

M.C.C.A.

Thomas Coward, President
Cumberland County

Amy Fowler, Vice President
Waldo County

William Blodgett, Secretary-Treasurer
Lincoln County

Charles Pray
Executive Director

Lauren Haven
Office Manager



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MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

MCCA Offices, February 21, 2019

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

President Thomas Coward called the meeting to order at approximately 10:02 a.m. following the MCCA Risk Pool meeting. Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and all present introduced themselves.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: *Aroostook* – Comm. Norman Fournier; *Cumberland* – Comm. Thomas Coward; *Kennebec* – Admin. Bob Devlin proxy for Comm. George Jabar; *Knox* – Comm. Sharyn Pohlman; *Lincoln* – Comm. William Blodgett; *Piscataquis* – Manger Tom Lizotte proxy for Comm. James Annis; *Sagadahoc* – Comm. Brian Hobart; *Somerset* – Admin. Dawn DiBlasi proxy for Comm. Newell Graf; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; and *York* – Comm. Richard Clark proxy for Comm. Michael Cote.

OTHERS PRESENT: *Cumberland* – Comm. Steve Gorden; *Lincoln* – Admin. Carrie Kipfer; and *Sagadahoc* – Admin. Pamela Hile

DIRECTORS ABSENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. John Butler; *Hancock* – Comm. William Clark; *Kennebec* – Comm. George Jabar; *Oxford* – Comm. Steven Merrill; *Penobscot* – Comm. Peter Baldacci; *Piscataquis* – Comm. James Annis. *Somerset* – Comm. Newell Graf; *Washington* – Comm. Chris Gardner; and *York* – Comm. Michael Cote.

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Charles Pray, Risk Pool Manager Malcolm Ulmer and Office Manager Lauren Haven.

II. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

Comm. Gorden moved and Comm. Fowler seconded approving the agenda with no additions. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of January 9th Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes

Comm. Hobart moved to approve the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on January 9,

2019 with no revisions. Comm. Blodgett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. County Government Day April 11th Proclamation

Meeting attendees reviewed the 2019 Proclamation for National County Government Month, April, and Maine County Government Day, April 11th, 2019 signed by MCCA President Tom Coward. The group talked about celebrations in the Hall of Flags in past years and inviting counties to participate. Office Manager Lauren Haven said the event is scheduled from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm with set up beginning at noon. Counties were welcomed to donate money for refreshments. Last year the cost was approximately \$300. The Spirit of America Foundation planned to perform a ceremony honoring the efforts of volunteers directly following our event in the hope some county folks would be able to stay and congratulate award recipients. Comm. Fowler moved to approve the Proclamation. Comm. Hobart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. Reports

A. Executive Director and Legislative Report

Executive Director Charles Pray gave a status report of MCCA activities and passed out a list of bills for the group to review. The bills were discussed one by one. In particular, MCCA will oppose LD 636 An Act To Require Law Enforcement Officers To Wear Body Cameras and LD 264 An Act Regarding the Taking of a Blood Sample from an Operator of a Motor Vehicle Involved in a Fatal Accident.

Many of the bills would be topics for the weekly Legislative Policy Committee conference call now scheduled on Monday at 11:00 at which time the group would determine MCCA's position. Members requested using a different format for the legislative report adding the title, sponsors and status of bills to make it easier to read. Several people present wanted to be updated on hearing dates and times. Office Manager Lauren Haven said she was working on a legislative report and would include the specified information, but she would need help narrowing down which bills to follow. Additionally, the MCCA Tracker phone app was available for download which featured the legislative calendar and there was also an online sign-up form on the MCCA website to join a distribution list for legislative alerts. Lauren passed out a sample of the document she was working on. It was suggested Charlie's notes could be included. Lauren said she would do so and post the report on the MCCA web page, "Legislative Information." It was suggested a smaller group vet out the bills to be discussed on the LPC conference call and concentrate on the bills with hearings in the next two weeks. A number of people volunteered to be in the group and planned to meet at or after lunch to talk about the logistics.

B. Financial Reports

Office Manager Lauren Haven presented the January financial reports. She highlighted a few points. She applied the payments for the Elected Official Training to the line items, "Other Meetings" and "Professional Services" as the 2019 budget didn't allow for these expenses. Admin. Carrie Kipfer recommended tying the expenses to the 2018 budget.

Other items worth noting were the purchased space for advertisements in the Directory. The goal of \$3,000 was exceeded by \$550. Also, due in part to an error made by the Senator Inn, the bill for the annual meeting was less than it should have been, leaving more than \$900 in the Annual Meeting budgetary line. Lauren requested the Board consider making a one-time line item transfer of the remaining money in the budget to, "Monthly Meetings". Comm. Fournier moved to make the requested line item transfer and accept the monthly financial reports. Comm. Hobart seconded the motion, and it passed with no opposition.

C. Association Reports

MACCAM: Admin. Bob Devlin reported there was no news and the discussion lapsed into legislation.

MARP and MECCA: Comm. Amy Fowler mentioned several active bills the probate association and the Kennebec County Register Kathy Ayers was watching including a bill to reorganize the probate court system. Similarly, there were bills MECCA is following, particularly a bill allowing access to E-9-1-1 Call Recordings.

D. Annual Convention Report

President Tom Coward asked Comm. Fowler for an update on the convention. She stated the Convention Planning Committee (CPC) was working on finding a great keynote speaker. Comm. Gorden recommended inviting the Maine State Economist to give a presentation he had enjoyed seeing. Comm. Coward also thought he might have a suggestion and would look into it. Office Manager Lauren Haven reported venue, Point Lookout, was ready to take reservations for overnight accommodations. An email was distributed with details for making reservations. Comm. Fowler described the venue to the group and mentioned there would be a bowling challenge among other activities and assured them the convention would be well worth attending. Lauren referred to the CPC minutes from the last meeting included in the agenda packet.

E. NACo Report

Executive Director Charles Pray reminded the group about the upcoming NACo Legislative Conference scheduled for March 2 through March 6, 2019. He and Comm. Baldacci would be attending the event in Washington D.C. where they would participate in educational sessions, interact with federal officials and attend congressional briefings and meetings.

XIII. Other Business

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported copies of the 2019 Directory of Maine Counties were available for attendees to take back to county offices. She asked folks to report any changes to information in the Directory as they happen to keep the online version and future printings as accurate as possible.

It was requested MCCA staff get a status report of the Bicentennial Project 2020.

XIV. Adjournment

*President Thomas Coward invited a **motion** to adjourn at approximately 11:45 p.m. Comm. Gorden made the **motion** seconded by Comm. Fowler, and the **motion** was unanimously **approved**.* The group adjourned to lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

MCCA Office Manager, Lauren Haven

Attested:

MCCA Secretary-Treasurer