

# KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION

## Special Joint Meeting Knox County Commission and Budget Committee

Thursday – November 14, 2013 – 5:00 p.m.

A special joint meeting of the Knox County Commission and the Knox County Budget Committee was held on Thursday, November 14, 2013, at 5:00 p.m., at the county courthouse, 62 Union Street, Rockland, Maine. The Administrative Assistant was present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commission members present were: Carol L. Maines, Commissioner District #1, Richard L. Parent, Jr., Commissioner District #2, and Roger A. Moody, Commissioner District #3.

County staff present included: County Administrator Andrew Hart, Administrative Assistant Candice Richards, EMA Director Ray Sisk, Register of Deeds Lisa Simmons, and Finance Director Kathy Robinson.

Budget Committee members present were: Ann Matlack, Bob Duke, Lawrence Nash, Randy Stearns, Dorothy Meriwether, Bill Jones, Stephen Carroll, Shawn Levasseur, and Betty Watts. *Budget Committee members not in attendance:*

Also present were: Jeff Kobrock, Executive Director for the Midcoast Economic Development District; Building Maintenance Supervisor Don Decker (Maine Real Estate Management); Jesse McCue, Vice President of Maine Real Estate Management; and Vance Wells from Time & Tide RC&D (*arrived at 5:05 p.m. and left as soon as his presentation was finished*).

### Knox County Commission and Budget Committee

#### Joint Meeting Agenda

Commission Hearing Room

Thursday – November 14, 2013 – 5:00 p.m.

- I. 5:00 Meeting Called To Order** (Chair Bob Duke for the Knox County Budget Committee, Commission Chair Carol Maines for the Knox County Commission)
- II. 5:01 Public Comment**
- III. 5:03 Approve Minutes** (Chair Bob Duke for the Knox County Budget Committee, Chair Carol Maines for the Knox County Commission)
  - 1. Minutes of the Joint Budget Meeting of October 31, 2013.
  - 2. Minutes of the Joint Budget Meeting of November 7, 2013.
- IV. 5:08 Budget Review**
  - 1. Time & Tide RC&D (pp. 21)
  - 2. Registry of Deeds (pp. 10)
  - 3. Emergency Management Agency (pp. 12)
  - 4. Building Maintenance (pps. 6-8)
  - 5. Building Maintenance – 301 Park Street (pp. 9)
  - 6. Other
- V. 6:00 Final Vote on all Department Budgets** (*in preparation for Public Hearing*)
- VI. Adjourn**

#### I. Meeting Called to Order

The November 14, 2013 joint meeting of the Knox County Budget Committee and the Knox County Commission was called to order by Budget Committee Chair Bob Duke and Commission Chair Carol Maines.

## II. Public Comment

Budget Committee Chair Bob Duke asked if any members of the public wished to speak. There was none.

## III. Approve Minutes

### 1. Joint Budget Meeting of October 31, 2013.

- Lawrence Nash motioned to approve the minutes as presented unless any omissions or errors. He noted one correction in two places that needed to be made. Randy Stearns seconded. A vote was taken with all in favor. The motion passed.
- Commissioner Richard Parent motioned to approve the minutes as presented with the changes noted by Lawrence Nash. Commissioner Roger Moody seconded. A vote was taken with all in favor. The motion passed.

### 2. Joint Budget Meeting of November 7, 2013.

- Lawrence Nash motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Randy Stearns seconded. A vote was taken with all in favor. The motion passed.
- Commissioner Roger Moody motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Richard Parent seconded. A vote was taken with all in favor. The motion passed.

## IV. Budget Review

Bob Duke asked Administrator Hart to briefly go over all of the handouts that were on the table for the Budget Committee and Commission. Some of the handouts were updated replacements for what they already had in their budget binders while some of it was additional information.

There was a brief discussion about the Sheriff's Department's vehicle replacement list. It was explained that the department is working towards replacing older vehicles with more fuel efficient vehicles, but in some instances it still made sense to have an SUV depending on the location, such as the islands, where off-road travel is more common. The department had been purchasing Dodge Chargers but is now going to Ford Police Interceptors. They're all 6-cylinder vehicles. Administrator Hart also noted that the County was now selling vehicles at auction rather than trading them in and getting more money for them that way.

