

**WALDO COUNTY FY 2009 BUDGET COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 14, 2008**

PRESENT: Budget Committee Members James Bennett, Tim Biggs, Richard Crossman, Richard Desmarais, Richard McLaughlin, Nakomis Nelson, Harry (Dean) Potter, Bill Sneed; County Commissioners John Hyk, Donald Berry, Amy Fowler; County Treasurer David Parkman, Deputy Treasurer Karen Trussell, County Clerk Barbara Arseneau and Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover. Also present were members of the press and various employees.

Budget Committee Chairman B. Sneed opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS (1076) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Communications Director Owen Smith.

B. Sneed: Owen Smith from Communications (1076) – come on down!

O. Smith: We do need to make a change in one of the lines under Commodities – 5375, Training/Education: We need to take \$6,000.00 off that.

B. Sneed: I've already done it in my head.

O. Smith: You've already done it? O. K. The training that we thought we were going to do; it appears that we are not going to do it, so that's gone.

B. Sneed: We'll start with Personnel Services; any questions on that for Owen?

R. Crossman: You've added some part-time people, is that right? Part-time has jumped up quite a bit.

O. Smith: We don't have as many numbers of part-timers. We still have part-timers, but in order to remain competitive with part-timers in Knox and Penobscot, after they're fully certified, they're going up to the starting pay of a full-timer. That's partly why it's up. The other thing reflects a projection of what we're doing this year and what we need to do next year.

B. Sneed: Could you say that again? A part-timer is going to the full salary of a full-timer?

O. Smith: Once they are fully certified, which means they have received their EMB certification, teletype certification, 911 certification, and we're done with training, they will go up to the starting pay of a full-timer – no benefits, but the starting pay. We have to do that to stay competitive with Knox and Penobscot. We don't have to worry about Somerset using part-timers because they don't use them anymore.

R. Desmarais: Is this a big jump, Owen?

O. Smith: It will be a jump - with the four percent increase, part-timers went to \$12.21 per hour. Once they're fully certified, they'll go to \$14.51, which is the starting pay of a full-timer.

B. Sneed: Any further question on Personnel Services? Go ahead, Dick.

R. Desmarais: Yes, well, I'm thinking - I'm thinking here. You're asking for a jump from \$10,000.00 last year to \$52,000.00-plus on part-time, right Owen?

O. Smith: Well, it's reflecting what we've already spent this year. As you remember, last year we took a cut out of the total budget which all came up Personnel. That's reflecting what we've spent so far this year and projecting what we are going to spend the rest of the year. November and December are heavy months of vacation and holidays, so that's merely projecting out what we've spent to date. I don't think that we can continue to underfund it and hope that the money is going to come from somewhere else.

R. Desmarais: You have people in training now? When they are in training, someone works with them, am I correct?

O. Smith: Yes, they do.

R. Desmarais: These people come out of training, you're not going to be paying for a person to train a part-timer; the part-timer will be on their own.

O. Smith: Yes.

R. Desmarais: So, some costs should disappear there.

O. Smith: Yes, that is correct. Once they are done with our training and they are State certified, then they go on their own.

R. Desmarais: O.K. You're at \$37,000.00 now? And, you should have a reduction in part-time costs because they're certified.

O. Smith: Once they become certified, that's going to go up.

R. Desmarais: It's going to go up the two dollars and something an hour.

O. Smith: Yes.

R. Desmarais: But they are not going to have someone sitting next to them.

O. Smith: That's correct; no, they are not.

****R. Desmarais moved, for discussion purposes, J. Bennett seconded reducing the 52,236.00 to \$40,000.00.**

B. Sneed: Jim Bennett seconds; discussion?

A. Fowler: May I ask what that figure was again?

B. Sneed: \$40,000.00, Amy.

O. Smith: That cost of what you're saying, Dick, is absolutely right, but the person sitting beside them still has to be paid to work. Based on this year, with the increase we've got next year, I don't know if \$40,000.00 will do it.

R. Desmarais: What I'm looking at is you have two people. Let's say they're both making \$10.00 an hour. You have two people sitting there at \$10.00 an hour – one training the part-timer. When the part-timer is trained and they're certified, you're going to take 50% of the cost out of there while they operate on their own. So, your department is going to be freed up by 50% of the cost now incurred by training the part-timer. That's where I'm going with this.

