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Governor LePage's Proposed Biennial Budget for 2016-2017

The following highlights tax relief, welfare, education and public safety changes proposed in the Governor's two-year budget plan.

Modernizing Maine's Tax Code

- Reduce the top individual income tax rate from 7.95% to 5.75%
- Reduce top corporate income tax rate from 8.93% to 6.75%
- Cut taxes on all pensions and eliminate tax on military pensions
- Elimination of the estate tax

Welfare Reform

- Prioritize the elderly and support nursing homes
- Increase access to primary care and preventive services.

Educating and Attracting Young People to Maine

- Provide additional funding to the University of Maine System to keep a quality education affordable
- Infrastructure improvements of our public campuses
- Increase funding to FAME, making college more affordable.

Public Safety

- Increased funding for 7 new agents in the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency.
- Creation of 4 new assistant attorney general positions to focus exclusively on drug crimes
- Adding 22 additional assistant district attorney positions in Maine's counties.
- Provide additional resources for 4 new district court judge positions.

Of greatest importance to municipalities throughout Maine however is the proposal to repeal the municipal revenue sharing program and the elimination of the Homestead property tax exemption for households 65 years of age and under. Public hearings are being held February 18 and 19 to provide municipal officials the opportunity to explain to lawmakers the impact these changes would have on property taxes and the taxpayers.

MCDA Annual Dinner Report

Sandy Blitz -2014 MCDA Annual Meeting Guest Speaker

Sanford Blitz, Co-Chair of the Northern Border Regional Commission was the 2014 MCDA Annual Meeting Guest Speaker. The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) was authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. This was a 5-year authorization designed to help address the community and economic development needs of the most severely distressed portions of the Northeastern United States. The Commission was reauthorized in 2013 for another 5 years. It is important to note that while the Commission has been reauthorized for another 5 years it has not necessarily received funding.

The NBRC covers 36 counties in four states. In Maine, 12 of the 16 counties are covered under NBRC. The Board of Directors is made up of Sandy and the four (4) governors of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York. NBRC is a federal-state regional commission and as such is funded 50% through the federal government and 50% through the four states.

Applications for funding are based on four economic distress factors – transportation and basic infrastructure, job skills training and entrepreneurial development, advanced technologies and telecommunications, sustainable energy solutions – and a 5th was added (workforce development) this past year.

Project Requirements:

- The Commission must allocate at least 40% of its project funding to develop transportation infrastructure, basic public infrastructure or telecommunications infrastructure. The Commission may also invest in projects related to job skills training and employment-related education; basic healthcare and other public services; promotion of resource conservation, tourism, recreation and open space preservation; and the development of renewable and alternative energy sources.
- The Commission may not contribute more than 50% of a project's cost. However, this share may rise to 80% in a distressed county or area; or 60% for regional projects involving the participation of three or more counties or more than one state; or 90% for regional projects in distressed areas.
- Similar to the CDBG program, the NBRC can also match other federal programs.

Project and Grant Certification and Approval:

- Legislation drafted requires that the economic development districts process applications, which are then reviewed by the State. The economic development districts submit copies of all applications to Sandy at the same time that they are sent to the state. Sandy reads each application to assure eligibility.
- States score the applications in accordance with their priorities. The Governor of each state then sends a letter to Sandy listing the order of priorities.



Figure 1-Sanford Blitz, Co-Chair Northern Border Regional

Regional Commission: There are seven (7) regional commissions in existence.

- Appalachian Regional Commission was the first commission authorized by an Act of Congress in 1965. They cover 13 states (All of West Virginia, and Parts of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia).
- Delta Regional Commission was authorized in 1998 and covers 8 states – Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, and Tennessee.
- The Denali Regional Commission covers the entire State of Alaska.
- The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) was created at the same time as the Southwest Border Regional Commission and Southeast Crescent Regional Commission. All were created in 2008.
- Southwest Border Regional Commission covers the states of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas.
- Southeast Crescent Regional Commission covers Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Michigan, and Florida.
- The Northern Plains Regional Commission was created in 1998 and covers North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Minnesota.

