

**KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION
KNOX COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Joint Commission & Budget Committee Review Meeting

Knox County Commission and Budget Committee Thursday – November 18, 2021 – 5:00 P.M.

A Joint Commission and Budget Committee Review Meeting was held on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 5:00 P.M., Knox County Courthouse, 62 Union Street, Rockland, Maine. The Administrative Assistant was present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commission members present: Commissioner Dorothy G. Meriwether, District #1 and Commissioner Richard L. Parent, Jr., District #2.

County staff present included: County Administrator Andrew Hart, Administrative Assistant Wendy Galvin, Finance Director Kathy Robinson, Sheriff Tim Carroll, Airport Manager Jeremy Shaw and Chief Patrick Polky.

Budget Committee members present: Chair Shawn Levasseur, Bob Duke, Gayle Gallant, Roger Peabody, Randy Stearns (*left at 6:45 P.M.*) and Charles Grover.

Absent: Commissioner Sharyn L. Pohlman, District #3 and Budget Committee Member Nick Lapham.

Others in Attendance: Rebecca Jacobs Knox-Lincoln Solid Water Conservation District, Ryan LeShane Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension and Aaron Englander, President Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension.

**Joint Commission & Budget Committee Review Meeting
Commission Hearing Room
Thursday – November 18, 2021 – 5:00 P.M.**

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| I. | 5:00 | Meeting Called To Order (Chair Shawn Levasseur for the Knox County Budget Committee, Commission Chair Richard Parent for the Knox County Commission) |
| II. | 5:01 | Public Comment |
| III. | 5:05 | Approve Minutes
1. Minutes of the Joint Budget Meeting of November 16, 2021 |
| IV. | 5:10 | Budget Review
1. Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension (Pg. 27)
2. Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water (Pg. 27)
3. Airport Security (Pg. 31)
4. Airport (Pgs. 28-30) |
| V. | 5:35 | Discussion Items
1. General Discussion of the 2022 Budget |
| VI. | 5:40 | Final Vote on all Departmental Budgets (in preparation for Public Hearing) |
| VII. | | Adjourn |

I. Meeting Called to Order

The November 18, 2021 Joint Commission and Budget Committee Review Meeting was called to Order by Budget Committee Chair Shawn Levasseur and Commissioner Chair Richard Parent, Jr. at 5:01 P.M.

II. Public Comment:
None.

III. Approve Minutes

1. Minutes of the Joint Commission and Budget Committee Review Meeting of November 16, 2021.
 - *Bob Duke made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Joint Commission and Budget Committee Review Meeting of November 16, 2021. Barry Norris seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor. (Bob Duke, Randy Stearns & Gayle Gallant abstained.)*
 - *Commissioner Meriwether made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Joint Commission and Budget Committee Review Meeting of November 16, 2021. Commissioner Parent, Jr. seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor.*
- *Please note: All votes taken at each Joint Commission & Budget Committee Budget Review Meetings on Departmental Budgets are “straw votes”, with the exception of the December 16, 2021 Final Vote on the 2022 Knox County Budget.*

Administrator Hart spoke:

- A revised Budget Draft was distributed which included updates for Health Insurance, Workers Comp, Salaries and Maintenance, Cleaning, Heating Fuel and Corrections to meet the tax cap. We removed all of Capital out of Corrections Budget, and reduced the Inmate Medical Contract by the amount we needed to get to the cap number of 4%. (approximately \$29,000)
- At the November 16th meeting, the Budget Committee & Commissioners made the decision to table voting on the Corrections Budget until tonight’s meeting.
- Sheriff submitted a letter and supporting documentation on all Capital projects to Commissioner Liberty from the Department of Corrections, to possibly fund the Capital items that were pushing the Budget over the cap.
- Administrator Hart stated that we will have an answer whether or not the items will be covered before the Final Vote on December 16th. Right now, the DOC has \$1.7 million in supplemental funds available.
- The Agenda was sent out to Budget Committee & Commissioners before the Budget was finalized. Administrator Hart did email an Amended Agenda.
- Administrator Hart let everyone know that the County asked for \$445,000 from Commissioner Liberty. He can approve smaller amounts but the larger items like paving and brick work have to go in front of a Committee. So far no one else has submitted any requests out of the \$1.7 million. We are hoping to be the first to request funds. These funds are available until June 2022.