O. Smith: O.K., the full-timer that is sitting training the part-timer will continue to work; they're just not training anyone.

R. Desmarais: That is correct.

O. Smith: The people who are training part-timers are full-timers who are training while they are on duty.

R. Desmarais: I envision that full-timer on a day off being replaced by the part-timer; the part-timer will now become a person that's earning their keep.

O. Smith: That is correct, and that is what we're currently using part-timers for. As long as we can keep them, I think we are heading in the same direction as other centers. It's difficult to find them, it's difficult to keep them, and keeping them certified is the same as a full-timer. I think we are going to see, as other centers, that we're not going to be able to continue to keep part-timers.

B. Sneed: Nakomis?

N. Nelson: So, what you're trying to say, I guess, is that the person that is training the part-timer isn't being paid to train the part-timer; they are being paid to do a job that they are already there to do. In a sense, there won't be this cost savings once the training is over. If we were to limit you to \$40,000.00, would you be able to function?

O. Smith: Based on what we are seeing this year and based on what we project for next year, we are going to be back in the same situation we are this year – with just not enough money funded to do the hours that we need to cover.

B. Sneed: How did you pay for it this year?

O. Smith: I've been lucky on my budget so far this year, because tower site operations are down. We didn't complete what we thought, so my overall budget is in line. My two line items, which we no longer - when I first came here, you shifted money here, shifted money there – we don't do that

anymore. What we are reflecting as over is a result of not having enough money in the budget last year to do it.

B. Sneed: I still come back to the question: How did you pay for it? Did it come out of your department's budget?

O. Smith: It's all coming out of my department.

R. Desmarais: Owen, you've asked for an increase from \$18,000.00 to \$35,000.00 for overtime. The way this year is going, that should exceed what the true need is for 2008. So, is that taking a strain off of you compared to the figures you were given to work with last year?

O. Smith: Oh, it's definitely up; that's correct.

R. Desmarais: So, if the overtime line is left alone and this \$40,000.00 doesn't quite hold true, you certainly have a little buffer in that overtime line to handle the \$40,000.00, instead of the \$52,000.00. I think it's a reasonable figure that's out there on the table - \$40,000.00.

O. Smith: I don't want to sound cavalier on this, but this is our luck that we don't have a twelve-week family medical leave, that we don't have some kind of a flu bug...it's all based on luck. So, Personnel is the biggest single item we have; it's the costliest item we have. Like I say, right now I'm living on luck, in a way, that we didn't get the build-outs done as early as we thought, or I think you'd see my budget in the hole.

B. Sneed: Tim, you have a question?

T. Biggs: We're basically seeing another 10% increase in this whole department. Certainly, in Personnel we are. I'm not quite sure if it's 10%, but...

O. Smith: It would be below 10%, because the overall budget, without the Capital Outlay, was under 10%. We have a 4%, and I know you've heard this right along, that 4% figure thrown in there. Union contracts are not settled yet; we just started ours, as a matter of fact, a week ago. That's what is thrown in there; you have some people with seniority that's going up this year. We are fortunate to keep people – we don't have a large turnover. In the climate we have today, we certainly don't want a large turnover. I don't attract people from other centers. When I have an opening, we usually fill it with a part-timer, which is right for the part-timer, but then I'm left without a part-timer. We have so many hours we have to fill.

B. Sneed: Tim, it works out to 13.2%, just for the Personnel. Nakomis?

N. Nelson: So, I guess we're talking about cutting \$15,000.00 somewhere. Is that where you'd want to see it cut, or is there another place you'd rather see it come out of?

O. Smith: As happened last year, the bottom line of the budget, and I took it that's where the real objection was, which was out of Personnel. No, there isn't \$15,000.00 somewhere else in the

budget. Unlike some departments, we're people. We have contractual obligations and we have to buy supplies, but most of our budget is people. We provide a service.

B. Sneed: Motion made and seconded. Any further discussion? All in favor of reducing line number 3100 to \$40,000.00 even? Opposed? Opposed – R. Crossman, N. Nelson, and Harry Dean Potter. These guys are trying to keep better records of whose doing what.