Funding Opportunities

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

On October 9, 2014, the Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) Office of Community Development (OCD) made available the 2015 State of Maine Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Statement. The program statement describes the method by which 2015 CDBG program funds will be distributed. The method of distribution is as follows:

Program	Letter of Intent Due Date	Application Due Date	Budget
FY 2015 CDBG Budget			\$10,581,799
Administration			\$311,635
Technical Assistance Administration			\$105,817
Regional Council Planning Assistance			\$114,347
Community Development Programs			
Downtown Revitalization Grants	January 30, 2015	April 17, 2015	\$400,000
Home Repair Network Program			\$1,700,000
Housing Assistance Grants	March 13, 2015	May 1, 2015	\$1,000,000
Maine Downtown Center Assistance			\$100,000
Public Facilities Grants	January 16, 2015	TBD	\$0
Public Infrastructure Grants	January 16, 2015	March 6, 2015	\$2,700,000
Special Projects	N/A	TBD	\$0
Urgent Need Grants	N/A	TBD	\$0
Workforce Development Grants	1 st Friday of January & February 1 st Friday of March & April 1 st Friday of May & June 1 st Friday of July & August	March 28, 2015 May 29, 2015 July 31, 2015 September 25, 2015	\$750,000
Economic Development Programs			
Business Assistance Grants	1 st Friday of January, February & March 1 st Friday of May, June & July 1 st Friday of August, September & October	April 24, 2015 July 31, 2015 November 20, 2015	\$2,700,000
Micro Enterprise Assistance Grants	1 st Friday of January and February 1 st Friday of March and April 1 st Friday of May and June 1 st Friday of July and August	March 28, 2015 May 29, 2015 July 31, 2015 September 25, 2015	\$700,000

Technical Assistance Providers

Organization	Name	Address	City, State	Phone	Fax	E-Mail	Web Site
AVCOG	Amy Landry	125 Manley Road	Auburn 04210	783-9186	783-5211	alandry@avcog.org	www.avcog.org
EMDC	Tyler Collins	40 Harlow Street	Bangor 04401	942-6389	942-3548	tcollins@emdc.org	www.emdc.org
HCPC	Thomas Martin	395 State Street	Ellsworth 04605	667-7131	667-2099	tmartin@hpcme.org	www.hpcme.org
KVCOG	Gail Chase	17 Main Street	Fairfield 04937	453-4258	453-4264	gchase@kvcog.org	www.kvcog.org
LCRPC	Mary Ellen Barnes	P.O. Box 268	Wiscasset 04578	882-7552 ext. 5188	882-7308	mwb@ceimaine.org	www.ceimaine.org
MCEDD	Jeff Kobrock	7 Park Street	Bath 04530	443-5790	443-8675	jkobrock@mceddme.org	www.midcoastcog.org
NMDC	Joella Theriault	11 West Main St, Suite 104	Fort Kent 04743	543-1802	493-3108	jtheriault@nmde.org	www.nmde.org
PCEDC	Ken Woodbury	50 Mayo Street	Dover-Foxcroft	564-3638	564-2251	kwoodbury@pcedc.org	www.pcedc.org
SMRPC	Chuck Morgan	21 Bradeen Street, Suite 304	Springvale 04083	324-2952	324-2958	cmorgan@smrpc.org	www.smrpc.maine.org
WCCG	Judith C. East	11 Church Street	Calais 04619	454-0465	454-2568	jceast@wccog.net	www.wccog.net

For more information on the CDBG Program, visit www.meocd.org

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption and has two types of funding assistance: 1) Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Assistance and 2) Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants. The Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Assistance provides grants and guaranteed loans to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements to their operations. The Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grant is available to a unit of State, Tribal, or local government, institution of higher education; rural electric cooperative, a public power entity, or a council. The recipient of the grant funds must establish a program to assist agricultural producers and rural small businesses with evaluating the energy efficiency and the potential to incorporate renewable energy technologies into their operations.

Application	Application Window Opening Dates	Application Window Closing Dates
Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Grants (Over \$20,000 and Combinations)	July 8, 2014	April 30, 2015
Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Grants (\$20,000 or less and not competing for set aside funds)	May 1, 2015	June 30, 2015
Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Grants (\$20,000 or less and competing for set aside funds)	July 8, 2014	April 30, 2015
Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans	August 1, 2014	Continuous application cycle
Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants	December 29, 2014	February 12, 2015

For more information, contact Brian Wilson, Energy Coordinator for USDA Rural Development in Maine at brian.wilson@me.usda.gov.