IV. Budget Review:

1. **Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension:**

Ryan LeShane, 4-H Professional spoke:

- This year we are using the same Budget request amount as we have in the past seven (7) years.
- There have been changes operationally relative to COVID. Right now we are back at pre-COVID operations and should be 100% back in January 2022.

Questions

- A Budget Committee member asked if there have been any group programs that KLCE has not been able to deliver.

- Ryan LeShane stated that a lot of the programs have pivoted to digital, especially for the Youth Program. For those who could not meet in person we went digital, and we also worked to support the local school districts on using the site. The pandemic has opened up a lot more opportunities than in the past.
- Another Budget Committee member asked if he (Ryan) was a full time employee.
- Ryan LeShane stated the he is indeed a full time employee. He splits his time between the Knox Lincoln county office as the 4-H Professional, and other half at the site in Tenants Harbor.

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$57,042:

In favor: 7 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Bob Duke, Charles Grove, Barry Norris and Randy Stearns)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the County Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$57,042:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

2. Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water

Rebecca Jacobs, Program Manager spoke:

- KLSW is a non-regulatory, not for profit agency, which has been working for over seventy (70) years to solve specific land-use problems, and provide conservation education programs, technical assistance to Farmers, Municipal Officials, and other local landowners and individuals.
- KLSW’s goals are achieved by providing conservation education materials, workshops, educational programs and one-on-one technical assistance to municipalities, farmer’s, landowners, schools, watershed associations and other organizations.
- When the pandemic hit we at KLSW offered a free take home explorer kit for kids during the summer. Those were offered for eight (8) weeks during the summer.
- Currently we work with State and local partners to bring Adult education. We do not have access to a physical classroom space so we utilize places like Merryspring Nature Center, Land Trust, or we use Public Parks. We are very fortunate, as we do a lot of our work outside.
- Completed a three (3) year grant for evasive plant surveys. These evasive plants are migrating from the South. We able to do extensive mapping on two (2) of our largest land owners, which are wood lot owners as well as agricultural producers. We have provided these management plans to forty (40) different farmers for the last six (6) years.
- This year we launched a new program called the Conservation Landscape Certification Program. KLSW works directly with landowners, municipalities, schools etc. This year it was mostly working with private land owners.

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$30,288:

In favor: 7 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Bob Duke, Barry Norris, Randy Stearns, and Charles Grover)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the County Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$30,288:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

3. Airport Security:

Sheriff Tim Carroll spoke:

- Airport Security is at a \$0 Budget for 2022.
- Airport Security employees are paid for through the Airport. Now with the CARES Act money, this is covered 100%

Questions

- A Budget Committee member asked when the CARES Act money expires; will the Airport be in a situation that we see a major jump in our Budget because the CARES Act money is no longer coming in?
- Airport Manager Shaw stated that what we have done will make a difference for the bottom dollar. With the CARES Act funds we have made strategic purchases that will benefit us in short and long term.
- A Budget Committee member asked a question in the Auto Repairs line. He stated initially there was a request for \$500, and the Administrator is proposing \$ 2,500.
- Sheriff said they thought they were going to have new car. Now they will have the older vehicle there so need the money for any repairs.
- A Budget Committee member asked what does Airport Security use a vehicle for.
- Sheriff said that Airport Security checks the perimeter, gates, runway and for animals. This is done in absence of the Airport Maintenance Department.

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0.00

In favor: 7 (Shawn Levasseur, Gayle Gallant, Roger Peabody, Bob Duke, Barry Norris, Charles Grover and Randy Stearns)

Against: 0
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the County Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0.00

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

4. Airport

Airport Manager Jeremy Shaw spoke:

- This Budget has 100% of all cost will be reimbursed through the CARES Act funding. *(This is a 100% reimbursement)*
- Financially the Airport is doing very well. Currently there are seven (7) projects underway and these are designed to generate additional Revenue for Knox County.
- Hangar Taxi lane Hangars – the lease has come back from legal, and is under review. This will add a total of twenty three (23) new Hangars to the Airport. That alone will add Hangar leases and excise tax revenue.
- Phase II is designed to be built next Summer. This will add an additional fifteen (15) more Hangars.

