

M.C.C.A.

Stephen Gorden, President
Cumberland County

Michael Cote, Vice President
York County

William Blodgett, Secretary-Treasurer
Lincoln County

Lauren Haven
Administrator

Charles Pray
Lobbyist



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

MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

MCCA Zoom Conference, August 12th, 2020

I., II., III., IV. Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of the Agenda, and Approval of the Minutes

MCCA President Steve Gorden called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 am. Attendees announced themselves. He stated the group would be discussing the items in the agenda packet such as the RFP draft and the proposed org chart. Comm. Cote moved to accept the June meeting minutes, seconded by Comm. Blodgett and the motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Aroostook – Comm. Norman Fournier
Cumberland – Comm. Steve Gorden
Kennebec – Admin. Bob Devlin proxy for Comm. George Jabar
Knox – Comm. Sharyn Pohlman
Lincoln – Comm. William Blodgett
Oxford – Admin. Tom Winsor proxy for Comm. Steven Merrill
Penobscot – Comm. Peter Baldacci
Piscataquis – Comm. Wayne Erkinen
Sagadahoc – Comm. Brian Hobart
Somerset – Admin. Dawn DiBlasi proxy for Comm. Newell Graf
Waldo – Comm. Amy Fowler
Washington – Comm. Chris Gardner
York – Comm. Richard Dutremble proxy for Comm. Michael Cote

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lincoln – Admin. Carrie Kipfer
Penobscot – HR Manager Erika Honey
Piscataquis – Admin. Mike Williams
Sagadahoc – Admin. Pam Hile
MACCAM – Admin. Bill Collins
MSA – Sheriff Troy Morton

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Androscoggin – Comm. Noel Madore
Hancock – Comm. William Clark
Kennebec – Comm. George Jabar
Oxford – Comm. Steven Merrill
Somerset – Comm. Newell Graf
York – Comm. Mike Cote

STAFF PRESENT:

Risk Pool Manager – Malcolm Ulmer
Administrator – Lauren Haven
Lobbyist – Charles Pray

III. Approval of the Agenda

Comm. Baldacci **moved** to approve the meeting agenda **seconded** by Comm. Fournier and the motion **passed** unanimously.

IV. Approval of the Minutes

Comm. Fournier **moved** to approve the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on July 8th. The motion was **seconded** by Comm. Gardner and the motion **passed** with no opposition.

V. Officer Reports

a. Treasurer/Financial Report

- i. Lauren Haven presented the July Financial Reports. \$3,000 has been received for the Resource Guide Grant through RALI. There were no surprises in the financial reports aside from a glitch with the bank in which two partial month bank statements were issued. This was not an issue as Lauren was able to process two reconciliations for the dates of each of the two bank statements.

Comm. Blodgett **moved** to approve the financial reports **seconded** by Comm. Fournier and the motion **passed** with no opposition.

- ii. Projected Status of year-end Budget
Budget and Finance Chair Norm Fournier commented the 2020 budget looks good although the cost for the new Lobbyist is still unknown. We expect the PPP Loan of approximately \$27,000 forgiven. Lauren is awaiting further instructions from the bank.

b. NACo: National Legislation, Peter Baldacci

Comm. Baldacci provided a brief update on NACo activities. Among others, there is currently a project underway to try to estimate the amount of lost revenue counties across the country have experienced due to COVID-19. This will be ongoing as the repercussions have not been fully realized.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees:

- i. *Legislative Committee* - Amy Fowler, Chr
 1. w/ Norm Fournier: Status of the Lobbyist RFP

Comm. Fournier stated the deadline for lobbyist proposals was scheduled for noon tomorrow, August 13th. The RFP had been sent to 18 firms or individuals and questions were only returned by one, Pierce Atwood. The response was shared with all RFP recipients. Lauren followed up last week and expected at least four proposals to be submitted. The Executive Committee planned to meet on Friday, August 21st to discuss the proposals received by the deadline and weigh their qualifications, value, price and other pros and cons. An interview process would likely take place followed by the development of a recommendation to be presented to the Board of Directors at the September 9th meeting. This would keep the project on schedule for hiring a lobbyist/firm before the October start date.

2. Legislative Activity - Charles Pray, Lobbyist
3. Carrie Kipfer - comments on LD 973 (See Addendum)

Admin. Carrie Kipfer reported LD 973 OTP as amended with the creation of a county coordinating council including three MCCA members and three MSA members. Although updates had been made to the draft, MSA voted not to support it because the Coordinating Council seemed to be a reinvention of the BOC. However, ten of eleven MACCAM meeting participants voted to support the bill with the amendment.