Revolving Fund Program

10.864 – Grant Program to Establish a Fund for Financing Water and Wastewater Projects

The Revolving Fund Program (RFP) has been established to assist communities with water or wastewater systems. Qualified private, non-profit organizations, who are selected for funding, will receive RFP grant funds to establish a lending program for eligible entities. Eligible entities for the revolving loan fund will be the same entities eligible to obtain a loan, loan guarantee, or grant from the Water and Waste Disposal loan and grant programs administered by RUS, under 7 U.S.C.1926(a)(1) and (2). As grant recipients, the non-profit organizations will set up a revolving loan fund to provide loans to finance predevelopment costs of water or wastewater projects, or short-term small capital projects not part of the regular operation and maintenance of current water and wastewater systems. The amount of financing to an eligible entity shall not exceed \$100,000.00 and shall be repaid in a term not to exceed 10 years. The rate shall be determined in the approved grant work plan. See more at www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services.

Jobs & Classifieds

Piscataquis County Economic Development Council Economic Development Executive Director

Energetic and visionary individual sought to lead rural economic development efforts in Piscataquis County. This full time, salaried position will be offered to the candidate who offers the skills, talents and excitement for rural development including outstanding written, communication and "people skills", financial management, grant development expertise, and the ability to be flexible, creative and responsive to diverse needs. This position works under the direction of an Executive Committee and reports directly to the officers. Submit resume, writing sample and three references along with a letter of interest no later than January 23, 2015 to PCEDCrecruit@gmail.com. Candidate should be prepared to start in this position no later than March 1st.

Town of Fort Fairfield Fire/EMS/EA Chief

The Town of Fort Fairfield is seeking a Fire Chief/EMS/EMA Director. This is an extraordinary career opportunity to lead and help chart the future of a highly respected fire department that provides Fire/EMS/EMA services for a community of 3,500 residents. The Fire Chief administers the departments' operating budget, manages a 25 to 30 volunteer fire department, coordinates ambulance services with Crown Ambulance and coordinates and provides emergency management expertise to the community. A minimum of five years of previous management-level experience in a similar size volunteer fire department is preferred for this paid full time position. To apply submit cover letter and resume by January 26, 2015 to: Michael Bosse, Town Manager, 18 Community Center Drive, Fort Fairfield, Maine 04742

Town of Portsmouth, New Hampshire Community Development Coordinator

A candidate for this position should have a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban Planning, Public Administration, or Community and Economic Development, and a minimum of three years of experience in community development, economic development, housing, and/or grants management; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience with CDBG Administration, Consolidated Annual performance Evaluation Report and a Consolidated Plan, Integrated Disbursement Information System (IDIS) preferred. Send resumes to Human Resources Department, 1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

City of Sanford Director of Planning and Development

The City of Sanford is seeking a highly qualified candidate to fulfill the position of Director of Planning and Development. This newly created management position

is the result of further refinement to achieve the City's overall objectives for land use planning, continued employment of a Land Stewardship Program, comprehensive planning, and a streamlined position friendly land use application process. The deadline for applications is Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. Contact the City of Sanford for a full job description.

County of Hancock Deputy Director/Planner – Emergency Management Agency

The County of Hancock is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Deputy Director/Planner of the Hancock County Emergency Management Agency. Candidates should possess strong communication skills, extensive experience in emergency management operations and principles, technology-based communications and emergency risk assessment and planning. This position requires interaction with multiple agencies, experience in public relations, applicable technology skills, employee and volunteer supervision and successful background screening. The successful candidate will possess a BS, BA, or Masters Degree from an accredited institution or comparable professional experience. This is a full-time, salaried position with benefits. A resume, cover letter, salary history and minimum of three recent employment resources must be received in the commissioner's office located at 50 State Street, Suite 7, Ellsworth, ME 04605 by February 27, 2015.