- One revenue project that is being completed right now is Airport Operations Facility. This will be a six (6) bedroom, three (3) bath facility. This will be a mixed use building. The 135 Operator will be renting space as they did with the building that we just demolished.
- In October of this year it we are projected to have brought in \$35,000 in revenue, and we are already at \$54,000.
- Enterprise Rent-a-Car made a site visit in October to begin the renovations in their new Airport kiosk. They will be removing the old kiosk, and installing a new key drop box in the parking lot, adding signage to a few parking areas as well. Local contractors will be used to complete the renovations.
- We have added two (2) new flight schools: Higher Ground Aviation and Penobscot Air.
- In May of 2021 we started a landing fee program. This program is where every jet pays \$50. Just this year so far we have brought in between \$12,000-\$15,000.
- Soon there will be a \$1 million dollar Solar Farm which will wipe out electricity costs. Currently our cost right now is \$25,000.
- CARES Act money will expire in March of 2024.
- What we have done will make a difference for the bottom dollar. With the CARES Act funds we have made strategic purchases that will benefit us in short and long term.

Questions:

- Budget Committee member asked when the CARES Act will expire.
- Finance Director Robinson said the Cares Act will expire in March 2024.
- Budget Committee member asked if he can explain the \$5,000 Budget line for HR at the Airport.
- Finance Director Robinson said they are trying to charge certain things to the Airport. They are doing a shift of expense on some items.
- Budget Committee member asked if the Federal funds will pay for HR's time, and would like to know the reason for charging HR's time under CARES Act.
- Finance Director Robinson stated that the \$5,000 allotted for the HR line is a little on the high side we can probably adjust that down. HR has been assisting the Airport with some items and the CARES Act is available to some time being used by HR is being charged to that instead of coming out of the Admin. line.
- Commissioner Meriwether stated that in 2019 HR salary went over by \$1,000, and we're maintaining the \$42,000, and adding on \$5,000 to the Airport. So really the HR budget has gone to \$47,000. Why is this?
- Administrator Hart said we could adjust the \$5,000 to \$2,500. There is a lot going on and we have scheduled three (3) more meetings next week alone. A lot of things are due to the pandemic and need HR's presence.
- Commission Meriwether asked if HR's time really belong under Airport CARES Act money.
- Director Robinson stated that the Airport will be self-sufficient once CARES Act is done. Trying to allocate time and money where we think it appropriate. Again, HR is assisting with a lot of items for the Airport, thus essentially working for the Airport not the Admin. Office.
- Commissioner. Meriwether stated that given the greater scrutiny, we just need to be more careful about allocating. We do not want to take advantage of the CARES Act, as the Federal government has been very generous with the money.
- Commissioner Meriwether also said that due to the new awareness of what Statues say, and the fact that the Budget Committee is going to be involved, an essentially involved with all the accounting for a budgetary process with all the funds we will be receiving. She is very pleased about this. AIP grant money looks like it will be allocated to Knox County. So will we be working on a supplemental budget that we will be working on at the beginning of the year in which we do account for the anticipated money from AIP grants and CARES Act?
- Finance Director Robinson said she is working through on how to handle this moving into January. She clarified one thing regarding allocating expenses at the Airport. All invoices are very detailed and have to specifically say that this was done at the Airport for this certain situation. Director Robinson stated that every month when she has to submit for reimbursement through FAA for

CARES, she has to review every single invoice, submit every single invoice, and every invoice has to be specific to the Airport. There a lot of controls in place that needs to be followed when submitting invoices.

