

KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION

Special Meeting

Thursday – October 18, 2012 - 1:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Knox County Commission was held on Thursday, October 18, 2012, at 1:00 p.m., at the county courthouse, 62 Union Street, Rockland, Maine.

Commission members present were: Carol L. Maines, Commissioner District #1, and Roger A. Moody, Commissioner District #3. *Commissioners not present: Richard L. Parent, Jr., Commissioner District #2.*

County staff present included: Administrative Assistant Candice Richards, Communications Director Linwood Lothrop, Airport Manager Jeff Northgraves.

Municipal representation present: (*see below*).

Others present: Steve Betts of the *Bangor Daily News*.

Meeting with Knox County Municipalities – Agenda **Thursday – October 18, 2012 – 1:00 p.m.**

- I. Discuss and generate list of topics to be discussed with Legislative Delegation in December**
- II. Discuss possible dates for December meeting**
- III. Other Business**
- IV. Action List**
- V. Adjourn**

Commission Chair Roger Moody called the special meeting of the Knox County Commission to order at 1:00 p.m. The following are the meeting attendees:

- John Snow – St. George Selectboard Chair
- Patrick Florance – South Thomaston Selectman
- Jeff Northgraves – South Thomaston Selectman
- Nancy Colson – Owls Head Selectman
- Robert A. Peabody, Jr. – Rockport Town Manager
- Valmore Blastow – Thomaston Town Manager
- Greg Hamlin – Thomaston Selectman
- Bill Chapman – Rockport Selectboard Chair
- Tim Leet, Executive Director, Maine County Commissioners Association
- Geoff Herman, Director of State & Federal Relations – Maine Municipal Association

I. Discuss and generate list of topics

Tim Leet - Executive Director, Maine County Commissioners Association

Mr. Leet explained that the Maine County Commissioners Association had held their monthly meeting on October 10th and agreed to support three bills:

1. “An Act to Change Document Filing Fees for County Registries of Deeds”
2. “An Act to Fund the Inverse Debt Requirement of the State Board of Corrections
3. “An Act to Ensure Public Safety Through Adequate Funding for the E-9-1-1 System” (Cumberland and Penobscot are driving this)

Geoff Herman – Director of State & Federal Relations – Maine Municipal Association

Mr. Herman explained that MMA has a 7 - member policy committee that came up with four core funding commitments that the State is not honoring:

1. Municipal revenue sharing (state keeps raiding it)

2. K-12 funding (state is supposed to pay 55% but they're only paying about 45%)
3. Highway funding – gas tax revenue
4. Drinking water / wastewater/ storm water

It was also mentioned that the State is only paying on a fraction of the costs for boarding state prisoners in the county jails.

Core issues the group wants to discuss with the legislative delegation:

1. State to fulfill/honor financial commitments it has already made or been mandated to do. Towns to give examples and data to legislators at the meeting in December.
2. School funding formula EPS model
 - Special ed funding supposed to be \$100
 - Special ed funding process needs help – the funding doesn't follow the student
 - 55% is the law (currently paying 45%)
3. State road "giveback"
4. Fund corrections law

II. Discuss possible dates for December meeting

It was noted that legislators are sworn in on December 6th but the meeting didn't need to take place after that. The meeting was therefore scheduled for Tuesday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m.

III. Other Business

IV. Action List

V. Adjourn

- A motion was made by Commissioner Carol Maines to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Roger Moody. A vote was taken with all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candice Richards
Administrative Assistant

The Knox County Commission approved these minutes at their regular meeting held on November 13, 2012.