

KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION



Special Meeting

Tuesday – August 16, 2005 – 8:30 a.m.

A special meeting of the Knox County Commission was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2005 at 8:30 a.m., at the county courthouse, 62 Union Street, Rockland, Commissioner Johnson being the chair and the county clerk present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Chair A. Mason Johnson, Jr. - Commissioner District #2

Anne Beebe-Center - Commissioner District #1

Lawrence F. Nash - Commissioner District #3

Special Meeting – Agenda	
Tuesday – August 16, 2005 – 8:30 a.m.	
8:30	Meeting Called To Order
8:30	TAX ABATEMENT APPEAL HEARING REQUESTED ? Kempner v. Town of Vinalhaven
	AIRPORT MAINTENANCE ? Vote to Authorize Chair to Sign State Agreements for Projects 17, 18, and 19
	SHERIFF'S PATROL ? Clarify Vote to Grant S. Witham North Haven Deputy Position
8:40	PERSONNEL MATTER – Executive Session pursuant to 1MRSA § 405 (6) (A) ? Employment Contract Negotiations w/ J. Desaulniers
9:30	ADJOURNMENT

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Johnson called the August 16, 2005 special meeting of the commission to order at approximately 8:30 a.m.

TAX ABATEMENT APPEAL HEARING DISMISSED

Kempner v. Town of Vinalhaven

It was noted county commissioners had conferred with legal counsel concerning the tax abatement appeal request filed with the county on behalf of Paige Kempner. The Vinalhaven assessor had apparently granted Ms. Kempner additional time to appeal to the county the town's tax abatement decision. The additional time granted was clearly outside the realm of the town's authority once a decision had been made.

Motion and Vote

- ❖ Commissioner Nash motioned, seconded by Commissioner Beebe-Center, to dismiss the tax abatement appeal of Paige Kempner for Vinalhaven property, because the appeal time was past. Voted – All in favor.

AIRPORT MAINTENANCE

State Aid Agreements Authorized to be Signed

Motion and Vote

- ❖ Commissioner Nash motioned, seconded by Commissioner Beebe-Center, to authorize the chair to sign state aid agreements for projects 17, 18, and 19 as they were issued. Voted – All in favor.

The county clerk noted the agreement for the improvements to the taxiway and Part139 was already available for signature.

Penobscot Island Air –non-agenda item

In another airport matter Commissioner Beebe-Center remarked she did not remember authorizing the construction of two buildings at the airport, supposedly built for use by Penobscot Island Air that she had seen.

V. Lindsey noted at the six-month mark of the agreement with the county, if PIA continued to conduct business from airport facilities, PIA would be required to lease a minimum of one-quarter acre of land and to provide at least 2,000 square feet of covered space adequate for aircraft hangaring, office, and customer space as well as a cargo handling area within the first year of operation, unless an alternate timeline was agreed to by both parties.

Commissioner Beebe-Center suggested the buildings she had seen appeared to be "shacks", and she was not aware the board had given permission for them to be built.

Chair Johnson suggested the commission needed to talk to the airport manager about this matter.

Commissioner Beebe-Center suggested the airport manager might have let this matter get ahead of him; he might not have realized the commission would have to give the go ahead.

SHERIFF'S PATROL

Clarification of Vote Taken August 9 RE: North Haven Deputy Position

The county clerk advised the commission that former Deputy Sean Witham had not worked part-time for the county since his resignation on May 7, 2005, as the chief deputy had lead the board to believe. Therefore, she suggested the commission could vote to re-hire Mr. Witham, as his employment with the county had ceased not that many months ago, but that the vote should be to re-hire.

Motion and Vote

- ❖ Commissioner Beebe-Center motioned, that for the record the commission's vote was to "re-hire" Sean Witham to take the position of North Haven Deputy. Seconded by Chair Johnson. Voted – All in favor.

PERSONNEL MATTER

Employment Agreement Negotiations w/ Jane Desaulniers

Executive Session

Motion and Vote

- ❖ Commissioner Beebe-Center motioned, seconded by Commissioner Nash, to go into executive session for employment contract negotiations with Jane Desaulniers for the county administrator position, pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A). Voted – All in favor.

Executive Session Concluded

The commission came out of executive session at approximately 9:24 a.m. Ms. Desaulniers and the commission had tentatively reached an agreement; the salary was set at \$68,000, but Ms. Desaulniers start date was uncertain with the County due to obligations with her current employer.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The August 16, 2005 special meeting of the Knox County Commission concluded at approximately 9:25 a.m.

Attest: _____

Virginia B. Lindsey
County Clerk