

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
SEPTEMBER 27, 2012**

PRESENT: Commissioners William D. Shorey – Chairman, Amy R. Fowler and Betty I. Johnson. Also present was Deputy County Clerk Linda Kinney to make adjustments in 2013 budget numbers as needed and County Clerk Barbara L. Arseneau to take minutes.

Call to Order: Commissioner Shorey called the court session to order at 8:00 a.m.

2005 UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION:

Present with the Commissioners was Richard Kersbergen of the Waldo County Extension. R. Kersbergen reported a decrease in the budget request due to reduction in hours of one of the staff and also receiving grant funds, which assist with the budget. He also reported that the Facilities Manager's budget and the Facilities Manager being very responsive to the maintenance needs also keep the Extension budget down.

1065 REGISTRY OF DEEDS:

Present with the Commissioners was Register of Deeds Deloris Page. D. page requested that the current part-time clerk position have 10 hours a week added to it to make it a full-time position. She stated that she really needed this and would like to start the clerk at the two-year level as the person previous worked at the Registry full-time for about five years. If the Commissioners agreed to this change, the position would need to include benefits. The Commissioners said they would consider this request and make a decision at a later date.

1070 REGISTRY OF PROBATE:

Present with the Commissioners was Register of Probate Sharon Peavey. S. Peavey reported that the only real increase is the salaries. One reduction is in the microfilming line as the Registry is no longer microfilming because everything is digital now and IKON Document Management now handles this. She reported the need to increase the Advertising Line because this will be overdrawn this year. She noted that the Registry is reimbursed for this expense by charging fees. When asked what the line for Officer Fees was, S. Peavey explained that this increased because the Probate Court now need court security once each month.

EASTERN MAINE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

Present with the Commissioners were James Gillway and Jennifer Brooks of Eastern Maine Development Corporation.

J. Brooks reviewed transportation issues and EMDC is working on overcoming some of those barriers to transportation.

A. Fowler briefly inquired about the Maine Maritime project and J. Brooks explained that it was a joint project, but the students did most of the legwork.

B. Johnson asked if the Towns covered by Eastern Maine Development Corporation. J. Brooks explained that it covers from Belfast-northeast. B. Johnson asked for a list, noting that that the County is very divided between several organizations. J. Brooks responded that Waldo County is split by three, but

EMDC loan programs are county-wide along with another program. The comprehensive development strategy is when it becomes divided. J. Brooks provided a list of the towns.

When asked, J. Brooks responded that EMDC is very involved with Mobile Maine. EMDC's model is to ask for funds from the County to support all the towns in that region. They also receive planning dollars from the federal government, which need to be matched by the County's funds.

J. Gillway said Penobscot pays the "lions share" of funding at over \$50,000.00. Waldo County is on the "short end."

W. Shorey asked about other entities taking an interest in Searsport. J. Gillway said he had a meeting in DOT yesterday with a few companies; independent and nothing to do with the proposed LNG Tank, adding that this was related to the "hinter lands". He reported that the port is being closely reviewed for expansion. There is a bond issue to dredge the port area, which would add more material to the port area. Searsport has experienced quite a boom with development, like Belfast. The planning board listened to seven different proposals just this past month. This will potentially add as much as 20 to 30 jobs. None are related to the fuel industry.

W. Shorey expressed his view that if more jobs would be created in this area, Belfast and Searsport would need to take the lead. He believed that when there is a port and a railroad, there would have to be possibilities out there that would benefit the entire area.

J. Gillway said that when Searsport was asked whether or not they wanted to go with EMDC or MCEDD, Searsport felt that where it "fell-in" with EMDC and the connection with them was stronger. He noted that Searsport is the port to all of northern Maine. They believe they need to do everything they can to support that and strengthen ties.

B. Johnson said that some of the region is called "Mid Coast" and there is tourism, fishing, etc. that goes with that. She was still trying to understand why the divisions have come to be the way they are.