B. Sneed: Okay, Capital Outlay, line item 7000. Owen, you have to find the money someplace else. Unemployment in this state is now up to 6%; it's going to hit 8% by January. Every town's excise tax revenues are down. We can't do this. Let me just tick off something – you talk to the Commissioners about this: In Capital Reserve Account 0269, there's \$125,000.00; in 0261, there's \$30,000.00; in 0210, there's \$325,000.00; in 0265, there's \$136,000.00. Now, one of those is listed as Facilities/All Other, and that would cover your \$64,000. The other thing is the District Attorney has asked for some money for ergonomic furniture, and they have two thirds of it paid for by a grant.

O. Smith: We've been looking for a grant for two years, and we have not been able to find it. I guess I need to talk to the D.A. and find out where he's getting his.

****B. Sneed moved, R. McLaughlin seconded that line item 7000 be reduced to zero.**

B. Sneed: Any further discussion?

N. Nelson: What exactly is the benefits of these consoles? Is this something that's going to save us \$64,000 in medical payments because somebody.....

O. Smith: Down the road, it's an investment in the future. Ann Schneider from MMA, who does our ergonomics study, is ecstatic about it. Other centers have gone to it. It allows the ability to adjust the work surface that the dispatcher works on and allows the ability for the dispatcher to stand and work.

N. Nelson: Is there a way to do it for \$20,000.00?

O. Smith: Well, if you wanted to try to do one position a year, in the end the cost is going up because nothing goes down, and the freight cost is going to go up.

T. Biggs: Can you just put bricks under the legs of those things, or would that be unprofessional?

O. Smith: Put it on for this shift, and take it off for next shift. It's a fully adjustable – if you're not familiar with it, I brought a picture of one of them. It's down the road, and I'm convinced that it's going to save some money.

N. Nelson: What's ergonomic? Does the chair adjust up and down?

O. Smith: No. The surface where the keyboard is adjusts by itself; the work surface where the monitors are adjusts by themselves; the monitors slide forward or backward so some dispatchers

don't have to do this, and some dispatchers have to do that. This thing comes up to the height that a six foot five man could work normally at and goes down to a height where a person that is four foot ten can work. We can only do so much with the chair – we buy good chairs. Centers that use them, people who are using them, they stand part of every hour and they sit part of every hour. What we have is basically a sedentary job, requiring people to sit for long times. In the long run, that is going to cause back problems and leg problems and so forth and so on.

B. Sneed: I'll still contend that there is plenty of money in the Capital Reserve accounts that could easily cover this without batting an eye. There's \$135,000.00 in Technology; if this is a technology item, take it out of that. If it's a Facilities thing, take it out of the \$125,000.00 Facilities/All Other, but don't take it out of the taxpayers. Dick?

R. Desmarais: Owen, you went on-line somewhere around 9/11 [2001], is that correct, this Communications Center?

O. Smith: Yes, we did.

R. Desmarais: About that time, industry was well on top of this ergonomic stuff; it was well known that these things were available and they should be factored in. How did we miss the boat?

O. Smith: Didn't have the money. We had a \$600,000.00 bond; we ended up at \$637,000.00; there just wasn't the money. We did the radio system to work the best we could, and we've been working on it since. \$600,000.00 to \$700,000.00 bond – I'm not sure, I think Don was involved in that – that's what went out for the bond, \$600,000.00. The \$200,000.00 was the amount for Communications; \$200,000.00 was the amount for the building and architectural fees; and the other \$200,000.00 was the amount for other equipment. Money solves everything, and there was just so much to build with. We've talked about that as people have lamented the radio system: We should have done this; we should have done that. I agree, but we had \$200,000.00, that's it, for equipment.

B. Sneed: I think it's a very worthwhile thing to do; I think the County's got money in its other Capital Reserves from which to take it. This is not a year to take it out of the taxpayer. Any other discussion?

Motion passed unanimously.

B. Sneed: On to Contractual Services (line 4620) – Are you going to spend all this by the end of the year, Owen, for towers? Is that the kind of a thing where a bill comes in at the end of the year?

O. Smith: No, we're going to spend a good part of it because Mt. Ephraim is finally completed, and we're paying an extra \$240.00 over there. Northport, I hope to strike a deal on Monday down at Point Lookout. We don't know what it's going to be yet, so we're going to have one payment down there, plus we have to get set up down there. We'll dig into it and spend it.