### Time & Tide RC&D

Vance Wells explained that he had left the previous budget meeting because he thought thought Time & Tide's Planner Megan Lachapelle had already done Time & Tide's presentation.

Mr. Wells explained that this year is different for Time & Tide because they now have a planner who helps make contacts for the organization. Ms. Lachapelle works half time but Time & Tide hopes she can eventually be working full time. Time & Tide is still looking for communities that can come up with projects that they feel are needed. Mr. Wells felt that a good example of a possible project would be to educate people about Lyme Disease, including having an education program in the schools so kids could learn about it as well. He said that Time & Tide's roots began with the US Department of Agriculture and Time & Tide still feels the need to promote the production, processing and consumption of foods. RC&D's were established to help educate farmers since they weren't really listening to what the government told them about conservation methods. There are a lot less farmers than there used to be so there are less people producing food. As transportation costs go up, people should be looking at producing more food locally. Mr. Wells felt that one of the greatest resources that is under-used is the soil, and that it should be combined with the resource of folks that are getting welfare payments and not working. There could be community gardens with the unemployed folks working on the gardens.

Bob Duke noted that some of the program grants seem to be working on the same things, and Time & Tide seems to have struggled because they haven't done a good job explaining what they do and how what they do affects the community.

- A consensus vote was taken on the Time & Tide budget request. It was noted that at the last meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, the consensus vote taken to not fund Time & Tide was unanimous. Lawrence Nash stated that he now wished to change his vote to being in favor of funding the request. No one else wanted to change their vote from the last meeting (that meeting was unanimous not to fund), so the vote was 1 in favor of funding Time & Tide, and 8 against it.

#### Registry of Deeds

Register of Deeds Lisa Simmons gave a brief overview of her budget:

- Predicting that revenue will be going up.
  - Had a \$6 increase in recording fees starting this month. Should add up to \$80,000 more in revenue in 2014. The legislation that increased the recording fees also allowed people to get 500 free copies on the website before they have to pay, so it's not really known what kind of revenue the County will be getting from the website.
  - A new records management system vendor will be coming in the first week of December to get everything installed.
  - Recording plan fees have gone from \$18 to \$24. The recording fees have been the same for the last 6 or 7 years. The legislation that was passed went through because of the lawsuit from a company that wanted all of the records without paying for any of them. The registers around the state got together with the Maine County Commissioners Association to increase the recording fees in order to balance out giving the copies free away on the website since the counties are going to lose a lot of revenue from that.
- A consensus vote was taken on the Registry of Deeds budget with all in favor

#### Emergency Management Agency

EMA Director Ray Sisk handed out a summary of his 2014 budget. It showed the budget lines that are either up or down from 2013 budget. It also explained about the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG).

When asked what he and his assistant do every day, Director Sisk stated that they generally work 10 - 12 hour days. They plan and carry out training programs, do preparedness planning at the town level and business level, school and hospital emergency planning, train select boards, police officers, EMS, fire departments, etc. The department also manages the prescription drug program for the County. He added that he served as the Chair of the Safety Committee which works to bring down the County's workers compensation insurance costs. EMA staff works with schools to help them be prepared for emergencies, such as school shootings and natural disasters. He added that EMA staff are not emergency responders but provide response support and coordination where necessary. While there are only two paid EMA employees and one grant funded, part-time EMA employee, the department has access to around 60 volunteers who help out in a variety of ways.

Director Sisk explained that the Lenfest tower was now in the EMA budget because the equipment that was part of the Communications Infrastructure had been moved to Coggins Hill because of a better range of reception. That left just the EMA equipment on the Lenfest tower. This equipment would be used by a collection of HAM radio operators as a backup system to communicate should the main communications system collapse. EMA also gets 50% of the expense reimbursed, which the Communications budget doesn't, so it made sense to move the expense to the EMA budget.