- Commissioner Meriwether asked if we are anticipating the AIP money in 2022.
- Finance Director Robinson stated that there is a five (5) year schedule of AIP projects, and have that listed in the Capital plan on the last page of the Budget. This is also provided to the Budget Committee.
- Commissioner Meriwether read the Statue “38704”. Anything we anticipate, we have to account for is what that Statute is saying.
- Budget Committee member said that we have historically ignored title 30A because of our Charter that was written many years ago. We felt the Charter trumped everything, and now we know we should not have thought that way. We really need to look at the Statute, and the Budget Committee needs to be involved with the distribution of the money.
- A Budget Committee member asked what the right dollar amount for HR for the Airport. Is it \$2,500 or \$5,000?
- Finance Director Robinson said she thinks the additional \$5,000 is a little on the high side. Could cut this number in half, or wipe it out completely, and if we end up spending it then we apply it anyways and it will get reimbursed.
- A Budget Committee member asked what is our County policy when allocating costs to departments. We seem to be doing it to for purposes of being able to draw dollars from the CARES Act to pay for Human Resource services for the Airport.
- Airport Manager Shaw spoke up and said it’s not just Human Resources. The County Administrator, Finance Department, IT Department, GIS employee at EMA that all offsets expenses for the County in multiple departments, because they are doing work for the Airport.
- Commissioner Meriwether asked so this \$5,000 is not just for HR it can go towards Consulting?
- A Budget Committee member asked if it would it be better to apply that \$5,000 line to Consulting instead of HR?
- Airport Manager Shaw stated that they did reduce multiple lines at the Airport of \$5,000. Each of those lines has to have contingencies in place.
- A Budget Committee member stated, as he said last year, that he still feels the Solar Panel investment is going beyond what an Airport needs to be doing.
- Airport Manager Shaw responded by saying it’s on a much smaller scope than what was originally planned. Originally they planned on 17,000 panels and now it is 1,000. When this was first talked about it was an \$11 million dollar investment, but now it is a \$1 million dollar investment. This will cover the cost of the Airports electricity and will generate \$50,000 in revenue. It is a much smaller footprint, and is on land that is previously developed.

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0

In favor: 7 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Charles Grover, Bob Duke, Barry Norris and Randy Stearns)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the County Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

5. Insurance (Risk Pool):

Administrator Hart spoke:

- The Risk Management Pool figure has increased by \$7,316 (10%) over the 2021 Budget.
- A 10% increase was budgeted, and this was explained in Administrator Hart’s general overview of the Proposed Budget. This is also based off a Budget estimate increase from the MCCA Risk Pool of 10%.
- The final assessment figure has not been received from the Risk Pool.

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s proposed 2021 Budget recommendation of \$80,486:

In favor: 7 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Bob Duke, Charles Grover, Barry Norris and Randy Stearns)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s proposed 2021 Budget recommendation of \$80,486:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

MCEDD– Funding of this was revisited:

- The Budget Committee Chair stated that at Tuesday’s meeting, MCEDD funding passed by one vote and feels this should be revisited before the Final Vote on December 16th.
- A Budget Committee member stated he would be in support of MCEDD. He feels there’s a whole issue of economic development in Knox County, and MCEDD is a well-run group. The question is, should Knox County offer some level of economic services to the Towns.
- A Commissioner felt that MCEDD should be more available and contact each Town to see how they could assist and to offer the services they have available.
- A Commissioner is voting against MCEDD. She feels it is not being run well, and feels like we’re forcing each Town to participate. She feels that if a Town wants to belong then belong. Knox County should go with same structure as Lincoln County. If we had a Director working in Knox County that Director could be assisting all of the Towns in Knox County.
- A Budget Committee member stated that a locally controlled economic program would work better because dollars spent in Knox County are enormous, especially if all the Towns pooled together.
- A Budget Committee member stated that MCEDD is a small organization, and not well run at present. He feels we are not getting any value for the amount of money being spent on MCEDD each year. He did note that MCEDD’s skill set is in writing grants, and Brian was asked to build a case as to why we should continue with them, he just couldn’t do it.
- A Commissioner stated that a couple Towns have been consistent in using MCEDD while other Towns have been left out of the services.
- A Budget Committee member stated that his opinion has not changed from last year. MCEDD has done very little to make a case as to why we should continue with them. Towns have come forward and asked to please not force MCEDD upon them.
- Director Robinsons stated that various Towns already have their budgets set. We need to ask Towns for their opinion on whether or not the County should continue to fund MCEDD for the Towns, and if not we need to give them time to incorporate this money into their budget. This exact situation was brought this up last year to Administrator Hart and has heard nothing. We may be penalizing other Towns that use MCEDD if we take this service away without speaking to each Town.