Town of Frenchville Town Manager

The Town of Frenchville is currently accepting applications for the position of Town Manager. The Town Manager provides direction and leadership for the successful administration and operations of all municipal services for the town. As directed by the five-member Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager serves as the focal point for the management of the Town's departments. Work involves strategic planning, problem-solving and organizing with the authority to make decisions as well as delegate to others. The successful candidate should have a strong background in financial management, accounting, business administration, and public relations. Municipal government experience with TRIO software, MOSES, and motor vehicle registrations is preferred, but candidates with differing work experience and training are encouraged to apply. A detailed job description is available at the town office upon request. Salary is commensurate with experience. A Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, Business Administration, or a minimum of three years of demonstrated relevant work experience in executive management is required. Send cover letter, resume, and three professional references to: Frenchville Town Manager Search by Friday, February 27, 2015.

Upcoming Events

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF PLANNERS

The Community Institute presents:

SESSION 2 – MULTI-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITIES, AGING IN PLACE - February 27 and 28, 2015 Damariscotta, Maine

SESSION 3 – DOWNTOWN AND LOCALLY-OWNED BUSINESSES - April 1, 2015 Midcoast Maine Location, TBA

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH ECOLOGICAL DESIGN: PERMACULTURE FOR PLANNERS, ARCHITECTS, AND DESIGN PROFESSIONALS - April 3, 2015 Portland, Maine

For More Information, go to www.meplan.org/events

MAINE DOWNTOWN CENTER

PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE CREDIT - March 25, 2015 Lewiston, Maine

www.mdf.org/events to register and more information.

GREATER PORTLAND COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS & DICARA TRAINING AND CONSULTING

CREDIT ANALYSIS AND BUSINESS FINANCING - March 11 and 12, 2015

Greater Portland Council of Governments
970 Baxter Boulevard
Portland, ME

To register: vdicara@dicaratc.com

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

2015 MUNICIPAL H.R. CONFERENCE - June 16, 2015 Thomas College
Waterville, ME

The 1st Annual Municipal HR Conference – Ever-tightening municipal budgets in Maine are creating increased challenges for municipal elected officials, managers, human resource directors, supervisors and department heads. As a result, municipalities are now more concerned than ever about uses of technology in the workplace, health-care and other employee benefits, initiatives aimed at reducing costs and services, optimizing employee performance and following all of the assorted laws that go along with these topics. This timely conference is designed to be a “one-stop shop” – one day, very well-spent, concentrating on HR-related topics.

Contact Jaime Clark at: jclark@memun.org or 207-623-8428, ext. 2298

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

GRANT WRITING AND FUNDING - April 9, 2015 and October 22, 2015 Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME

Municipal Officials, Grant Writers, Economic Development Professionals, and Non-profits should attend. This workshop covers the basics of State and Federal Grant programs as to eligibility, funding, allowable projects, criteria, and success stories of previously funded projects. You'll hear about fundraising, match requirements, and what to do to make your application stand out, to increase your chances for success.

LIST OF LR DOCUMENTS

LR – LEGISLATIVE REQUEST NUMBER, ASSIGNED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES WHEN A REQUEST FOR A BILL IS MADE. LR NUMBERS ARE USED TO TRACK A BILL UNTIL IT IS PRINTED AS A LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENT .

The first regular session of the 127th Maine Legislature convened on December 3, 2014 and ends on March 31, 2015. In this first session, nearly 1700 bills were filed with 150 either voided or withdrawn. The remaining 1540 will go to work session and public hearings. The following is a list of community and economic development bills that may be of interest:

L.R. 49 – An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Help Small Businesses

L.R. 797 - An Act to Help Older Adults Age in Place Through Comprehensive Planning

L.R. 18 - Resolve, to Establish the Commission on Maine's Economic Future

L.R. 772 - An Act to Spur Economic Growth in Washington County

L.R. 1259 -An Act to Ensure Economic Stability in Washington County

L.R. 405 - An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Attract Business by Investing in High-Speed Broadband Infrastructure

L.R. 39 – An Act to Encourage the Redevelopment of Upper Floors of Buildings in Downtowns and on Maine Street

L.R. 1578 – An Act to Strengthen the Economy and Create Jobs

L.R. 1112 – An Act to Establish a 16-County Job Training Strategy in the State

L.R. 21 – An Act to Promote Tourism and Foster Economic Development

L.R. – An Act to Enhance Rural Economic Development

A COMPLETE LIST OF LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTP://LEGISLATURE.MAINE.GOV](http://LEGISLATURE.MAINE.GOV)