J. Brooks replied that the Economic Strategy Development is the only time there is a line drawn. The rest is county-wide. J. Gillway explained that KWRED and Chamber lines also played a big part in how things were divided. EMDC stays with the railroad because it is Searsport's "lifeblood" and because of the railroad, Belfast has done the same. J. Brooks explained that EMDC meets monthly with the other development districts to discuss working together.

WALDO COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERS:

Present with the Commissioners was Ed Murphy, head of the Transportation Program. He reported that WCAP had received \$180,000 in grant funds for new buses. WCAP also received grant funds to hire a Mobility Manager and to pay for rides for disabled and also \$33,000 in grant funding to upgrade things at the office such as financial software, to purchase an electronic time clock to save money, etc. These grants are for the Transportation Program. He further reported that WCAP received a \$24,000 grant to upgrade the computer system and \$5000.00 in grant funds to erect bus stop signs in Belfast.

When asked, E. Murphy reported that so far in 2012, 2,504,000 miles have been logged. WCAP has served 19,047 clients and made 112,034 trips so far, not including all of the month of September.

B. Johnson asked about town funding this and was told that Swanville was the only municipality that did not fund it, even though those citizens do utilize it. E. Murphy noted that some of the clients don't go to the town meetings because they get embarrassed by some of the folks who are not in favor of these services.

E. Murphy reported an increase in DHS funding, so hopefully WCAP will not lose as much money this year as they feared. Some of the office procedures will be simplified and hopefully one of the staff will apply for the Mobility Manager position, which is funded by a grant.

E. Murphy reported that WCAP partners with over 40 other agencies "to make things work."

The Commissioners thanked E. Murphy for all his hard work for the benefit of the Community.

1076 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER BUDGET:

Present with the Commissioners was Communications Center Owen Smith. O. Smith reported that there had been an error in his salary and the Commissioners said that they had already been informed and the corrected sheets had been provided to them by the Deputy County Clerk.

O. Smith said the "big guess" in his budget is over-time. It is difficult to help the Budget Committee to understand that this part of the budget is not easy to control. The recent changes in the union contract have improved this, but to the point that many of the employees are not happy about it. The Commissioners stated, and O. Smith agreed, that they are "not in the business" of creating over-time for the employees.

O. Smith reported that Tower Sites is still a big line item in the 2013 budget request. The owner of the tower site on Mt. Ephraim in Searsport recently expressed his belief and concern that the County has more equipment on the tower and in the building than it is paying for. O. Smith explained that this is not the case and that he will try to meet with the owner to discuss this further. In the event that the owner no longer wishes to rent this site to the County, O. Smith will be researching other potential sites.

When asked by A. Fowler what the issues are in Stockton Springs with pagers, he replied that pagers are "notoriously tough" and are not reliable. O. Smith sent the pagers out to have them reprogrammed for certain compliance and it was at that point that the problems started. He noted, however, that it is not a problem with the County's end. He further discussed tests that have been run on Aborn and Liberty. Aborn still works when the power goes out. Most of the pagers work, but one did not and the reason could not be determined. O. Smith stated that he tries hard to deal with the concerns the fire departments have, but he cannot get them to understand that there are some issues with the pagers because they are unreliable depending on where you are. He illustrated with a time when his pager went off, one of the former Commissioner's (who was also on Morrill Fire Dept) pager went off, the then-Fire Chief of Liberty's pager went off but the pager of one Liberty volunteer firefighter standing right next to him did not go off. He further illustrated with one volunteer's pager working at one end of his trailer, and not at the other end. He explained that if someone lives in a valley with hills all around, their pager will not go off. Pagers do not have external antennae. The recent mandates to go to narrow band will continue to cause further problems with weaker signals, etc. He illustrated as follows: if you take a 12" pipe and flow water through it and then try to flow the same amount of water at the same rate in a 2" pipe, the results are not the same. A. Fowler wondered why, if there are so many issues with pagers, they are not obsolete.