When asked about how federal disaster relief funds work and who actually gets the funds, Director Sisk explained that EMA is instrumental on getting the funds but county government itself doesn't receive the

funds. The funds go to the municipality after a disaster. Disaster relief funds are a direct reimbursement for public assistance agencies such as towns, schools, roads, non-profits, etc. It's a 90% reimbursement cost (75% from federal, 15% from state). Knox County has had 5 disasters in the past 6 years and EMA has pulled a lot of reimbursement money back for the towns.

Bob Duke commented that prior to Director Sisk being an employee of the County, all this work in grants and helping towns get funding just wasn't being done. He gave Director Sisk a lot of credit for all the work he was accomplishing.

- A consensus vote was taken on the EMA budget with all in favor except for 1 against – Steve Carroll

#### Building Maintenance - Courthouse

Jesse McCue from Maine Real Estate Management, the company providing building maintenance services for the County, explained that Don Decker is the daily representative. MREM worked with Mr. Decker on the budget, using historical information and the trend over the past year. MREM helped propose the budget for 2014. Mr. Decker manages the subcontractors for the building and keeps the costs down. MREM also tries to help forecast out for 5 years on what needs to be done on the building. The budget for 2014 is down from 2013.

When a question was raised about the lawn maintenance contract, Administrator Hart explained that Farley & Son does the courthouse gardens and landscaping. At one point, inmates had come to do the work but that didn't work out well so the County went out to bid. Farley & Son also has the snow removal contract which includes plowing, sanding, and shoveling of walkways and entrances. The state pays for a portion of the snow removal.

When asked if there was a noticeable difference in heating fuel usage because of the new windows, Building Maintenance Supervisor Don Decker stated that it hasn't been compared to the actual oil bill but he did note that the boiler needs to run for a much shorter amount of time to heat the building than it used to. He was also able to determine that the 75% lost in heat in the Probate offices was cut down to a 6% loss in heat just by fixing the windows. He said that when the rest of the windows are replaced, the County will have a true representation of what improvements have been made in the efficiency of the building.

- A consensus vote was taken on the Building Maintenance budget with all in favor

#### Building Maintenance – 301 Park Street

The question was raised of why the air handler wasn't taken care of when the County first acquired the building. Building Maintenance Supervisor Decker explained that at the time, it was evaluated by some of the engineering specialists who came in the building at the beginning, and they said it would last another 3 years or so; however, since then there have been some issues with it and it may end up needing to be replaced. Mr. McCue commented that MREM proposed to have the money available in case it needs to be replaced. Administrator Hart noted that he was hoping to be able to push off replacing it until at least 2015 as long as it's efficient enough in the meantime.

- A consensus vote was taken on the Building Maintenance – 301 Park Street budget with all in favor

#### MCEDD

Bob Duke asked if the Committee wanted more information from MCEDD or if they were comfortable with what they had. He suggested taking another straw vote now that everyone was here. Betty Watts commented that she would abstain because she didn't feel like she knew enough about the organization.

- A consensus vote was taken on MCEDD's request with 4 in favor (Randy Stearns, Bob Duke, Ann Matlack, and Dorothy Meriwether), 4 opposed (Bill Jones, Shawn Levasseur, Steve Carroll, and Lawrence Nash), and 1 abstention (Betty Watts).

Because the vote was tied, Bob Duke asked Jeff Kobrock to give a brief overview of what MCEDD does after Betty Watts asked that someone to explain to her what MCEDD does.

Jeff Kobrock explained that MCEDD is a federally charged organization but municipally based. Some of the services they provide are:

- Solid waste management plan
- Brownfields assessment project
- Ragged Mountain Recreation Area project
- Town of Rockport Sewer extension
- Grant administration for towns
- Technical assistance
- Participate regionally with economic development practitioners
- Provide gap financing to businesses

Bill Jones commented that he supported economic development but he felt that while the agency was serving as a conduit for federal funds, he felt the funds would flow anyway without MCEDD. He added that Lincoln County felt the same and had voted not to support MCEDD. He said that he didn't believe that economic development is a core function of county government. MCEDD as an organization is a better arrangement than what Knox County had before, but he was not sure MCEDD is necessary for the towns to get the federal program funding.