- One Budget Committee member has seen plenty of letters from Camden, Rockport & Rockland in favor to fund MCEDD.
- A Budget Committee member stated that if you truly read the Budget book, and look at where the contributions to pay for the County services come from its pretty much four (4) Towns. To Director Robinson’s point, we need to let the Towns know we will not fund it so they can put it in their Budget. He still believes the County needs to be involved in economic development in some fashion.
- A Budget Committee member asked, “If we do not fund MCEDD, who’s going to pick up the cost for the Towns that have not put this in their Budget.”
- A Budget Committee member stated that any Town could find a way to fund MCEDD if their service is needed.
- Administrator Hart stated that he feels it’s more of a relationship between the County and Municipality. We’re trying to build the relationship we have with the Municipalities. If you pull the plug on them they’re not going to want anything to do with the County.
- One Budget Committee member asked if there was a Commissioner that is active on the MCEDD board.
- Administrator Hart said that Commissioner Pohlman is on the board for MCEDD and is fairly active with them.
- Another Budget Committee member stated that each Committee member should poll their Towns and find out how they feel about MCEDD, and to also let them know it may not be funded going forward and they should budget this expense into their Town budget for the following year.
- A Budget Committee member stated if the County pulled out, by paying this individually or paying as part of the County tax bill it almost identical. He found this to be the case personally.
- Commissioner Meriwether stated it is not the case. The way it’s funded if you join as a municipality, you simply pay based on a number of citizens in that Municipality. If it’s done through the County it’s done through the County valuation system so more highly valued Towns actually pay a higher amount.
- A Budget Committee member remembered from last year when a citizen from Hope stated they did not MCEDD forced upon them. He explained we are not forcing anything on anyone we just want to make the service MCEDD provides readily available. After all, they are the gateway to a lot of Federal Grants.
- A decision was made by all to poll each Town by beginning of the year, to see if they wanted the County to continue to fund MCEDD.

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s proposed 2021 Budget recommendation of \$48,468:

In favor: 7 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Bob Duke, Charles Grover, Barry Norris and Randy Stearns)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s proposed 2021 Budget recommendation of \$48,468:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Corrections: Budget Revisited with adjustments:

- Sheriff presented a letter with supportive documentation to see if any help is available to fund certain projects. There is a portion the Administrator can approve. The two higher budget items (Paving & brick work) will take more of a discussion with a Committee.
- A Budget Committee member asked if the Administrator can approve the smaller items for Knox County.
- Sheriff said yes he can. Right now there is \$1.7 million available and we asking Administrator Liberty for a total of \$464,000. The paving and brick work needs more approval by an actual Committee, the Administrator cannot approve that.
- A Budget Committee member asked how does that affect us, will this help lower the current Budget?
- Administrator Hart stated that we should have an answer before the December 16th meeting.
- A Budget Committee member asked what if answer is no, they cannot fund any of Knox County's projects.
- Administrator Hart said then they do not go forward, and will have to try next year.
- One Budget Committee member asked what the total bill was for the paving.
- Administrator Hart stated the total for the Paving project is \$224,034.
- A Commissioner stated that a letter was received from Janet Morang, who is the Mental Health Services Admin. at the Jail.
- The Sheriff stated that she would work additional hours. The system is broken, and we don't have a fix. We need to address this issue of Mental Health Services. Right now, at a true mental health facilities they say don't have any beds available, thus making the Jail the Mental Health Facility.
- A Commissioner asked if this would be a position that could be funded by ARPA money.
- A Budget Committee member asked if Corrections different today from what it used to be? We seem to have drug issues, mental health issues and now the assistance of Restorative Justice. Are we doing this whole thing right?
- Sheriff stated that for the last twenty-five (25) years we have been doing it all wrong. We would arrested people for being on drugs, put them in Jail, and never addressed the underlying problem. Since then, we have had a shift in mindset. Maine Behavioral Health comes to the Jail to assist with arising issues, which we did not do in the past. Now we set up appointments for the inmates to see their medical providers, making sure have their meds. What's costing more money is the Mental Health portion. We are almost at 180 degrees. We are not just arresting for crimes, but also trying to find out the problem and looking for ways not go to go to Jail. If we didn't have these certain things in place imagine where we would be. We had ninety-five (95) Inmates yesterday, in a seventy (70) bed Jail.
- A Budget Committee member asked if there were records of people you are helping and/or returning.
- Sheriff said that our best partner is Waldo County. We send some of our Inmates to their Re-entry Center in Belfast. So far, the ones that have gone are getting out and staying out.

