



midcoast economic development district

## Midcoast Economic Development District

### Executive Committee Meeting

10:00 am Thursday September 17, 2015

### Damariscotta Town Offices

#### Executive Committee Attendance

Name	Officer	Unit of Gov.	County	Present	Absent
John Shattuck	President	Town of Topsham	Sagadahoc	X	
Audra Caler-Bell	Vice President	City of Rockland	Knox	X	
William Chapman	Treasurer	Town of Rockport	Knox	X	
Betty Johnson	Secretary	Waldo County	Waldo	X	
Pam Hile		Sagadahoc County	Sagadahoc	X	
Roger Moody		Knox County	Knox	X	
Bill Post		Town of Bowdoinham	Sagadahoc	X	
Bill Hahn		Town of Thomaston	Knox		X
Bill Whitten		Cumberland County	Cumberland		X
Bill Giroux		City of Bath	Sagadahoc		X
Jamel Torres		Town of Wiscasset	Lincoln	X	
Linda Smith		Town of Brunswick			X
Jeff Jordan		Town of Brunswick			X

#### Staff and Guest Attendance

Name	Organization/Affiliation	Present	Absent
Jeff Kobrock	MCEDD Executive Director	X	
Bill Najpauer	MCEDD Staff	X	
Scott LaFlame	Community Development	X	
Greg Hamlin	Thomaston Selectman	X	
Rod Melanson	Town of Topsham	X	

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John Shattuck opened the meeting.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

**2. Consideration of the May 28 minutes**

Roger Moody moved to approve the minutes, Betty Johnson seconded and the motion passed.

**3. Update on the MCOG/MCEDD/EDA Transfer**

Jeff Kobrock stated that EDA has awarded us the planning grant and we are awaiting the grant to be posted on the Federal System.

**4. Develop FY17 Dues Recommendation for the Board of Directors**

Jeff Kobrock explained the Membership Dues Projection handout which showed various dues options. He also explained the existing status of the dues fee schedule which established a dues amount of \$1.50 per capita for existing members and 0.75 per capita for new members.

A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the what should be the appropriate membership dues which included: providing adequate funding for the organization and allow for growth, making sure the dues are equitable to all communities, selecting dues which are politically acceptable to communities, how county funding affects the dues issue, whether dues set too high will discourage membership, will members now paying \$0.75 per capita continue to be members, disagreement among the existing member communities over the current split dues system, exploring a phase-in dues system whereby the amount would rise gradually over time, would membership decrease if dues rise, possibility of some level of county funding, and the need to conduct additional research.

After discussion the dues amount of \$1.25 which provides flat funding seemed to be an acceptable figure. Discussion also included the importance of creating dues which are equal and fair to all communities.

A motion was made by William Post and seconded by Audra Caler-Bell to recommend to the Board of Directors a per capita dues of \$1.25 per person to be applied equally to all communities. The Motion passed with two opposing votes.

**5. Consideration of Solarize Midcoast Maine Project**

Jeff Kobrock gave an overview of the Solarize proposal and asked Scott LaFlame and Bill Najpauer to provide additional information.

An explanation of the Solarize program was provided and discussion ensued over the program operation, potential costs, benefits, and whether it will benefit only a select group of citizens. Before deciding on how to proceed the Board discussed whether they should present this for consideration to the Board of Directors or whether they could give a go ahead considering that a kick-off event is planned for October 23<sup>rd</sup> which is prior to the Director's meeting.

The Executive Board decided that they could vote on this item considering that it will not require funds to operate the program.

A motion was made by Audra Calder-Bell and seconded by William Post to participate in the Solarize program. The motion passed with one opposing vote.

**6. Executive Director's Report**

Jeff Kobrock presented the finance report and discussed the expense and revenue summary report. An update of the Revolving fund including the Micro-loan program was provided. Bill Najpauer provided an overview of the following projects; solid waste, brownfields, contract services, and regional planning.

**7. Other Business**

Other items discussed included: potential membership of the Town of Boothbay, meeting with EDA to discuss a project in Rockland, Lincolnville award of the Northern Border Grant, Knox County Budget presentation and a CEDS project outreach.

**8. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Roger Moody and seconded by William Chapman to adjourn. The motion passed.