

M.C.C.A.

Peter Baldacci, President
Penobscot County

Thomas Coward, Vice President
Cumberland County

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York County



Maine County Commissioners Association

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Charles Pray
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Office Manager

MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

MCCA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes *Draft* August 9, 2017

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

President Peter Baldacci called the meeting to order at 10:05 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* – 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; *Somerset* – Admin. Dawn DiBlasi proxy for Comm. Newell Graf; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; and *York* – Comm. Michael Cote.

OTHERS PRESENT: *Cumberland* – Comm. Steve Gorden; *Knox* – Admin. Andrew Hart; *Lincoln* – Admin. Carrie Kipfer; *Somerset* – Comm. Robert Sezak; *EMAD* – Sean Goodwin; *MACCAM* – Bill Collins; *MACT* – David Parkman and Portland resident Sue Hayes.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. Sally Christner; *Franklin* – Comm. Charles Webster; *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 Charles Pray, 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 July 12, 2017 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Comm. Fowler **moved** and Comm. Blodgett **seconded** approving the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on July 12, 2017 with no additions. The **motion** was **passed**.

IV. New Business

A. Consideration of Establishing an Internship Program

Executive Director Charles Pray proposed that MCCA partner with local colleges and universities to mentor a student for approximately eight weeks during the summer. The work would involve legal research or other projects to be determined according to need. Payment would be credits toward their degree program.

The group agreed to consider the matter further after more information is gathered.

B. Appointments to DOC Jail Advisory Committee

Executive Director Charles Pray explained there would be representatives from the various associations invited to join the committee – MCCA, MSA, and MACCAM as well as the leaders of each association. Scott Ferguson requested five to seven members. The group discussed potential representatives and recommended finance and jail administrators be considered. It's critical the members of the committee know and understand the numbers. The goal is to lay the foundation for the next administration to continue partnering with counties to adequately fund the jails.

Comm. Fournier made a **motion** to form the committee with two commissioners, two county administrators, two sheriffs, and the executive directors of these associations. The motion was **seconded** by Comm. Fowler and was **passed** with a unanimous vote. Each group will appoint the members who will represent them. Several names were suggested including Jail Administrator Cory Swope, Finance Director Alex Kimball, County Administrators Bob Devlin and Bill Collins.

Administrator Dawn DiBlasi **nominated** Comm. Fowler to be one of the two MCCA representatives on the committee. Comm. Cote **seconded** the motion which passed without opposition. Comm. Coward made a **motion, seconded** by Comm. Blodgett to nominate Comm. Steve Gorden to be the second MCCA representative on the committee. The **motion** was **approved** unanimously.

V. Reports

A. MCCA Staff Reports

Executive Director Charles Pray and Office Manager Lauren Haven presented a synopsis of July's activities.

Charles stated the members of the Professionalism in Management Committee should be reviewed if the group would like to consider continuing in its mission. The 2016 members

included County Manager Peter Crichton who would need to be replaced as he is no longer working for Cumberland County.

Charles has been meeting with MMA's Legislative Advocate Kate Dufour and plans to do so on a regular basis to strategize and improve relations between the associations. The group agreed she should be invited to the convention. Office Manager Lauren Haven offered to send her an invitation.

B. Financial Report

Office Manager Lauren Haven presented the July financial reports and invited questions. Comm. Fournier moved and Comm. Cote seconded approving the financial reports. The motion was approved.

C. Legislative Report

The group reviewed the written report presented by Executive Director Charles Pray.

D. Association Reports

EMAD: Sean Goodwin reported the group is anticipating receiving grant money allotted to the state by the Homeland Security program. The funded amount is expected to be less than originally thought, but the final number is based on certain contributing factors. So they are awaiting the outcome.

MACCAM: Admin. Andy Hart reported the association has not met recently as members are taking vacation time during the summer. Their next meeting date has yet to be determined.

MACT: Treasurer David Parkman stated there was no official report from the association.

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 at the MCCA offices on Friday, July 21st to work on event details. Committee intends to meet one last time in August 18th. The planning is going well aside from low attendance numbers. Lauren hopes to receive the bulk of the registration forms in the next few weeks. President Baldacci requested commissioners to encourage attendance and participation within their county.

The 2018 contract for the Double Tree by Hilton for September 14, 15 and 16 has been secured with a \$1,000 deposit.

G. NACo Report

Comm. Baldacci reported both he and Comm. Fowler attended the 2017 Annual Conference July 21st through 24th in Franklin County Ohio. Of particular note, Comm. Fowler learned more about cyber security, jail programs and opiate education grants for elementary age students.

One of the conference guest speakers was New York Times best-selling author Piper Kerman. Her memoir was the basis for the award-winning series "Orange is the New Black".

NACo continues to develop their data source for counties across the nation, the County Explorer. The link can be found on the MCCA website.

VI. Other Business

The group discussed an effort to gain support to send a letter opposing the move by Governor Paul LePage to disband the Workforce Investment Board. The Department of Labor is looking at the end of December 2017. At this time only quarterly payments are being allowed, so no contracts can be made nor training can be performed. Comm. Fournier made a **motion**, **seconded** by Admin. Bob Devlin to oppose the consolidation. The motion was **approved** **unanimously**. Comm. Baldacci suggested Charles write an editorial on the subject taking a concerned, rather than vindictive point of view.

Admin. Bob Devlin mentioned the Maine GIS was not funded.

Charles Pray recommended organizing a candidate forum before elections to educate candidate on county issues. This topic will be revisited.

VII. Adjournment

Comm. Fowler made a **motion** to adjourn at approximately 11:30 a.m.; Comm. Cote seconded the **motion**, which was **approved**. The group adjourned to lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

MCCA Office Manager, Lauren Haven

Attested:

MCCA Secretary-Treasurer, Michael Cote