W. Shorey asked, regarding over-time, if the union contract includes two floater positions, why is it the County is currently only using one floater position? O. Smith said that the second floater position would allow the Dispatch Supervisors to do their jobs and also for QA work to get done. W. Shorey expressed concern that the second floater position had not been implemented. The Commissioners agreed that the County needed to implement cost savings and recommended that the second floater position be instituted sooner than the second half of the next budget year.

O. Smith reported that unplanned absences really affect the over-time line. He explained that in September, the over-time is not in much demand until the spring and summer months, when people are taking time off. He didn't believe over-time could be wiped out completely. He noted that the fall is the most popular time for employees to take leave.

It was otherwise noted that there are a number of dispatchers reaching longevity steps, so this also accounts for the increases in wages this coming year.

O. Smith listed expenditures in over-time for the last few years and submitted two sheets listing such to the County Commissioners.

W. Shorey recalled a discussion he had with the Budget Committee Chairman during the break at the Public Hearing last year to add back some of the funding that the Committee had cut with the understanding that the floater position would be implemented and that cost savings should result. He believed the Budget Committee would be favorable toward implementing a second floater position even if it might cost something to hire that position, knowing that the over-time would be reduced. O. Smith expressed concern that this may still not be acceptable to the Budget Committee.

A. Fowler discussed Training and Travel lines with O. Smith. O. Smith said he had created a new line for mileage related only to training, so that it would better reflect the costs related to training, explaining that this is "not a shell game – it is to better track what it costs to train people."

A. Fowler asked if the \$28,500.00 budgeted in the Tower Sites Operations line included 24-hour emergency service on the towers and O. Smith responded that there is about \$2,000.00 included for that. A. Fowler asked that this be spelled out for the Budget Committee.

There was discussion about some of the pay scales that were developed several years ago, including the Communication Center Director and a number of others that were developed with pay steps each year. Originally these pay scales were intended not to have COLA's added but the current board realized that without COLA's, those pay scales would fall behind. That being said, the Commissioners also felt that yearly pay steps along with COLA's would be too high of an increase and that these pay scales would need to be addressed soon.

O. Smith said he had no hang-up with the longevity bonus for his salary. He just asked that if he would receive a COLA and no pay step, that the Commissioners also make that same adjustment to other positions with the same pay scale structure in order to be fair across the board. The Commissioners agreed that other pay scales would need to be addressed at some point.

O. Smith said he had no problems with his pay and that he truly appreciated his job and the salary he earns. His concern was that when the pay scales changed to a new pay scale for certain departments, why the County did not go back to the standard pay scale that the majority of employees are currently still on.

O. Smith said the other salary that the Board of Directors was concerned about was an employee who was promoted from dispatcher to dispatch supervisor, plus that employee was reaching a longevity step.

O. Smith informed the Commissioners that the communications system has never, ever gone down completely in the eleven years that it has been running in the Center. He acknowledged that there are a few people who don't like the system. He firmly stated that the claim that there was communication service failure in Liberty was an absolute false statement and nobody has ever been put in danger due to flaws in the communications system.

O. Smith agreed to forego his longevity step for 2012 in order to keep the budget down, but asked again that the Commissioners address all those pay scales set up that way.

1030 FACILITIES MANAGEMENT BUDGET:

Present with the Commissioners was Facilities Manager Keith Nealley. K. Nealley reported that the salaries budgeted reflect the COLA at 3% increase for the Facilities Technician and himself. He noted that he was reaching a five-year increase, as well. A. Fowler inquired about whether or not the Technician's increase included a longevity increase as well and was told that it did.

K. Nealley reviewed the contractual services lines, starting with fuel, which he had estimated as best as possible. The Facilities Building was the former Sheriff's Office and he inquired about how much this building should be heated, reporting that the furnace has been off since April. After brief discussion with the Commissioners, he agreed to heat it at a minimal level to keep it from deteriorating while future planning for this building's purpose was being performed.