Jeff Kobrock responded that the federal government uses CEDS as a very valid document when deciding on funding. It's not a guarantee you'll get funding, but if you can't align yourself with regional strategy, it will be very difficult for you to get federal grant money. MCEDD works very hard at taking the core EDA funding that they receive and getting a good return on it. For every \$1 EDA dollar, MCEDD leverages \$11 dollars of services.

Ann Matlack explained to Betty Watts that one of the direct benefits that Thomaston will get is the brownfields assessment. MCEDD was able to get the funding is because of the needs within the town. The needs could be old gas stations or business properties that need to be assessed or cleaned up and get them back to being an economic developmentally viable piece of property. Thomaston wants to have some properties evaluated and MCEDD can help mediate that.

Dorothy Meriwether gave Betty Watts a brief overview of the evolution of the economic development organizations that the County has participated with over the last few years. She said she supported MCEDD this year but still had reservations that MCEDD is the right fit for Knox County.

Commissioner Moody noted that he's the Chair of the Board of Directors for MCEDD. He gave a brief history of MCEDD. He said that he felt that the organization was a deal for the County in the long-term.

Steve Carroll felt that the County would be better off having cushion in the budgets for unforeseen things that are going to come up than funding program grants. He noted that towns and schools have found themselves in a hard place because of the state revenue sharing disappearing. The Airport is already seeing it with the loss of federal funds for the security. The County is going to need to find money in the budget for unseen things as they arise and taxpayers are going to need to see some relief at some point. If the County continues to keep going as it has been, spending a little more each year, there will be no cushion for unforeseen events. The County needs to start saying no to some of these things that aren't critical. Some things are discretionary and he felt that MCEDD is one of the things that the County needs to say no to.

Betty Watts commented that if the funding for MCEDD was taken out of the budget, it doesn't go somewhere else to create a cushion - it's just going to disappear from the budget.

Bob Duke commented that he agreed with Steve Carroll to a certain extent. He said that he does think there's going to be a constraint federally, but that he has also seen a lot of positive things on the horizon.

He said that he has lived in Rockport most of his life and Rockport has taken care of their infrastructure all these years while Rockland hasn't been able to do that. Sometimes it does mean relying on using grant money. Grants are available, but you have to be an opportunist and find a way to get it done. MCEDD is the conduit to get that funding. \$28,000 isn't a lot of money and is a reasonable investment for the County to make.

Shawn Levasseur stated that he felt that County staff have done a good job in trying to keep the budgets down. He said that a government that spends the money is responsible for it. He said that he felt a little wary and that all of the information that MCEDD had given the Budget Committee was a lot of tap dancing that doesn't tell us a lot. It comes across as being a business trying to relocate to Knox County. He noted that the Budget Committee was only given MCEDD's 2012 numbers, and it wasn't until someone specifically asked about 2013 numbers that Mr. Kobrock had pulled the information out of his bag. He felt that this didn't help MCEDD's case much and he added that it feels like MCEDD was taking a lot of bows for other people's work.

Bob Duke noted that the Committee wouldn't take another straw vote but would wait until taking a final vote later in the meeting.

Commissioners' Pay

Administrator Hart explained that he had provided the information for municipalities in Knox County with an administrator (the information on Camden was provided by Lawrence Nash at the meeting):

Municipality	Population	Chair / Mayor	Board/Council
		Annual Stipend	Annual Stipend
North Haven	405	\$2,000	\$1,000
Camden	4,850	\$1,500	\$1,500
Warren	4,763	\$1,500	\$1,200
Rockport	3,523	\$1,500	\$1,000
Rockland	7,385	\$1,000	\$800
Union	2,326	\$700	\$600
Vinalhaven	1,334	\$600	\$600

Betty Watts asked why there was no recommendation for an increase from the Administrator built into the budget. Bob Duke explained that the Administrator and the Commission do not make recommendations on the pay for the Commissioners because it's up to the Budget Committee to decide what the Commission gets paid. The issue was brought up by Commissioner Maines, and Administrator Hart had been asked to provide the information on the municipalities and what other counties were paying for stipends. The commissioners' stipend has not been adjusted for the last few years except they got a CPI increase last year.