Governor LePage Nominated Brian Whitney to lead the Maine Technology Institute. Brian Whitney, Director of Business Development and Innovation for the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development has been serving as Acting Director of MTI since August, 2014. As Director of Business Development & Innovation, Brian Whitney manages the Governor's Account Executives – Maine's team of knowledgeable and professional economic development liaisons whose primary responsibility is to work one-on-one with businesses to help them succeed and grow. He previously worked as the Director of Outreach and Economic Development for U.S. Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R-Maine), as a Business Development Specialist at the Maine Department of Economic & Community Development, and as Chief of Staff to Maine's Senate President during the historic power-sharing arrangement in 2002. Whitney serves on the boards of the Maine Venture Fund, Maine Economic Growth Council, Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board, State Workforce Investment Board, and the Economic Development Council of Maine.

The Maine Technology Institute (MTI) is an industry-led, publicly-funded, nonprofit corporation that offers financing assistance for research, development and application of technologies that create new products, processes and services. MTI was established by the Maine State Legislature in 1999. Since 2000, MTI has funded 1,295 technology projects in Maine, a financial commitment of \$106 million that has leveraged over \$173 million in additional funding.

Date	
March 3, 2015	TechStart Grant Deadline for Applications
March 4, 2015	MTI SBIR/STTR Workshop (Orono)
March 17, 2015	TechStart & Seed Grant Webinar
March 23, 2015	CIP Implementation Proposal Deadline
March 26, 2015	MTI SBIR/STTR Workshop (Portland)

For More information on MTI; www.mainetechnology.org

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

Town of Madison

Madison Paper Industries laid off a number of employees during a two-week period in January, 2015 citing competition from a Canadian mill and rising energy costs. The Madison mill produces supercalendered paper used for magazines and advertisements and employs about 220 people.

The Canadian mill produces the same type of paper and receives subsidies from the Canadian government resulting in a much lower cost structure to operate the mill. U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King have raised concerns with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative regarding unfair subsidies and plan to continue to fight against unfair trade practices that affect employment in Maine.

Madison Paper Industries makes up about 40% of the town's tax base. A recent decrease of the mill's value from \$229.7 million to \$80 million compounds the financial burden of residents in the community.



Success Stories from Sunrise County Economic Council:

- ❖ SCEC and County Government formed the Unorganized Territories Tax Increment Financing (UT TIF) program and assisted over a dozen businesses with almost \$150,000 in grants and over \$330,000 in loans.
- ❖ Launched the Sunrise Food Infrastructure Initiative through micro loan and grant programs investing over \$250,000 in local farms during 2014.
- ❖ The Washington County Education Initiative was created to assist Washington County in building an educated workforce.
- ❖ SCEC is helping to strengthen Adult Education by working with the Town of Machias on a \$100,000 CDBG grant for Workforce Development.
- ❖ The Eaton Foundation and Boston Foundation made possible scholarships of \$500 for low-to-moderate income residents of Washington County who will be attending a training and/or certification program that will increase their opportunities for employment



In an effort to reinvigorate the town's Chamber of Commerce, membership in the Fort Fairfield Chamber of Commerce is FREE for any resident or business in the community in 2015. Active membership helps businesses grow while making positive impact on the community. For more information, contact Executive Director, Tim Goff at 472-3802 or email tgoff@fortfairfield.org.

ABOUT MCDA

MCDA's Purpose

TO PROVIDE FORUMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND FOSTER COMMUNICATION RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS, AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THROUGH WORKSHOPS.

MCDA Meetings

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION TAKES PLACE AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION. FOUR (4) REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HELD ANNUALLY THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR MAJORITY OF OFFICERS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

MCDA Newsletters

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLES OF SPECIAL INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

Benefits to Becoming a Member. . .

MCDA Funding Directory

Training and Workshops

Legislative Advocacy

Affiliation with Other Agencies and Organizations

Links to Funding and Business Agencies

MCDA's ability to network with multiple partners

Who's Invited to Join????

ANY PERSON, MUNICIPALITY, OR FIRM EMPLOYED BY OR INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC AND/OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMPOSITION OF MCDA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OFFERS NEW MEMBERS AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES. THE TENURE AND EXPERIENCE OF THIS ASSOCIATION CAN PROVIDE NEW MEMBERS WITH A MULTIPLE RESOURCE BASE ON A VARIETY OF PROPOSED PROJECTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY. I AM/AM NOT INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

- ✓ ADVOCACY
- ✓ COMMUNICATIONS
- ✓ FINANCE
- ✓ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ MEMBERSHIP
- ✓ OFFICER/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DID YOU KNOW!!!