B. Sneed: Right now, you've only spent about half of last year's.

O. Smith: Because we didn't get Mt. Ephraim up, and we thought we were going to and do a cell tower in Northport, but we couldn't afford to do it. The Maine County Commissioners Association couldn't afford to pay the \$5,000,000.00 liability insurance on it, so we had to drop it. So, we didn't get that site up and running. This looks good, the survey looks good; we met with them once at the Erikson Corporation. They are willing to put a system down there, but I don't have a clue as to what they would ask to do it.

B. Sneed: To save people the trouble of looking them up, the other lines are: Line 4100 is up about \$300.00 over last year; telephone the same. That NCIC thing is the same; repairs are the same.

O. Smith: I changed 4320. It used to be teletype – now it says NCIC Metro.

B. Sneed: Ah, you got rid of the teletype? O.K.

O. Smith: I wanted to make you happy.

B. Sneed: Thank you.

O. Smith: You're welcome.

B. Sneed: All the rest of them are all the same as last year.

T. Biggs: What about 5375, Supplies and Training? That was \$3,500.00 last year.

B. Sneed: Owen asked us to cross that out and put it down to \$3,500.00 again.

T. Biggs: Oh, oh, oh - that's right.

O. Smith: There's \$3,500.00, plus we don't have \$1,000.00 for CSH. It's history.

B. Sneed: The other five categories under Commodities are all exactly the same as they were the previous year.

R. Desmarais: Owen, are the start-up costs on these towers higher than maintenance costs once they keep going?

O. Smith: Start-up costs are usually higher to get going on it.

R. Desmarais: And you went on Mt. Ephraim this year. There was a larger start-up?

O. Smith: We're already on Mt. Ephraim with three frequencies. When we got the microwave cell up there, we had to pay them for two more. We had expected to do that last April, but it didn't happen until October. Like I said, we didn't get Northport at all this year. They are going to have three different boxes down there.

R. Desmarais: So, you feel you're going to spend the majority of that \$14,000.00 you have left before the end of the year?

O. Smith: Any costs that we are going to need at Northport, I will be absolutely sure that it's billed this year. We are going to have some start-up costs at Northport.

R. Desmarais: Then you'll go into a maintenance cost next year, a rental cost?

O. Smith: Whatever the rental fee is.

R. Desmarais: Do you see that \$32,000.00 being absolute?

O. Smith: Well, that was planned for paying Point Lookout the same as we're paying Mt. Ephraim. Mt. Ephraim is my most expensive site. If we are able to negotiate less than that, we will be in pretty good shape. If they want more than that, then it's going to be tough. We have the equipment – it was bought with grants – we need to finish that south build-out. The north is done and working well. We're going to have to hope for the best. I do have some legal money in there, because we are going to have to modify our licenses with the FCC, and we are going to have to modify the licenses for Mt. Ephraim.

R. Desmarais: Thank you.

O. Smith: Again, and I don't mean to make light of business, but it's whatever we can negotiate with Erikson Corporation. I think they are going to be pretty good with us; they're nonprofit, and they seemed anxious to have us down there.

N. Nelson: Where are we at right now with the total?

B. Sneed: Where are we at right at the moment, Nakomis? It started out at \$808,561.00, and if I've done my arithmetic right - Amy [Fowler] will tell me if I haven't - assuming no changes in either Services or Commodities, we're down to \$726,325.86.

A. Fowler: I've got \$727,325.86. I'll check.

B. Sneed: Well, I guess we can both check.

O. Smith: Like everything else, the State's changing the rules again next year. We don't know how much of an effect that's going to have on us, but the change in EMB provider - all of our people have to be retrained. We don't know what this continuing education is going to be, because I don't know what the new provider requires. So, there's always a new challenge.

R. Desmarais: Owen, is the State still looking at consolidating the PSAPs?

O. Smith: There will be discussion in the next legislature about further consolidation. Right now, it's been put on hold because the Department of Public Safety has not decided what the rates are. They're losing customers; they're pulling out of there because they are charging too much – it's a

little over \$4.00 per capita to answer the 911 emergency phone. If they continue to lose clients the way they've lost them in the last three or four months, I think they are going to be in trouble over there.