K. Nealley reported that the County is currently locked in at \$3.11 per gallon for fuel oil. He has removed from the budget the software costs because he has purchased that software. Instead, he had increased the budget for Training because he recently took a certification course through Efficiency Maine for heat/cooling-related building maintenance and would like the Facilities Technician to take this training also. The Commissioners commended K. Nealley for successfully completing this course.

K. Nealley submitted a spreadsheet he developed for the Facilities Budget history from 2006 to current. The Commissioners requested that this be included in the Budget binders for the Budget Committee.

K. Nealley mentioned that there is a slight increase in vehicle maintenance, which is simply to cover the likely increase in fuel costs.

He estimated the electricity budget as best he could for the former Sheriff's Office, now that there is less usage.

K. Nealley informed the Commissioners that the people who are cleaning at the Sheriff's Office and EMA are doing a wonderful job. The Sheriff did not wish to reduce cleaning from three days a week to two.

The EMA Director, however, did not mind reducing cleaning to one day a week because they do not have the same level of foot traffic. There was some discussion on cleaning costs and contracts.

K. Nealley reported that the condition of the carpeting in the Registry of Deeds is very worn and in need of replacement. Because the racks of books really cannot be moved, it had been recommended that carpet squares be used to replace the carpet.

He reported that lighting in the Superior Courthouse is an issue. The fluorescent lights are 8' and no longer are manufactured. He has received an estimate to retrofit with 4' lights. He felt it would be a good idea to paint the upper area while this work is being done.

K. Nealley recommended purchasing a battery-operated unit to permit better communication between the Sheriff's Secretaries and those who try to speak with them through the bulletproof glass.

K. Nealley has recommended that two speed bumps be installed near the Communications Center because traffic reportedly moves too fast in front of that building.

Off topic, A. Fowler commended K. Nealley for all the work he has done with and for the neighbor who owns property adjacent to the Reentry Center and how he had handled things with water near the neighbor's barn, etc. Now the barn has been backed into by cars. A. Fowler wondered why the flow of traffic might go in one direction only. K. Nealley mentioned that the deputies have to come in that way bring in arrestees. B. Arseneau explained that this might have to go before the City of Belfast because traffic flow had been an item of discussion during the planning for the new Public Safety Building. K. Nealley recommended putting up a few concrete barriers near that barn so that vehicles could not back into the barn but would be stopped by the barriers instead.

K. Nealley reported that Parking at the Extension Office needs to be addressed. There has been a complaint filed from someone who has had difficulties accessing that lower door.

1020 COMMISSIONERS TECHNOLOGY BUDGET:

Present with the Commissioners was Technology Consultant James Arseneau. He provided the following history: In 2006 the servers were installed in the County, allowing with the Spillman system to be purchased as a lease. The last payment was made. Coming into 2013, the County is now responsible for the maintenance fees. Also back in 2006, based on the recommendation of the Technology Committee back in the early 2000's, PCs were to be replaced every 3 to 4 years. Instead, it has been prolonged to every five years. The most recent refresh was scheduled for 2011 but at the wish of the Budget Committee, this was not funded. As a result, J. Arseneau reported a number of failures with computers and servers due to age. He explained that the servers are nearing "end of life," which means parts cannot be obtained any more.

J. Arseneau reviewed the budget proposals for line 7100. He noted that there was an error in the cost of the wireless data cards. Instead of the total being \$9,100.00 it should be \$9,900.00.

J. Arseneau discussed sound issues in the new EMA room. It is very difficult to hear with the current small system. To put in an adequate audio system, it would be about \$3,500.00 including labor. The Director has spoken with J. Arseneau about this to see what could be done. B. Johnson inquired about any

grant funds. When asked about the grants recently obtained, J. Arseneau explained that there are no competitive grant funds being offered this year the way they were before. The total in the 7100 has increased about \$5,000.00.