The discussion continued; some comments included the bill provides some certainty of funding which we lack currently. We delude ourselves if we deny MMA's voice in the legislature,

therefore we should continue to explain and justify our position. We should be united with MSA. Comm. Fowler **moved** to support 973 as amended. Comm. Baldacci seconded the motion and it passed with seven in favor and six against.

The group felt the vote was too close on such an important matter and the discussion continued.

Comm. Baldacci **moved** to reconsider the vote to support LD 973, **seconded** by Comm. Fournier and the motion **passed** allowing for a revote.

Comm. Fournier **moved** to support LD 973 as amended if section 7 with the Coordinating Council is omitted. The **motion** was **seconded** by Comm. Baldacci. The motion **passed** with a roll call vote recording eleven for and two against the motion. President Steve Gorden thanked everyone for actively participating in the discussion.

The group then discussed the Fiscal note for LD 2085, "An Act To Ensure Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Care and Education in All Maine's Jails and State Correctional and Detention Facilities". Jails currently provide minimal care and emergency medical services. As the bill had passed, only hope was to come up with fiscal analysis, made some assumptions based on potential costs but it could not be accurate. Admin. Pam Hile submitted a draft of the fiscal analysis developed by MACCAM, Sheriffs and Jail Administrators. During the review of the document participants showed concern the limitations of the extent of the medical services needed to be determined before the cost could be realistic. What would be covered? Ms. Hile stated the numbers presented were designed to get across the point the financial impact would be substantial. This would be a place to start arguing our complaint about being forced to provide non-critical medical services. The bill is also unclear on the point of pretrial vs. sentenced detainees.

President Steve Gorden requested a **motion** to attach the fiscal note to LD 2085 with the understanding it was not an endorsement of the bill, just a vote to attach the fiscal note. The **motion** was made by Comm. Fournier, **seconded** by Comm. Gardner and **passed** with no opposition. Comm. Gorden suggested MACCAM President Greg Zinser submit the fiscal note.

The next topic was Jail funding and the distribution of 1.7 million. Admin. Carrie Kipfer explained the details of the formula devised for divvying the monies based on the budget shortfall numbers collected. Comm. Blodgett **moved** to accept the recommendation **seconded** by Comm. Fowler and it **passed**.

4. Do we have any legislation you wish to propose/present? (None was brought before the Board.)
- ii. *Professional Committee* - Mike Cote - (Excused for Education)
 1. Volunteers for updating MCCA governing Docs?
President Gorden reminded the group there was an opportunity to work on revising the MCCA by-laws and to please contact either Mike Cote 793-2497 or Lauren 623-4697 if interested.
- iii. *Risk Pool Agency* - Norm Fournier w/ Malcolm - announcements - LD 492

Comm. Fournier said the topic of LD 492, "An Act To Extend from 6 Months to One Year the Notice Period Required under the Maine Tort Claims Act", had come up in the Risk Pool meeting and the Board decided the subject should be discussed during the MCCA BOD meeting instead. Comm. Gardner explained the issue around national politics around policing – police differently – and putting in place community liaisons rather than officers. We should be out in front of this issue.

Comm. Fournier stated the next Risk Pool meeting would be in person, likely with a small group.

- iv. *Affiliate Organization Committee*: Do any of our Affiliated Associations have reports?
(No reports were given.)
- v. *Other*?

Admin. Bill Collins remarked it was the two-year anniversary of the passing of former Penobscot Comm. and personal mentor, Tom Davis.

- b. Ad Hoc Committees - none at this time

c. MCCA Staff Reporting –

Lauren reported on the status of the Sunday River 2021 Convention. The contract has been negotiated, signed and returned. The dates were set for September 24, 25, and 26 2021.

The product of the grant applied for through RALI and with the help of NAMI was a community resource guide customized by county. A draft of the guide had been included in the agenda packet. Lauren asked for feedback via email if a county did not want printed copies of the guide. She was looking for the best printing pricing to make the most of the \$3,000 acquired the grant.

VII. Special Orders

VIII. Unfinished Business - The September meeting venue.

The group decided to continue Zoom meetings.

IX. New Business

There was no new business brought before the Board.

X. Remarks for Good of the Association

President Steve Gorden strongly encouraged Board members to join a committee stating there were only 15 members six of those having leadership responsibilities. They would need help from the other nine. He jokingly implied members might be “volunteered” for a committee should they not choose one.

XI. Adjournment

MCCA President Steve Gorden invited a **motion** to adjourn at approximately 12:05 a.m. Comm. Fournier made the **motion** seconded by Comm. Fowler, and the **motion** was **approved**.

Respectfully submitted,

MCCA Administrator, Lauren Haven

Attested:

MCCA Secretary-Treasurer, Comm. William Blodgett