B. Sneed: Amy, I got the same number again.

A. Fowler: You're correct.

B. Sneed: We have to vote on these two blocks separately.

****B. Sneed moved, R. Desmarais seconded to fund Contractual Services at \$47,135.00. Unanimous.**

****R. McLaughlin moved, J. Bennett seconded to fund Commodities at \$13,500.00. Unanimous.**

****J. Bennett moved, B. Sneed seconded to fund Communications (1076) Budget at \$726,325.86. Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Sneed: Thanks, Owen.

O. Smith: Thank you.

B. Sneed: If anyone's keeping track of these things, for Communications, they were after about a 9.6 percent increase year-on-year.

SHERIFF'S PATROL (1075) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion were Sheriff Scott Story and Chief Deputy Robert Keating.

B. Sneed: Come up, Scott.

S. Story: If I could, I don't want to hold up Lieutenant Gerard Madden any longer than need be, but I've asked Maine State Police Lieutenant Madden to come – probably one of the first things we'll be talking about is that I've asked for two new officers in this budget – I'm sure you've seen that – and support for those two officers. What I would like to do before we go through this budget is, as I spoke to some of you already and I've spoken with the Commissioners, we have been in a call share agreement - a resource management agreement, with the Maine State Police since 2005. It has gone fairly well; however, our numbers ever since we initiated this have gone up, both for us and the Maine State Police. They're at a point now, and I'm going to let the Lieutenant speak for himself, where they need to reduce the amount of calls or geography that they cover, which is going to leave us with a bit of a deficit on area to cover - exactly about 17%. Again, we'll talk more about that, but I did want the Lieutenant to speak with you a little bit about that. Lieutenant?

Lt. Madden: Thank you for the invitation.

B. Sneed: Mike, these guys [the County Clerk and Deputy County Clerk] try to record this. I know you probably don't want to go on the record, but they have to keep minutes.

Lt. Madden: Thank you, everyone, for coming. Like the Sheriff said, for the past three and almost three and a half years, ballpark, we have been doing this call sharing; better known as resource coordination. Where we're at now is four patrol zones and Waldo County is broken into four patrol slots. The State Police covers two slots and the Sheriff typically has two or three, depending who they have working. Out of that, the calls are evenly split over a year, because we'll have Zones One and Two for two weeks, and they'll have Zones Three and Four; then we switch every two weeks. Troopers and deputies aren't stuck in one portion of the County – they still get to see all the people and get a little variety. Over the years, particularly in the last year or so or several years, there has been a huge increase in calls related to property crime. We've all read about the burglaries, and most of it is related to drug use – assaults on people, domestics, all of which, in general, are calls for service that we are responding to. So, the State Police has six troopers that are assigned to Waldo County. Out of that six, they are tied up in two patrol zones. What we'd like to do, as proposed when we talked to the Sheriff over several months, is go to three patrol zones – we'll cover one, we'll still have two troopers in that one slot, and the Sheriff's Department will cover the two. The reasoning for that on our end is that with the volume of calls and the resources we have, we are interested in providing better quality service to the people. So, having a few less calls or breaking it into us covering a third of the County, while the Sheriff's Department covers two thirds, will allow our troopers more time because they will have a few less calls per shift, allowing them more time to follow up on burglaries, domestics, be more proactive on traffic enforcement, and things like that. That being said, two troopers will still be in Waldo County; so if the Sheriff's Department is getting buried, the two troopers are still available to go help out; do whatever. We do it in Knox County right now – it's three patrol zones with one trooper in the one patrol zone and a deputy in each of the other patrol zones. It works really well, and the same thing - every two weeks we would just switch - so you're not stuck always seeing a trooper in one particular area. Instead, you'll see two troopers and then you'll see deputies, so there is still the variety of moving around the County. It's not being, "Well, I'm paying County taxes." I live in Palermo, so I pay County taxes, too. "Where is the deputy; I pay the deputies salary?" Well, you'll still see the deputies and the troopers; we all work really well together. Just last week, between the State Police, Sheriff's Department and Belfast Police Department, we cleared 46 burglaries, all the way from Augusta down to Bucksport. So, we work really well together. Our proposal, or the reason we want to do that on the State Police side, is to provide better service to the citizens of Waldo County. We do not have troop detectives; the Sheriff's Department has several detectives, so they have a few more resources that are available in Waldo County. Troop D is responsible for Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, half of Kennebec and part of Cumberland. Out of that, I have 24 troopers. We have all seen the dismal budget thing for the State proposal - we got that yesterday at our boss's meeting - going across for 2011 is because the Governor has come out with another, "We want 10%." We've been flat-funded for five years. They want another 10%

