

# M.C.C.A.

Amy Fowler, President  
Waldo County

Michael Cote, Vice President  
York County

William Blodgett, Secretary-Treasurer  
Lincoln County

Charles Pray  
Executive Director

Lauren Haven  
Office Manager



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## MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee Meeting  
April 29, 2020 at 10:00 am via Zoom Conference

Attendance included Vice President Mike Cote, Secretary/Treasurer Bill Blodgett, Immediate Past President Peter Baldacci, Nominating Committee Chair Norm Fournier, Executive Director Charles Pray and Office Manager Lauren Haven.

Topics and Discussions:

### Resignation of President Amy Fowler

The group discussed Commissioner Fowler's intent to resign from her position as president of MCCA. Vice President Mike Cote agreed to assume the authority of the president until such time as the Board of Directors elected another president. Charlie was charged with writing a letter requesting a formal letter from Commissioner Fowler for clarity sake and as an official document for our records.

### Paycheck Protection Program

Charlie said he was working with Camden National Bank to see if MCCA would qualify for the Paycheck Protection Program designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. He and Lauren were working to submit the necessary documents to determine eligibility. The Committee decided if MCCA is approved, we should move forward with the loan paperwork as it will positively affect the 2020 budget.

### Ongoing Operation and Structure of MCCA

The contract for Executive Director, Charlie Pray, expires at the end of May. The group talked about various options the Board of Directors' might choose to restructure the organization. For at least for the remainder of 2020, another full-time executive director cannot be hired due to budget constraints, therefore it will be important to look for a lobbyist without delay. Charlie made the recommendation to hire a part time lobbyist, likely a retired legislator in the area, and

promote Lauren who would continue to manage the administrative work in the office. Charlie agreed to begin the search for a lobbyist and collect some RFP's so the Board of Directors can make an informed decision based on estimated rates factored into the equation.

### Convention of Maine Counties

Lauren mentioned the Executive Committee had talked about deciding by the end of May if the conference would occur as planned. Some vendors might not be able to participate as revenue is expected to be less than usual, and counties might not have funds to send commissioners and employees to attend. A poll will be sent to get feedback from the counties. Lauren suggested if it's determined we should not hold the 2020 convention at Sunday River, we might develop some kind of virtual conference with many of the trainings offered online. Commissioner Baldacci stated there would also be a cost savings in the budget from the cancellation of the NACo annual conference which would lessen the impact.

### May 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors' Meeting

The extended gathering restrictions announced by Governor Mills will prevent a group meeting at the MCCA offices in May. It was decided to hold a Zoom meeting to talk about such items as: the resignation of the president, the contract expiration of the Executive Director, options for MCCA operations going forward, and the Governor's four stage plan to re-open business in Maine. This could be a shorter agenda than our usual monthly meetings and still allow the Board of Directors to make some decisions.