacy of the people involved.

*MSA:* Ms. Haven reminded Board members about the Maine Sheriff's Association's Annual Conference on March 28 and 29. Registration information is posted on their website at [mainesheriffs.org](http://mainesheriffs.org).

## **E. Corrections Report**

Comm. Fournier asked if Sheriff's had weighed in on LD 463. Several attendees agreed to discuss the topic with their county sheriff to get their perspective. Comm. Fowler **moved** and Admin. Scott Cole **seconded** supporting Penobscot County's solution to the jail overcrowding issue. The **motion** was **passed** unanimously.

## **F. Annual Convention Report**

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported the Convention Planning Committee will meet at the MCCA offices on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. They are making progress and planning is on track for September.

## **G. NACo Report**

The Legislative conference was February 25<sup>th</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>. Comm. Baldacci and Comm. Fowler attended educational sessions and meetings. Both attendees spoke about their experiences

at the conference. Of note, other counties dealing with overcrowding were holding events to deal with warrant issues and minimize arrests. Many warrants are due to unpaid fines, missed court dates, or problems with paperwork. Participants pay a fee; the warrant is extinguished and the person leaves the event with a new court date or fee schedule.

Comm. Fowler encountered a weather-related flight cancellation which resulted in renting a car to drive back to Maine. Comm. Cote **moved** and Comm. Blodgett **seconded** approving reimbursement for this cost. The motion was **passed**.

## VII. Other Business

President Baldacci presented Executive Director Rosemary Kulow with a retirement card signed by meeting attendees. He thanked her for her efforts over the past four years and her dedicated service to the MCCA. All present wished her a happy retirement and applauded his sentiments. Many congratulated her after the conclusion of the meeting as the group dispersed.

## VIII. Adjournment

Comm. Fournier made a **motion** to adjourn at approximately 11:40 a.m.; Admin. Pamela Hile **seconded** the **motion**, which was **unanimously approved**. The group adjourned to lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

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MCCA Office Manager, Lauren Haven

Attested:

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MCCA Secretary-Treasurer, Michael Cote