MCDA currently has a membership of 51 members consisting of municipalities, individuals, firms and state representatives from throughout the State of Maine. Becoming an MCDA member offers numerous benefits, such as training and workshops, legislative advocacy, affiliation with other agencies and organizations, links to funding and business agencies, and ability to network with multiple partners. The Quarterly Newsletter provides informational materials on funding opportunities, job openings, community and economic development articles, and upcoming events. MCDA urges each municipality to become a member of the organization. MCDA is an affiliate group of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) and as such enjoys the same status regarding lobbying. MCDA's Advocacy Role is to weigh in on proposed legislation and policies that impact community development in Maine.

MCDA also works closely with the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). DECD's Office of Community Development works collaboratively with MCDA to review proposed changes and garner support for the CDBG Program. This is a time for the MCDA membership to provide feedback in the CDBG Program. As the federal budget continues to decrease, it is necessary for communities to seek funding from sources other than the CDBG program. Networking with MCDA's experienced members provides a source for connection to other funding sources and/or available financial resources.

This organization is the "voice" of community development policy making in Maine. Please join and make your 'voice' count!

Visit our website at www.maineecda.org for a membership application or contact any member of the Board of Directors.



Thursday, March 12, 2015
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP TELECONFERENCE MEETING
10:00 A.M.
Telephone Number: 1-877-455-0244
Pass Code: 7366898144#

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions by Darryl Sterling, President MCDA 2013-2015
2. Approval of January 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report and Financials
4. Subcommittee Reports:
 - i. Membership
 - ii. Professional Development
 - iii. Communications/Newsletter
5. Remarks by DECD/OCD Staff on the CDBG Program
6. Next Meeting Date
7. Adjourn

Meetings are held the second Thursday of every other month. In the event, the second Thursday falls on a holiday, the meeting will be held on the next business day.

Maine Community Development Association

Local Government Center
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330-9486

(207) 623-8428 or
1-800-452-8786

www.maineecda.org

MCDA Subcommittee

Members:

Advocacy

Vacant (Chair)
Tony Levesque
Amy Bernard

Communications

Joella Theriault (Chair)
Tony Levesque
Amy Bernard

Finance

Mathew Eddy (Chair)
Executive Committee

Professional Development

Gail Chase (Chair)
Jim Gulnac
Tracey Hutton
Anne Krieg
Tony Levesque
Linda Smith
Tracey Steuber
Austin Blees

Membership

Steve Dyer (Chair)
Amy Bernard
Jim Gulnac
Tony Levesque

Nomination

Tony Levesque (Chair)

2014-2015 MCDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President:

Darryl Sterling
Economic and Community Development Consulting
1 Tulip Street
Richmond, ME 04357
(207) 807-9062
Term Expires: October, 2015

Vice President:

Gail Chase
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments
17 Main Street
Fairfield, ME 04937-1119
(207) 453-4258
Term Expires: October, 2015

Treasurer:

Mathew Eddy
45 McKeen Street
Brunswick, ME 04011
(207) 729-9694
Term Expires: October, 2015

Secretary:

Joella R. Theriault
Northern Maine Development Commission
11 West Main Street, Suite 104
Fort Kent, ME 04743
(207) 543-1802
Term Expires: October, 2015

Past President:

Rodney Lynch, AICP
Town of Thomaston
123 Summer Street
Rockland, ME 04841
(207) 594-7663
Term Expires: October, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS

Anne Krieg

Town of Bridgton
3 Chase Street, Suite 1
Bridgton, ME 04009-1266
(207) 647-8786
Term Expires: October, 2016

Tom Martin

Hancock County Planning Commission
395 State Street
Ellsworth, ME 04605
(207) 667-7131
Term Expires: October, 2015

Steve Dyer

Ransom Environmental Consult.
400 Commercial Street, Suite 404
Portland, ME 04102
(207) 772-2891
Term Expires: October, 2016

Suzie Paradis

Town of Madawaska
328 St. Thomas Street
Madawaska, ME 04756
(207) 728-3612
Term Expires: October, 2015