Dorothy Meriwether noted that she didn't feel that the town information was really comparable to commissioners because selectmen may spend more time working for the town than a commissioner does, but a commissioner might have higher financial responsibility. She felt the Budget Committee should at least set the stipend rate in line with the average of commissioners in counties of like size.

Bob Duke commented that he'd been both a selectman and a commissioner before the County got an administrator. He thought that the commissioner stipends should stay the same for a while to see how things worked out with how much the commissioners actually do now that there is an administrator. He said he didn't realize Knox County was paying as low as it is compared to counties of comparable size.

Lawrence Nash said that he disagreed that looking at the town information as looking at apples and oranges. He felt that the commissioners' stipends should be left the way they are. He said that when you run for office, you know what the pay is, and you shouldn't expect a raise or a cost of living increase.

You're giving back to your community. In the past, commissioners put in long hours but they don't have to do that now that there's an administrator.

There was a discussion about the work load of commissioners now compared to when the Commission used to meet all day long. Now commissioners mostly attend one regular meeting per month, but there are also sometimes special meetings. The Commission meets with the towns on issues or has meetings with the County's legal counsel. Commissioners also serve on a variety of groups as representatives of the Commission, including union negotiations, MCCA, MCCA Risk Pool, CLEO, MCEDD, and APAC. They all attend additional meetings besides the regular meeting. The commissioners are still involved, just maybe in a different way than before there was an administrator. The meetings are a better process and don't require meeting all day. It depends on what going on. Commissioner Maines noted that Commissioner Parent had also been heavily involved in the 301 Park Street project and with union negotiations. She noted that the Commission also hold grievance hearings and render grievance decisions.

Steve Carroll said that he understood that a lot of the budget was tied up in compensation of employees - salaries, insurance, benefits, etc. and that a lot of that is because of the union and the built-in cost of living increases. Health insurance goes up every year. He said that he agreed with Lawrence Nash that when elected officials get into public service, it should not just be about what you're getting paid. He felt that the Budget Committee should freeze the commissioners' stipends.

Ann Matlack commented that her opinion was more in line with Dorothy Meriwether's point of view. She suggested that the commissioners' stipends should be increased up to \$8,000, but wasn't sure if the Chair should get more than that. She felt that would depend on the amount of additional work the Chair has to do.

Shawn Levasseur asked how far back the \$7,000 stipend figure goes. Lawrence Nash said that it dropped from \$9,000 to \$7,000 in 2008.

Bob Duke explained about how the commissioners used to have benefits but they opted to go with just a straight stipend. After that, the commissioner's pay was lowered because their responsibilities had been reduced.

Randy Stearns said that he could see both sides of the coin. When you run for office, you know what you'll be getting paid, but at the same time, the economy changes. He commented that he didn't know how much time per week the commissioners all put in.

Commissioner Moody stated that he works probably a day and a half, to two days per week, but he noted that he also serves on a lot of committees because he volunteered for them. He said that while the committees might not be directly related to Knox County, the County benefits because the commissioners are working on things like the Deeds fee increase legislation. There are a lot of meetings that come from that.

After a comment was made about how having Commission meetings during the day makes it hard for people from the community to attend, Commissioner Maines commented that the Commission could change to night meetings, but one of the biggest aspects of the commissioners' job is speaking with the employees who are here during the day. Commissioner Parent noted that it would also require paying employees overtime.

Ann Matlack stated that the question isn't what the commissioners do, but rather what they are supposed to do. She asked if there are additional responsibilities of the chair compared to the other two commissioners.

Bob Duke commented that he wanted the stipends to be moved up closer to the average. He didn't necessarily want it to be the average, but have the stipends closer to the average.

Bill Jones stated that he didn't care what the other counties or towns do because what they're doing may be wrong. He said that the Committee needed to consider what these three commissioners have for responsibilities.

Ann Matlack suggested paying \$8,000 for the Chair and \$7,500 each for the other two commissioners.

