

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, July 10, 2019

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

MCCA President Thomas Coward called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. following the MCCA Risk Pool meeting. Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and all present introduced themselves.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: *Androscoggin* – Manager Larry Post proxy for Comm. John Butler; *Aroostook* – Comm. Norman Fournier; *Cumberland* – Comm. Tom Coward. *Hancock* – Comm. William Clark; *Kennebec* – Admin. Bob Devlin proxy for Comm. George Jabar; *Knox* – Comm. Sharyn Pohlman; *Lincoln* – Comm. William Blodgett; *Oxford* – Manager Tom Winsor proxy for Comm. Steven Merrill; *Penobscot* – Comm. Peter Baldacci; *Piscataquis* – Comm. Wayne Erkinen; *Sagadahoc* – Admin. Pamela Hile proxy for Comm. Brian Hobart; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; and *York* – Comm. Michael Cote.

OTHERS PRESENT: *Cumberland* – Comm. Steve Gorden; *Hancock* – Admin. Scott Adkins; *Knox* – Admin. Andy Hart; *Lincoln* – Admin. Carrie Kipfer; *Somerset* – Comm. Robert Sezak; *MACCAM* - Admin. Bill Collins; *MECCA* - Owen Smith; *MSA* – Sheriff Ken Mason.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. John Butler; *Kennebec* – Comm. George Jabar; *Oxford* – Comm. Steven Merrill; *Sagadahoc* – Comm. Brian Hobart; *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

President Tom Coward inquired if there were any additions to the agenda. Comm. Baldacci made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Comm. Steve Gorden seconded the motion and it passed.

III. Approval of June 12th Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Comm. Fournier moved to approve the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on June 12th, 2019 with one revision in the attendance requested. Comm. Pohlman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Admin. Bob Devlin requested there be more detail in the June minutes regarding the issues brought to light during the meeting. President Coward suggested he give Lauren specific text to be included and it could be reviewed and accepted at a future meeting.

IV. Consideration of the Sunday River 2020 Convention Venue Proposal

Office Manager Lauren Haven presented the proposal submitted by Sunday River for the dates of September 24th through September 27th, 2020. The pricing is similar to the rates we took advantage of in 2017 and our new contact, Brian Chamberlain, based the number of rooms on what we actually used at the last convention we held there. He also offered a low fee for the deposit, \$500 which would secure the dates along with the signed contract. After a brief discussion, Comm. Fournier moved to accept Sunday River's proposal, seconded by Admin. Devlin, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Executive Director Charles Pray requested he be authorized to sign the contract. Comm. Baldacci moved to give Mr. Pray the authority to sign the contract, seconded by Comm. Pohlman, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

V. Presentation from the Long-Term Finance Committee

Comm. Norm Fournier chaired the Long-Term Finance Committee which included himself, Comm. Amy Fowler, Comm. Steve Gorden and Admin. Pam Hile. Comm. Fournier presented the report developed by the Committee explaining the process and methodology used to arrive at the conclusions drawn in the document. The report culminated with a recommended formula using a base rate, county valuation and population to increase membership dues. This formula (number #8) was endorsed by all Committee members to keep the Association solvent. The report also outlined a three-year plan to increase membership dues annually until the desired level has been reached.

Admin. Bill Collins spoke for MACCAM. The Association discussed this topic at their last meeting. Unfortunately, the report had not yet been available, but it was clear members felt if the membership dues rate increases, there should also be an increase in the value of services MCCA provides to member counties. Having said that, the group was in favor of the organization moving forward.

The group discussed the subject at length. Comm. Baldacci corrected the explanation for the formula used for NACo membership dues. In a straw vote, the majority of MCCA Board members felt the recommended dues formula was likely to be supported by their county board of commissioners. The Long-Term Finance Committee offered to send a representative to meet with commissioners in each county to help explain the report if it would be helpful. Attendees also discussed the idea of adding a second vote to counties who pay more than a pre-determined threshold, perhaps twice the base amount or over \$16,000. The group also talked about unorganized territories and how value and population should or should not be factored into the formula for dues.

Comm. Baldacci moved that the Board of Directors vote on whether or not to accept the Long-Term Finance Committee's recommendation of formula number 8 at the August 14th meeting. This would

give members time to make a decision with their respective county boards. The motion was **seconded** by Comm. Fournier, and the **motion passed** with a unanimous vote.

President Coward and meeting attendees thanked the Committee for their hard work on this project.

VI. Reports

A. Executive Director Report and Legislative Discussion

Executive Director Charles Pray presented his report highlighting the legislative accomplishments from the session which adjourned June 20th. These accomplishments included the additional three million per year in jail funding for which he explained the plan for the disbursement of funds. Mr. Pray noted a, “thank you” to Kathleen Ayers for her help with all the bills expected to impact probate. LD 657, *An Act To Reorganize the Probate Courts* was carried over. Mr. Pray and Admin. Bob Devlin worked with Principal Analyst Marc Cyr and Director Chris Nolan of the Office of Fiscal & Program Review to establish a process determining costs estimated in attached fiscal notes. This project is still in progress.

B. Financial Reports

Office Manager Lauren Haven presented the June financial reports. There were no surprises. Debits were associated with normal operating expenses and credits were largely from vendors registering for the upcoming convention. As there were no questions, Comm. Baldacci **moved** to accept the financial reports, **seconded** by Admin. Mike Cote and it **passed** with no opposition.

C. Association Reports

MACCAM: Admin. Bill Collins covered this report earlier in the meeting.

MECCA: Owen Smith reported the association expected to meet next week to review police protocols and fire protocols. There will be a training in September in West Bath based on the emergency in Las Vegas.

MSA: Sheriff Mason reported on the association’s participation in Camp Postcard mentoring seventy-two 5th and 6th graders, helping them build relationships, learn life skills, and change their perceptions of law enforcement. The event took place in Agassiz Village in Poland, Maine staffed by volunteer law enforcement and criminal justice professionals, community volunteers, and Volunteers of America personnel. MSA planned to meet in Eastport next week. The group was awaiting the outcome of six bills still being addressed. The Sheriff’s employed a new tag-team tactic during this legislature assigning a Sheriff every week to attend meetings and offer testimony. They believe this strategy was successful.

D. Annual Convention Report

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported the Committee met on June 14th. Vendor registration forms continued to be processed and attendee registration would be opened at the end of this week. Lauren mentioned the minutes from the last Convention Planning Committee meeting were included in the agenda packet for further detail of their progress. The Committee planned to meet on Friday, July 19th here at the MCCA offices.

E. NACo Report

Comm. Baldacci reminded the group of the upcoming Annual Conference in July 12th to July 15th taking place in Las Vegas, Clark County Nevada. He and Comm. Fowler were scheduled to attend the NACo Conference.

Also, Hancock County was recently featured in NACo County News! And Cumberland County Manager Jim Gailey completed NACo's 12-week High Performance Leadership Academy online program.

XIII. Other Business

No other business was brought before the Board.

XIV. Adjournment

President Tom Coward invited a **motion** to adjourn at approximately 12:15 p.m. Comm. Cote 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