cut: 24 troopers, four of which are detectives, canine program and a dive team. That's the proposal that went across the river. If that actually comes out, there's 28 positions that are gone from the State Police. Then that will have to be adjusted and wherever that goes from there. So, in the Troop -, to put it in the big perspective, not just Waldo County - but Troop D the last four years, our calls for service have gone up 70%. I'm in my twenty-fifth year with the State Police, and there is the same amount of troopers in Troop D as there were twenty-four and one-half years ago when I started. Going from three to four thousand calls per year to like twelve now over time, we're all busy. It's no different in the Sheriff's Department. The calls for service in every county - here we're talking about Waldo - Waldo's gone up by about two or three thousand a year over the past several years, with the same amount of people [deputies] doing it. The proposal from the State Police is to still have six troopers assigned to Waldo County, but we want to do a third of the County at a time instead of half, which allows the troopers to do more follow up, because we don't have as many resources as the Sheriff's Department does. That's what the Sheriff's Department and I have been working on for the last couple of months, and we're shooting for January 1st as a start date for that.

B. Sneed: Is that the short version? Any questions?

R. Desmarais: You are doing this in other areas in Maine, the call sharing?

Lt. Madden: Currently in Troop D, we do it in Knox County where we have three patrol zones. Knox County is broken into three - one trooper and two deputies assigned at any time to that. Kennebec County is broken into six patrol zones, and we have half of that because northern Kennebec is in Troop C out of Skowhegan; southern Kennebec is in Troop D out of the Thomaston barracks. We have China all the way down through West Gardiner, so China, Windsor, Chelsea, Randolph, Winston, West Gardiner, Farmingdale - that's my world with Troop D. Out of those six patrol areas, Kennebec County covers three and the State Police cover three, all the time.

R. Desmarais: Have there been cutbacks in the others, or is it just Waldo facing the cutback?

Lt. Madden: Waldo is facing it right now just for the adjustment, Kennebec because we have - for some reason, it is more condensed - there's not as much travel time. We typically pull, if we're getting kicked there, people from the Interstate to go help out in West Gardiner, Litchfield; so, we have the availability of pulling more people over. We currently do that in Waldo. We'll bring someone from the China area over if we're getting kicked, or the Sheriff's Department will help out and vice versa; if they're getting kicked, we will jump over and help them.

R. Desmarais: O.K., but you're not really cutting in any others - just Waldo is taking the cutback, then.

Lt. Madden: Correct. We will still have two troopers, but we're actually going, instead of having half of the County, we're proposing a third.

B. Sneed: Any other questions for the Lieutenant? Thank you, sir.

Lt. Madden: Thank you.

S. Story: A couple of things. If you will allow me, I'm going to make the pitch for the two new officers; then you folks do as you see fit on this. The decision that you make on that, either way, also affects some other parts of the budget. I guess what I would ask for, initially, is give me another couple of minutes to make the pitch. You make a decision on those officers; and then, I think we can get going from there on the budget. So again, I think the Lieutenant encompassed it fairly well. When I took over as Sheriff in 2000, we had 6,500 calls per service. That grew, up to the year 2004, right around 11,000 calls per service. We did have an increase in staff somewhere through there – I think a couple of officers. We got to a point in 2004 where we were buried; my officers were crying “uncle;” they weren't able to do proper follow-up; they were doing nothing but putting out fires. We got into the resource management agreement in 2005, and our numbers actually come down from 11,000 to 9,500; and that might not seem like a 50% cut, but what actually ended up happening is we were doing less reactive and were able to do more proactive work. So, when somebody called us up and said, “The cars are speeding on our road,” we were actually able to send officers out and address some of those issues. In 2006, we were at 8,900; in 2007, 8,200. This year we are on track for about 8,500 calls per service. With the call share change in geography, I have estimated a 17% increase in calls for 2009, which is going to take us back to about 10,000 calls per service. Make no mistake, I understand we are in tough financial times. It's a double-edged sword because, in one breath, I'm sitting here knowing that it is a tough thing to ask for the taxpayers to pony up more money for two more officers, but on the flip side, it is during the tough financial times that we are seeing more and more crimes. I don't have to tell anybody here about the recent school situation [hostage incident in Stockton Springs] – that's one example; and I don't want to try and glorify that. We've also, over the last two years, seen an increase in home invasions, daytime robberies, residential burglaries and gas drive-offs. 9-1-1 has been a mixed blessing. Unfortunately, every kid who picks up the phone dials 9-1-1 means we have to go check it out, whether it's a false call or not. That is moving us all over the County. Mental health problems still to go and it ties up our officers. Having said all that, I guess the first thing I would ask is for a position on those two positions, if you will; and, please, make no mistake, whatever you decide, we are going to go give you a 110%. Again, it wouldn't be prudent for me as Sheriff not to come before you and let you know that we're going to have a shortfall in some resources. Whatever decision you make, again, I'll live with.