The 7101 Leases budget is the one with the highest increases. J. Arseneau explained that the Highway Safety Grant has been utilized for new laptops for the officers. This grant is no longer available. J. Arseneau had suggested a stop-gap measure involving switching faster machines to the Sergeants, but the Sheriff indicated that he was not in favor of this. B. Johnson believed that the County should address this properly.

Regarding servers, if the exchange server fails, J. Arseneau explained that the County would have to wait for a replacement before it could conduct business. A few years ago, the Budget Committee had inquired about redundancy. With the proposed lease, there would be a back-up system that runs simultaneously. He noted that many other counties already do that and Waldo County was behind on this.

J. Arseneau briefly discussed the new Spillman Server that is needed. He explained to the Commissioners that there should be another \$10,000.00 added to this budget.

W. Shorey expressed concern about the figure as compared with what had been proposed the previous year. J. Arseneau explained that the previous quote was now two years old. He acknowledged that it would be cheaper to buy it outright rather than lease it. To purchase would be about \$186,000.00 plus \$48,000.00 for laptops for the Sheriff's Office. To purchase the Spillman Server would be \$70,000.00 and the Windows Servers would be \$239,000.00. This is based on today's market value. If the County were to go to HP, they would negotiate a better deal but would not state what that deal would be without a commitment. Dell wouldn't even quote a price because the County would not commit to purchase within 30 days. Because some vendors have certain strengths and weaknesses, he recommended buying certain components from certain companies based on that information.

In Line 7102, maintenance will now be required for the Spillman system. Some will be offset by the Reentry Budget. If the new servers are in place, this cost would go away because it would be included in the new purchase. The same would be true with the Windows Servers.

A number of items would be covered for more than one year. B. Johnson wondered why these "knowns" weren't planned for and budgeted spread over several years. The Commissioners and J. Arseneau said that this was the original plan but the Commissioners have never been able to carry that out because of budget cuts each year.

J. Arseneau invited the Commissioners to contact him with any future questions they may have.

1010 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY BUDGET:

Present with the Commissioners was EMA Director Dale Rowley. D. Rowley explained that the largest change is to increase the Deputy EMA Director's hours by 2.5 hours weekly, which would increase her salary line. He himself has a longevity increase coming up.

When asked about Web Portal, he explained that this is for E-studio for various agencies to post information on. It is not open to the general public. When asked, D. Rowley said he could add the Commissioners to that.

D. Rowley explained the Tower Sites line. He has 3 repeaters on Aborn Hill tower. Since he has been spending money on these, he felt that the budget should reflect that.

He explained other minor changes to the budget and submitted a spreadsheet to the County Commissioners.

There was brief discussion on the EMA Jeep and the money this has actually save the County EMA.

There was brief discussion of the upcoming EMA Exercise on Lasell Island, with the premise being a plane crash. It will provide the ability to have a marine search and rescue.

D. Rowley reported that the 40' tower is being installed today. As this is completed, the 100' tower installation will start.

The Commissioners recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

1:00 p.m. Court Reconvened.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Present with the Commissioners was Treasurer David A. Parkman and Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell.

APPROPRIATIONS

D. Parkman reported that County expenditures could be 72% but, overall, is 69% expended. There are a few exceptions, including the Commissioners and Treasurer's budgets which are both 75% expended.

CORRECTIONS BUDGET

A. Fowler asked K. Trussell to inquire about the over-time line, which is 52% expended already. Another line of concern was the Lease Agreement line at 57% expended.

The County has used up the Tax Anticipation Note and will need to inquire about some sort of extension. The Treasurer moved some money temporarily so that invoices can be paid. That money will be reimbursed when the Towns pay the tax assessments. D. Parkman reported that three Towns, including the Town of Freedom, Unity and Waldo, have paid so far. D. Parkman anticipated that several more towns would be paid by early October.