Bob Duke asked if the other Budget Committee members agreed with that.

- A consensus vote was taken on increasing the Commission Chair stipend to \$8,000 and increasing the other two commissioners' stipends to \$7,500 each (total of \$23,000) with 5 in favor (Stearns, Duke, Matlack, Meriwether, Jones) and 4 opposed (Watts, Levasseur, Carroll, Nash). The vote passed.

Lawrence Nash then suggested just giving the Commission a cost of living increase (CPI) for 2014, which would be a 1.5% increase. Bob Duke called for a consensus vote.

- A consensus vote was taken on increasing the Commission's stipends for 2014 by giving them a cost of living increase with 1 in favor (Nash), 7 opposed (Stearns, Duke, Matlack, Meriwether, Watts, Levasseur, Carroll) and 1 abstention (Jones). The vote failed.

## **V. Final Vote on All Department Budgets**

### Administration & IT

- A vote was taken on the Administrator's recommended budget of \$504,707 with 7 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur) and 2 opposed (Nash, Watts). The motion passed.

### Building Maintenance - Courthouse

- A vote was taken on the Administrator's recommended budget of \$176,195 with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

### Building Maintenance – 301 Park Street

- A vote was taken on the Administrator's recommended budget of \$52,200 with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

### District Attorney

- A vote was taken on the Administrator's recommended budget of \$393,645 with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

### Emergency Management Agency

- A vote was taken on the Administrator's recommended budget of \$71,591 with 7 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Watts) and 2 opposed (Carroll, Levasseur). The motion passed.

### Finance

- A vote was taken the Administrator's recommended budget of \$262,952 with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

Probate

- A vote was taken the Administrator's recommended budget of \$139,626 with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

Registry of Deeds

- A vote was taken the Administrator's recommended budget of (\$218,200) with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

Sheriff's Department – Patrol Division

- A vote was taken the Administrator's recommended budget of \$1,627,742 with 8 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Levasseur, Watts) and 1 opposed (Carroll). The motion passed.

Airport

- A vote was taken the Administrator's recommended budget of \$130,587 with 5 in favor (Matlack, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, 3 opposed (Duke, Nash, Meriwether), and 1 abstention (Watts). The motion passed.

Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension Service

Funding request: \$57,042

- A vote was taken with 6 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Jones, Stearns, Levasseur, Watts) and 3 opposed (Duke, Nash, Carroll). The motion passed.

Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District

Funding request: \$25,897

- A vote was taken with 5 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Stearns, Watts) and 4 opposed (Carroll, Jones, Nash, Levasseur). The motion passed.

Mid-Coast Economic Development District

Funding request: \$28,491

- A vote was taken with 5 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Stearns, Watts) and 4 opposed (Nash, Jones, Carroll, Levasseur). The motion passed.

Time & Tide RC&D

Funding request: \$3,750

- A vote was taken with 1 in favor (Nash) and 8 opposed (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion failed.

Mid-Coast Regional Planning Commission

Funding Request: \$2,500

- A vote was taken with 8 in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Levasseur, Watts) and 1 opposed (Carroll). The motion passed.

Insurance – Risk Management Pool

Administrator's proposal: \$92,678

- A vote was taken with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

Debt Service

Administrator's proposal: \$230,932

- A vote was taken with all in favor (Matlack, Meriwether, Duke, Nash, Jones, Stearns, Carroll, Levasseur, Watts). The motion passed.

There was a brief discussion about budget committee redistricting. Ann Matlack asked to be invited to the meetings when those are eventually held.

It was noted that the Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room at the Knox County Courthouse.

When asked what the total bottom line was with all the changes, Administrator Hart said that the bottom line for the budget was now \$6,537,284, which is a total reduction of \$111,437, or 1.68%, under the 2013 budget.

**VI. Adjourn**

- A motion was made by Randy Stearns to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Bill Jones. A vote was taken with all in favor.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Richard Parent to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Roger Moody. A vote was taken with all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candice S. Richards  
Administrative Assistant

**The Knox County Budget Committee and Knox County Commission approved these minutes at their meeting on December 5, 2013.**