

M.C.C.A.

William Blodgett, President
Lincoln County

Peter Baldacci, Vice President
Penobscot County

Thomas Coward, Secretary-Treasurer
Cumberland County



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Rosemary Kulow
Executive Director

Lauren Haven
Office Manager

MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

MCCA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes 10:00 a.m., August 12, 2015

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

President William Blodgett called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. Beth Bell; *Aroostook* – Comm. Norman Fournier; *Cumberland* – Comm. Tom Coward; *Franklin* – Comm. Gary McGrane; *Hancock* – Administrator Eugene Conlogue proxy for Comm. Steve Joy; *Knox* – Comm. Roger Moody; *Lincoln* – Comm. William Blodgett; *Oxford* – Admin. Scott Cole proxy for Comm. Steven Merrill; *Penobscot* – Comm. Peter Baldacci; *Piscataquis* – Interim County Manager Tom Lizotte proxy for Comm. James Annis; *Sagadahoc* – Admin. Pamela Hile proxy for Comm. Charles Crosby III; *Somerset* – Comm. Newell Graf; *Waldo* – Comm. Amy Fowler; *York* – Comm. Michael Cote; *MACCAM* – Bill Collins; *MACT* – David Parkman; and *MECCA* – Owen Smith.

OTHERS PRESENT: *Androscoggin* – Comm. Sally Christner, *Cumberland* – Assistant County Manager Bill Whitten; Commissioner Stephen Gorden; *Knox* – Admin. Andrew Hart; *Lincoln* – Administrator John O'Connell; *Somerset* – Admin. Dawn DiBlasi.

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

II. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

Comm. Moody **moved** and Administrator Bill Collins **seconded** approving the agenda as presented. The **motion** was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Comm. Baldacci **moved** and Comm. Cote **seconded** approving the minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting on July 8, 2015 as written. The **motion** was approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business

A. Discussion of Public Law Chapter 335 (LD 186)

The group discussed the expected delay in the disbursement of funds to county jails. Bill Whitten shared a letter to this effect from County Manager Peter Crichton to the Department of Corrections. Board members agreed cash flow would be severely challenged for most counties. The group talked about devising a plan of action going forward. It would be too late to present a new bill; however, a bill could be used that has been held over. Treasurer David Parkman made a **motion** to use LD 195, An Act Regarding County Jails and word it to propose a solution to the lack of adequate funding. Bill Collins seconded the **motion**. More discussion ensued regarding possible elements of the bill. Comm. Blodgett eventually brought the **motion** to a vote, and it passed with one exception.

V. New Business

A. Consideration of a Statewide Policy for the Financial Management of Inmate Funds

Ms. Rosemary Kulow explained that these policies and standards are established in state statute and at the DOC. It's important to ensure the policies are being followed, moreover Comm. Baldacci said the Sheriffs should report on the spending as a method of check and balance.

B. Review of Responses to the Strategic Plan Questionnaire

Rosemary Kulow explained the results from the submitted questionnaires that were compiled. The general opinion is that counties support the current services provided by MCCA staff and are more or less content with the status quo with little increase in programs and services at this time.

VI. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report (See attached report.)

B. Financial Report

Executive Director Rosemary Kulow presented her report. She explained the return of the retirement surplus funds previously invested by MainePERS dating back to Bob Howe's management. A money market account is being established with a better interest rate than a checking account. Going forward the employer portion of MCCA retirement contributions will be paid from this account. Comm. Joy made a **motion** to approve the reports as written. Comm. Fowler seconded the **motion**, which was unanimously approved.

C. Legislative Report

There was nothing additional to report.

D. Association Reports

MACCAM: Bill Collins reported the group met in July and worked to provide information that could be used in the jail budget formula.

MACT: David Parkman stated the treasurers met in Dover-Foxcroft in Piscataquis County, noting that in the past twelve years the group had met in all counties.

MECCA: Owen Smith reported that the association plans to meet at the convention in September. MECCA is co-sponsoring a day of training on Oct 8th. The morning training is “Active Shooter” and the afternoon is “Ground Control for Fire Scenes.”

E. Corrections Report

Comm. Cote reported on a July meeting with Ryan Anderson and the Standards Board. The group strategized goals for the committee. They plan to recommend changes that will reduce the number of standards to approximately half. Currently there are 265 standards and the goal will be 129.

F. Annual Convention Report

Office Manager Lauren Haven reported that the Convention Planning Committee met on July 23rd in Ellsworth. The group worked on ideas for more convention sponsors, designs for the program cover and creating a mobile app for convention participants. At this time there were 50 registered attendees, 12 exhibitors, four advertisements for the program and nine sponsors. The only area of concern was the low number of sponsors and participants. The committee will meet again on August 19th in Ellsworth.

G. NACo Report

Comm. Baldacci reported that he attended NACo’s annual conference in July with Executive Director Rosemary Kulow. The theme was, “Stronger Counties, Stronger America.” Keynote speaker Anthony Foxx, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, urged conference participants to continue efforts on Capitol Hill to pass a multi-year surface transportation reauthorization. U.S. Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter discussed the role counties play in supporting the armed forces and their families and in building the “force of the future.” In an effort to strengthen the intergovernmental partnership at all levels, NACo has developed the “Counties Connect America” initiative. The initiative will use the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election cycle as a platform for engaging candidates as they discuss ways to move this country forward together. There is a shortcut on the MCCA homepage for more information.

Comm. Baldacci met with Dr. Natalie Ortiz. Some issues discussed were mental illness in jails, rates of recidivism, and the length of pretrial time.

Comm. Baldacci met with the Piscataquis commissioners to expound on the benefits of membership and was happy to report the county agreed to join NACo which will bring Maine’s membership to 100%.

VII. Other Business

No other business was brought before the Board.

VIII. Adjournment

*Comm. Baldacci made a **motion** to adjourn at 11:35 a.m.; Comm. Moody seconded the **motion**, which was unanimously approved.* The group adjourned to lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

MCCA Office Manager, Lauren Haven

Attested:

MCCA Secretary-Treasurer, Thomas S. Coward