A. Fowler asked for a report of what was received in revenue for Room and Board and exactly where it went.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to file Treasurer's Report. Unanimous.**

WARRANTS:

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 27, 2012 General Fund Accounts Payable warrant and September 27, 2012 Payroll in the amount of \$202,897.01. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 27, 2012 Capital, Active and Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$18,746.49. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 27, 2012 Reentry Accounts Payable warrant and September 27, 2012 Payroll in the amount of \$216,773.16. Unanimous.**

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to authorize payment of the September 27, 2012 MCRRC Restricted Reserve warrant in the amount of \$254.71. Unanimous.**

1025 TREASURER'S BUDGET:

This budget was presented by David A. Parkman. He mentioned that the only real increase was in salaries. The Deputy Treasurer's salary includes a 3% COLA along with the annual pay step increase according to her pay scale.

1090 AUDIT:

D. Parkman explained that this was increased due to the recent trend in needing an annual federal audit for grant funds expended in excess of \$500,000.00.

2000 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE INTEREST:

D. Parkman reported that this was increased because the County ran out of funds this year.

2011 AUDIT:

Present was Auditor Larry Campbell. L. Campbell apologized for the tardiness of the audit, explaining that his workload had been heavier than anticipated.

He reported that the records are in good shape, the staff does a good job recording and reporting the financial condition of the County, and the finances are in good shape. There is very little debt. He reported the staff as easy to work with.

He reminded the Commissioners that he had been present with the previous CPA to do a series of field tests. He reported that there had been a "phantom note" for \$170,000.00 at that time but was confirmed with the Deputy Treasurer not to actually be in existence. This adjustment has been made and now the County is that much better off this year.

Another thing that differed is that the previous auditor had treated the self-funded health insurance as a proprietary fund. L. Campbell considered this differently as a fiduciary account.

W. Shorey asked L. Campbell to explain the difference between restricted and unrestricted net assets. L. Campbell explained that restricted net assets cannot be used to reduce the tax assessment. Unrestricted net assets can be used to reduce taxation. W. Shorey wondered if this would have to be returned to reduce taxation. L. Campbell explained that he viewed the accounts as "all in the same bucket rather than

pigeon-holing them.” When asked whether there was still funds existing in the amount listed, L. Campbell explained that this report was a “snapshot – one day in time.” Things have changed since then.

W. Shorey asked how there could be such a large amount of money (\$170,000.00) that was incorrect. L. Campbell explained that it is a very difficult thing to gather all the separate county departments’ records together and suggested that, even if it all couldn’t be done on one accounting system, to compile them all together on one spreadsheet showing all the accounts. This would help the auditor to cut down on the searching work and would protect the County. For example, there were no records from the Probate Restitution – simply bank statements. Other records that would need to be put together would be from the Registry of Deeds and the District Attorney. There was discussion on the feasibility of this and what kind of workload it would put on the Treasurer’s Office. L. Campbell encouraged the Commissioners to put this into action as soon as possible and offered to assist in setting it up.

When asked, L. Campbell explained that the unpaid accrued absences had been deducted from the undesignated funds.

There was brief discussion that all public entities should discuss and plan so that they do not go into bankruptcy, as this is happening to municipalities all over the country.

L. Campbell reported that plenty of effort goes through reviewing and coding invoices throughout the departments in the County before the check is run. The big concern is having one spread sheet with all the information on it. He felt every month the net transactions should be recorded with the net balances and then every month there will be a net worth or net equity.

L. Campbell said he would send over unbound copies in the mail.

Later the Commissioners spoke at length with the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer regarding the 2011 report, the need to hire a new firm and to interview a firm to determine what the County needed or didn’t need to do with the accounts in terms of lumping them all together.

1020 COMMISSIONERS BUDGET:

The County Commissioners briefly reviewed this budget and decided to that there would be a need to work on reducing pay for the staff in some sort of fair manner. They briefly reviewed other aspects of the budget, including liability insurance, dues, etc.

1015 DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S BUDGET:

Present with the Commissioners was District Attorney Geoffrey Rushlau. G. Rushlau reported that the largest increase in the budget is related to the Personnel lines due to the recent signing of the union contract. There are no other major changes in the budget from the previous year.