- ***A consensus vote was taken by the Commissions to table the Administrator's Budget recommendation until November 18th with the revised number of \$4,037,535:***

*In favor: 5 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, and Charles Grover)
Against: 1 (Bob Duke)
Abstained: 0*

- ***A consensus vote was taken by the Commissions to table the Administrator's Budget recommendation until November 18th with the revised number of \$4,037,535:***

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

VI. Final Budget Review (Straw re-vote) In Preparation for Public Hearing:

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Corrections:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$4,037,535:

*In favor: 5 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, and Charles Grover)
Against: 1 (Bob Duke)
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of \$4,037,535:

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Admin. & IT:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$642,217:

*In favor: 5 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, and Charles Grover)
Against: 1 (Bob Duke)
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of \$642,217:

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Building Maintenance - Courthouse:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$431,473:

*In favor: 5 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, and Charles Grover)
Against: 1 (Bob Duke)
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of \$431,473:

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Building Maintenance – Public Safety Building:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$82,888:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of \$82,888:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Deeds:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of (\$330,391):

In favor: 5 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris and Charles Grover)
Against: 1 (Bob Duke)
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of (\$330,391):

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for D.A.’s Office:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$514,711:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of \$514,711:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for EMA:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$120,021:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commission on whether to approve the Administrator’s budget recommendation of \$120,021:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Finance:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$315,569:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was \$315,569:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Probate:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$185,452:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$185,452:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent., Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Communications:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Sheriff:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$2,441,405:

*In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$2,441,405:

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Airport:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

*In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

*In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Airport Security:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

*In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$0:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Debt Service:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$198,832:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

*Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$198,832:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

*Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Insurance:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$76,820:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

*Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$76,820:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

*Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$30,288:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)

*Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$30,288:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)

*Against: 0
Abstained: 0*

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for MCEDD:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$48,468:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$48,468:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Knox-Lincoln County Extension Association:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$57,042:

In favor: 6 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, Bob Duke and Charles Grover)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$57,042:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Straw re-vote on the Administrator’s Budget recommendation for Restorative Justice Project Maine:

A consensus vote was taken by the Budget Committee on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$25,000:

In favor: 5 (Shawn Levasseur, Roger Peabody, Gayle Gallant, Barry Norris, and Charles Grover)
Against: 1 (Bob Duke)
Abstained: 0

A consensus vote was taken by the Commissioners on whether to approve the Administrator’s Budget recommendation of \$25,000:

In favor: 2 (Commissioner Parent, Jr. and Commissioner Meriwether)
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

- *Administrator Hart let everyone know that there will be no meeting next Tuesday.*
- *The next Public Hearing and Final Vote of the 2022 Knox County Budget with the Budget Committee & Commission will be held on December 16th @ 6:00 P.M.*
- *Administrator Hart told everyone their Budget binders will be collected after the Final meeting on December 16th.*

VII. Adjourn

- *Bob Duke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gayle Gallant seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor.*
- *Commissioner Meriwether made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Parent seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Galvin
Administrative Assistant

The Knox County Budget Committee and Knox County Commission approved these minutes at the Joint Budget Meeting to be held on December 16, 2021.