

**County of Sagadahoc Commissioners**  
***Meeting Minutes***  
***April 8, 2014***

A regular meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the County Courthouse, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530.

Present: Chair Max Dawson, Vice Chair Charles Crosby, III, Commissioner Carol Grose, County Administrator Pamela Hile, Sheriff Joel Merry, Domestic Violence Investigator Steve Edmondson, Deputy Administrator Robin Dayton.

**Call to Order**

Commissioner Chair Dawson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and established the presence of a quorum.

Public Comments: None.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Minutes for March 11, 14 and 25, 2014
2. Approval of Warrants
3. March 2014 Financial Statements
4. Departmental Reports (Written)
5. Upcoming Meeting(s):
  - a.) Regular Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 (ONLY IF NEEDED)
  - b.) Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2014

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| Upon <b>motion</b> by Commissioner Grose, second by Chair Dawson, the <b>Consent Agenda was approved</b> as presented. |
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**Department Reports (Presentations)**

1. Domestic Violence (DV) – Steve Edmondson

Sagadahoc County Domestic Violence Investigator, Steve Edmondson provided a “Ten Year Trends and Analysis” presentation on Domestic Violence in Sagadahoc County. 62 reported and actionable cases of Domestic Violence (DV) have been processed since 2004 resulting in 50 convictions. 7 cases were dismissed and 5 are pending. Investigator Edmondson described the challenges he faces to get a conviction. Some victims do not want to interact with the Police. Some victims move out of Maine altogether. Other challenges occur when victims are tourists and do not reside in Maine. Chair Dawson inquired about unreported cases. Investigator Edmondson explained that the isolated rural areas of Maine make reporting cases much harder. Commissioner Grose inquired about programs for children. Investigator

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Edmundson reported that Children that witness DV need more help. DHHS does not always remove a child who has witnessed DV. New Hope uses “Safe Houses” and there is a good Family Crisis facility in Portland but we need more programs and facilities to help all the children that have witnessed DV.

2. Sheriff’s Department – Joel Merry

Sheriff Joel Merry provided his monthly activity packet to the Commissioners. The County’s current sentenced inmate population is low at 10 total inmates. One inmate is in the home monitoring program and another inmate refuses to leave the jail. Sheriff Merry also reported that several vehicle issues have been resolved. The two new replacement transport vans have arrived as have the replacement patrol cars. Two used cars have been transferred: one to the Domestic Violence Detective and one for shared use by the other County Departments.

**Business Items**

1. Replacement of Large Transport Van – Sheriff Merry

Sheriff Merry reported that the Two Brides County Jail may be interested in the purchase of our large transport van but no financial agreement decision has been reached. There is too much going on right now with the jails and the State Legislature for this issue to move forward at this time.

2. Adoption of Updated “General Personal Protective Equipment Policy”

Administrator Hile presented the revised General Personal Protective Equipment Policy for approval. This is a basic house-keeping measure to update and reformat the existing policy.

Upon **motion** by Chair Dawson, second by Commissioner Grose, the **General Personal Protective Policy was approved** as presented.

3.

4. County Video

The County Administrator provided a visual demonstration of a cost-free “County Video Showcase” sponsored in part by NACO. Cumberland and Kennebec Counties have previously participated, and Sagadahoc, Oxford, York, Hancock and Somerset are proposed for inclusion this year. The idea is to place a video on our website about the County as a marketing tool by asking businesses to participate and advertise. Commissioner Crosby expressed sensitively toward businesses that may not be able to afford to participate. After further discussion, the Commissioners decided to table the matter indefinitely.

5. County Administrator’s Report - Available for review upon request.

6. Other

Administrator Hile reported on her meeting with Mark Westrum, TBRJ Administrator; John O'Connell, Lincoln County Administrator; and a Gorham Savings Bank representative to discuss the possibility of an early refinancing of the jail bonds. Additional information regarding refinancing the jail bond will be provided as it becomes available. Vice Chair Crosby stated that he wants the refinancing to be clear and list the amount owed for each year by for each payee. Chair Dawson agreed, stressing that the Counties pay 62% of the jail operations.

The Commissioners congratulated Sheriff Merry or his new appointment to the State Board of Corrections.

**Commissioners Comments/Announcements**

1. Workforce Investment – Vice Chair Crosby

Vice Chair Crosby reported on his trip to Washington D.C. Vice Chair Crosby met with Congressman Mike Michaud, Representative Chellie Pingree, Senator Susan Collins, and a legislative aid for Congressman King. Vice Chair Crosby felt that this was a helpful and productive work session and was pleased with the opportunity to express his deep concern about the Governor of Maine taking control of the Workforce Investment programs in each county.

2. Other

**Executive Session(S)**

None requested.

**Adjournment**

Upon **motion** by Vice Chair Crosby and second by Commissioner Grose the Board **agreed to adjourn at 4:05 p.m. by unanimous acclamation.**

Respectfully submitted

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Robin M. Dayton.

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