TIME AND TIDE RC & D:

Present with the Commissioners was Vance Wells. He asked if a letter of request had been sent from Time and Tide RC&D and was told that the office had received nothing at this point. He explained that the request for 2013 was \$3,625.00. He briefly discussed the concept of community gardens utilizing unemployed people, which could cooperate with the County and the County Garden project, too, if needed. Time and Tide has given scholarships to each of the Maine School Gardens and has worked with

the Food for Schools Program. The first is for educational purposes and the second is more for food that is used for the schools. He explained the involvement with encouraging use of locally-grown food.

A. Fowler asked where the office is now located. V. Wells explained that it is located in the Somerset/Kennebec County Water Conservation District building.

V. Wells reported that the Maine Senators recently wrote a letter in support of Time and Tide RC&D, but there was very little press about this.

A. Fowler requested that V. Wells provide the Time and Tide office location and provide written request for information for the Budget binders. She further noted that Time & Tide has not invoiced the County for the 2012 allocation and recommended that they do so soon.

1020 COMMISSIONERS BUDGET CONTINUED:

The Commissioners inquired about the increase in the Safety/Department Head line request. B. Arseneau and M. Wadsworth explained that this was a one time request to furnish three (3) more AED units to the buildings that don't currently have one, including the courthouses and the Communications Center. The Commissioners recommended reducing the Safety/Department Head line back to \$500.00 and to fund these purchases as follows: up to two (3) AED Units from Courthouses Reserve and (1) Unit from the Health Insurance line.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to purchase up to three AED Units from the Courthouses Reserve and one unit from Health Insurance Line.**

2025 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BUDGET:

The Commissioners recommended reducing the MainePERS Group Life to \$13,400.00 as they would prefer to reduce the amount paid for retirees, if that is possible. M. Wadsworth is continuing to request information regarding this and will report back as soon as she can obtain information from MainePers.

There will be more discussion on the budgets presented to the Commissioners during the special court session scheduled the next day on September 28, 2012.

BALLOT COUNT FOR 2013 BUDGET COMMITTEE:

B. Arseneau reported the voting results for the Waldo County Budget Committee FY 2013 as follows:

District 1: Three (3) votes for David Barrows of Lincolnville.

District 2: Six (6) votes for Richard Desmarais from Searsport.

District 3: Eleven (11) votes for James Bennett of Thorndike and one (1) vote for C. Ronald Price.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to accept David Barrows, Richard Desmarais and James Bennett as members of the Waldo County Budget Committee. Unanimous.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Present with the County Commissioners to discuss correspondence was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau.

1. Sheriff Scott Story sent a memo informing the Commissioners that part-time Corrections Officer Jeb Fay has resigned his position at the Waldo County Correctional Center effective September 15, 2012. ****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to accept with regret the resignation of Corrections Officer Jeb Fay effective September 15, 2012. Unanimous.**

2. Dispatcher Supervisor Melissa Bisson will reach the fifth year step and will receive a pay increase from \$20.01 to \$21.65 per hour effective October 12, 2012. She will also be eligible for an additional 24 hours of vacation leave. The Commissioners noted this step increase.

3. Victim/Witness Advocate Kathleen Butler successfully completed the six-month probationary period on August 4, 2012. The Commissioners noted this.

4. Communications Director Owen Smith submitted to the Commissioners a copy of a letter sent to Hancock County opting not to take on providing Emergency Communications services for that County as requested. He thanked Hancock County for the opportunity but stated, "We are deeply rooted in the philosophy that at this point in time, County Regional Communications Centers/911 PSAPS should remain as County entities and should use whatever means available to strengthen our positions as such in the immediate and foreseeable future."

5. ICMA-RC sent information on updated funds for the Waldo County 457 Deferred Compensation Plan.

****B. Johnson moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by *Barbara L. Arseneau*
Waldo County Clerk