

*Sagadahoc County Commissioners*  
*Meeting Minutes*  
*Tuesday, July 10, 2018*

A regular meeting of the Sagadahoc County Commissioners was held at 3:00 pm Tuesday, July 10, 2018 in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the County Courthouse, 752 High Street, Bath, Maine 04530.

Present: Chair Charles Crosby, III; Vice-chair Carol Grose; Commissioner Rabyrne Hutton; County Administrator Pamela Hile (remote); Chief Deputy Brett Strout; EMA Director Sarah Bennett; Domestic Violence Investigator Steve Edmondson; Human Resources Director Sharon Hinckley; Finance Manager Jillian Flaherty; Assistant to the County Administrator, Mary Kay Blatz

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

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes for June 12, 2018
2. June Financials: Unavailable
3. Warrants
4. Departmental Reports (Written)
5. Upcoming Meeting(s):
  - a. Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 14, 2018
  - b. Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 28, 2018 IF NEEDED

Upon <b>motion</b> by Commissioner Hutton, and second by Vice-chair Grose, the <b>consent agenda was unanimously approved as presented.</b>
---

IV. Department Reports

1. Introduction of Finance Manager – Jillian Flaherty

Administrator Hile introduced Finance Manager Jillian Flaherty who has joined the County with over 10 years' experience in finance. Jill worked for a non-profit in Boston for a number of years, during which time she was promoted twice and performed many of the same functions she will be tasked with at the County. Since her return to Maine, she has been employed as a financial analyst at Midcoast Federal Credit Union. Jill noted that she is now in her second week here and is enjoying familiarizing herself with her new position. The Commissioners' welcomed her and wished her success in her new position.

2. Domestic Violence Investigator – Steve Edmondson

DVI Steve Edmondson presented a history of his position since its inception in 2002; his role in within Law Enforcement and the District Attorney's office; and the evolution of domestic violence in the County over his 15-year tenure in the role. During

that time DVI Edmondson has investigated 1,175 cases of domestic violence. While this averages to 75 cases a year; the first five years averaged 85 cases annually, dropping to 68 cases a year over the last five years. Over that same time frame, the conviction rates have gone up from the mid-to-upper 70 percentile to the mid-to-upper 80 percentile, demonstrating the value of the team effort consisting of local law enforcement, Maine Pre-Trial Services, local probation officers and the D.A.'s office.

Steve also shared with the Board his work as a member of the Project Safe Neighborhood at U.S. Attorney's Office in Portland, his appointment by the Governor to serve on the Maine Commission on Domestic Assault and Sexual Abuse, and his current role as chair of the Statewide Organization of Domestic Violence Investigators. In addition, he represents the D.A.'s Office at Monthly Domestic Violence Court and at the Local Working Group on Family Violence.

3. Sheriff's Department/Two Bridges Regional Jail - Sheriff Joel Merry

Sheriff Merry distributed an overview of the Bureau of Highway Safety Grant data including numbers of details worked, traffic stops, and citations issued. The grants include an ongoing speed initiative with 26 details, 211 vehicle stops, 133 summonses issued; and Distracted Driving, in which two deputies go out, one driving, one observing, and look for texting while driving and other distraction issues. Additional grant initiatives include 20 OUI details resulting in 4 OUI charges and 52 additional summonses, and Seat Belt Enforcement, a high-intensity selective enforcement over a two-week period during which deputies worked 32 details with 273 vehicle stops and 212 summonses issued. The Sheriff shared that the State Department of Highway Safety recently cited our Deputies as a model agency on the execution and results of these enforcement details.

Sheriff Merry reported that the Sagadahoc County population at TBRJ is at 32, with a combined population of 146. He also shared with the Board that (previously vetoed) State jail funding has been passed in the Legislature in the requested amount of \$18.3 million. The monies will be divided up according to previous years' formulas and likely funded in two separate payments. A discussion of future funding in relation to funding caps ensued.

V. Business Items

1. Authorization to Purchase Vehicle for DVI

Administrator Hile presented the two bids for the purchase of a vehicle for use by the Domestic Violence Investigator. Requests for Bids were advertised in the newspaper as well as sent directly to a number of dealerships in the area. Administrator Hile respectfully requested the Commissioners to consider the bids received for action.

DVI Steve Edmondson presented a comparison overview of the vehicles, as well as the bid amounts, and respectfully requested that the Commissioners consider executing the bid on the 2014 Ford Explorer. This price fell well below the \$25,000 budgeted for this purchase, and allows for the installation of law enforcement equipment, still within the budgeted amount.

Upon **motion** by Vice-chair Grose and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Commissioners **voted unanimously to authorize the purchase of a 2014 Ford Explorer from Bill Dodge, in the amount of \$21,495.00 for use by the Domestic Violence Investigator.**

2. Authorization to Accept Bid for Homeland Security Ballistic Equipment Project

Administrator Hile respectfully requested that the Commissioners approve the purchase of the detailed municipal ballistics equipment, to be funded through the law

enforcement component of the 2015 MEMA grant. Several bids were received, and EMA Director Sarah Bennett recommended the purchase of equipment as recommended by local municipal agencies, not to exceed a total of \$24,789.64 for the entire project.

Upon **motion** by Commissioner Hutton and second by Vice-chair Grose, the Commissioners **voted unanimously to authorize the purchase of municipal ballistics equipment, not to exceed the \$24,789.64**

3. 2018 Municipal Tax Warrant

Administrator Hile presented the County's 2018 Municipal Tax Assessment, which reflected the amounts included in the FY 2018-19 budget. Following Board approval, the individual warrants will be sent to the City/Towns on July 13<sup>th</sup>, with a September 1<sup>st</sup> due date and November 1<sup>st</sup> penalty date.

Upon **motion** by Vice-Chair Grose and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Commissioners **voted to approve the 2018 Municipal Tax Assessment.**

4. County Administrator's Report – Full report available for review upon request

Administrator Hile informed the Board that the IRS has responded to our appeal regarding compliance with the 2015 ACA filing and has recognized that the County is compliant and has removed any threat of fine or repercussion.

VI. Adjournment

Upon **motion** by Vice-Chair Grose and second by Commissioner Hutton, the Board voted by **unanimous acclamation to adjourn the meeting at 3:49 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Mary Kay Blatz, Assistant to the Administrator