



Thursday, March 9, 2017  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
10:00 A.M.

### **MEETING MINUTES**

1. **Welcome and Introductions by Gail Chase, President MCDA 2015-2017:** Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. Present were:

Gail Chase, MCDA President	Kennebec Valley Council of Government
Stephen Dyer, MCDA Vice President	Ransom Consulting, Inc.
Mathew Eddy, MCDA Treasurer	Town of Kennebunk
Tony Levesque, MCDA Member	Town of Fort Fairfield
Joella R. Theriault, MCDA Secretary	Northern Maine Development Commission
Suzie Paradis, MCDA Board Member	Town of Madawaska
Tom Martin, MCDA Member	Hancock County Planning Commission
Nancy Ketch, MCDA Member	Town of Houlton
Scott Laflamme, MCDA Board Member	City of Bath
Rodney Lynch, MCDA Member	Town of Thomaston
Jen Peters, MCDA Member	Sunrise County Economic Council

2. **Changes and/or Additions to the Agenda:** No Changes/Additions
3. **Approval of December 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Moved by T. Levesque to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by N. Ketch G. Chase asked for any nays – there were none; any abstentions – there were none; Motion passed.
4. **Treasurer's Report and Financials:** There was some discussion about the negative revenue of \$1,850. It was explained that this is the method of accounting utilized by MMA. There was no motion for acceptance of the report at this time.
5. **Progress on Website:** S. Laflamme has been working with MMA to update the website. He has submitted several screenshot templates that could be used for the website. Once a screenshot has been chosen, the update should be completed fairly quickly. S. Laflamme and J. Theriault will work on contents for the website.

**6. Subcommittees:**

**a. Membership:** Acting Chairman, T. Levesque reported that we currently have 41 members. He also identified those communities that have not yet renewed. MCDA members will reach out to those communities to seek out their interests.

**b. Professional Development:** S. Dyer reported that the Professional Development Committee is moving forward with a June workshop. They will convene a conference call next Thursday to discuss the topics of interest for this workshop to be held in early June. The committee is proposing a mid-morning session, followed by a luncheon, and two 1-hour sessions in the afternoon. Topics of interests included brownfields/housing; drinking water; lead testing; Northern Border Regional Commission; National Development Council; and Efficiency Maine.

**c. Communication/Newsletter:** J. Theriault suggested that once the MCDA website is updated, the funding opportunities, jobs available, and upcoming events will be placed on the website as they occur. Too often, deadlines have passed by the time the quarterly newsletter is completed. The quarterly newsletter will be limited to on-going projects, news articles, and other informational articles.

**7. Remarks by Deborah Johnson, Director, Office of Community Development at**

**DECD:** The President's Preliminary 2018 budget eliminates the CDBG and HOME Programs. D. Johnson stressed that this is a critical time for MCDA to reach out to the U.S. Congressional Delegation regarding the importance of these programs. Sen. Collins is the Chair of the Appropriations Committee, so MCDA and individual communities as well should send their "bricks and mortar" projects to Congress and emphasize the impact that CDBG has had on their community. T. Levesque proposed that the week of April 17 is CDBG week and that communities should sign resolutions recognizing the importance of this program. He will send out a copy of Fort Fairfield's resolution.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** The next general membership meeting is scheduled for the June workshop. Date and time to be determined.

**9. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Sincerely,

Joella R. Theriault  
MCDA Secretary