

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



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MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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

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

President Peter Baldacci called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and all present introduced themselves.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: *Cumberland* – Manager Peter Crichton and Assistant Manager Bill Whitten; and *Knox* – Administrator Andy Hart; *EMAD* – Sean Goodwin; *MACCAM* – Bill Collins; *MACT* – David Parkman; and *MECCA* – Owen Smith.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. Beth Bell; *Aroostook* – Comm. Norm Fournier; *Cumberland* – Comm. Thomas Coward; *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. Gordon requested an additional item to the agenda under VII, consideration of a letter to the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. Comm. Fowler **moved** and Comm. Cote **seconded** approving the agenda with this addition. The **motion** was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of January 20, 2016 Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes

Comm. Fowler **moved** and Comm. Cote **seconded** approving the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on January 20, 2016. The **motion** was **passed** unanimously.

IV. Old Business

A. Discussion of a Comprehensive Approach to Corrections Issues

The group discussed encouraging county representatives to attend upcoming public hearings and workshops involving jail legislation. Sheriffs are likely to be present and more county government officials should be in the room to answer questions and provide data. Each county has been impacted differently by the jail funding shortfall and it's important to have county people knowledgeable about the budget in attendance to explain how the distributed funds have been used as well as the ramifications of the lack of adequate funding. Committee members need to understand that commissioners have the final fiscal authority. The group reviewed the letter draft handed out at the beginning of the meeting. *Comm. Fowler **moved** that a letter from MCCA be sent to both Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee members. Bill Whitten added that Comm. Baldacci should sign the letter. Comm. Cote **seconded** the **motion** and it was **approved** unanimously.* MCCA staff will publicize the next committee meeting.

This summer the group will work on strategies to develop new legislation for the next full session. The tax caps should be reevaluated using realistic numbers and each county will need provide documentation to support the need to change the current formula.

V. New Business

A. Announcement – Need of Committee Members

President Baldacci requested that directors who are interested in being on one of the MCCA standing committees for 2016 should email Ms. Kulow. These committees are as follows:

- Budget and Finance Committee
- Legislative Policy Steering Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Convention Planning Committee

VI. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

B. Financial Report

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow presented her reports. Comm. Cote made a *motion to approve the Executive Director's Report and the Financial Report as written. Comm. Joy seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.*

C. Legislative Report

The group reviewed the wording on the supplemental jail funding request, the updated L.D. status chart and LD/LR list. Public hearings are scheduled for 1473 Resolve, To Increase Access to Opiate Addiction Treatment in Maine and 1496 An Act To Support Maine People in Recovery.

D. Association Reports

EMAD: Sean Goodwin – No report was given.

MACCAM: Bill Collins reported the group is working on restitution accounts, some counties moving to a “no cash” policy. Another complication is currently the DOC collects money for prisoners, but upon release, the responsibility goes back to the county, making it difficult to reconcile.

MACT: David Parkman continued on the prior subject mentioning that Waldo has changed to check or money orders receiving only \$15 in cash of the \$2,000 total payments from January to February 2016.

MECCA: Owen Smith mentioned the NINA conference in May. Gordon Graham will present sessions on risk management topics.

E. Corrections Report

Comm. Cote reported that the Jail Standards Board has collaborated well, completing their task of combining redundant standards and omitting obsolete standards.

F. Annual Convention Report

The Convention Planning Committee Meeting will meet on February 12th at the Hilton Garden Inn Bangor to enjoy a food tasting. The \$200 deposit will be submitted at that time.

G. NACo Report

Comm. Baldacci spoke about attending the upcoming 2016 NACo Legislative Conference with MCCA representative Comm. McGrane and Executive Director Rosemary Kulow February 20-24 in Washington, DC.

One of the important topics is the loss of healthcare benefits for people who are arrested. Currently, inmates lose their Federal healthcare benefits regardless of whether they are convicted of a crime. Upon release the person needs to re-apply for coverage. The goal is to have coverage

continue for jail inmates until and unless they are convicted of a crime and sentenced to a prison term.

VII. Other Business

The handout (attached) was discussed prior to this point in the meeting. Please see item IV.

VIII. Adjournment

Comm. Fowler made a **motion** to adjourn at 11:35 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