B. Sneed: One question [to Lt. Madden]: If you guys are facing a 10% cut - let's assume that it goes through, expect the worst; hope for the best - what is that going to do to your ability to do this call share in all the counties, not only Waldo? Are we going to look at you guys not being able to cover even a third?

Lt. Madden: It would depend on where the 28 cuts go. If you are looking at 24 troopers, as proposed, and 4 detectives, the detectives would be one from each criminal division and it basically would affect child abuse, murders and stuff like that. 24 troopers – who knows where they are coming from? I'd like to think since Troop D was the busiest troop last year in the whole State for calls per service, and I'd like to think that they wouldn't hack me, that they would go somewhere where the need isn't as big. So, where those 24 positions are getting cut, if that does go through,

then the colonels and the majors are going to have look through and say, “Where are the busiest troops?” It all depends on the Capitol and what they are going to do.

B. Sneed: Jim, do you have a question?

J. Bennett: Yes, I have one for Scott. You got two new people here, and then you’ve got one above that – it looks like there was no money put in there in 2008, but you hired him for 2009.

S. Story: No, we had money for that. I don’t know why there is no dollar figure next to it. I didn’t prepare the

J. Bennett: That’s not a new person, then?

S. Story: No. Well, he was hired last year, but it was not a new position; we refilled a position. We have not had new additions for four or five years. I don’t know why there’s not a number in there. There’s one other thing, too, that I just want to make you cognizant of: When you go up and see the Sheriff and the Chief Deputy’s salary, you see a huge increase. That is an increase in this budget, but it’s a decrease in your property tax cap on the Jail budget. One of the things they did when they established the cap for the Jail budget is that they determined that if the Jail disappeared, would you get rid of the Sheriff, the Chief Deputy, the secretary? That was kind of a litmus test, and if the answer was, “No you wouldn’t get rid of them,” then that money had to come out of other places in the County budget. Again, it doesn’t cost more; it’s just from a different budget, if you will. They came out of that 1050 cap that was established.

B. Sneed: Scott, I’m looking at last year’s budget. Mr. Mushrall was not on the list of personnel.

R. Desmarais: He was hired 1/20/08.

S. Story: Yes, that’s correct. He would have replaced – who’s not on here?

R. Desmarais: Lincoln replaced somebody; he’s your latest hire, and he replaced somebody.

S. Story: Yes, Lincoln is a replacement, but I have not increased the staff. We’ve had 13 officers for a long time.

R. Desmarais: Lincoln was hired on 7/8/08, Lincoln was.

R. Keating: Gerry Lincoln replaced Mark Schade. We then moved another deputy to Sergeant.

R. Desmarais: The way the name is here it looks like he replaced someone.

T. Biggs: Who did Mushrall replace?

R. Keating: I believe he replaced Captain Trundy who went to the Jail. When Captain Tiner resigned, Detective Jason Trundy moved to the rank of Captain and went over to the Jail. There wasn’t an increase in staff – it was replacement of people leaving.

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin?

R. McLaughlin: Yes, a question for Scott: Which is dearer to you, two new employees or less cars?

S. Story: Well, here it goes: If you cut the two employees, I'm going to give you a car back, because that additional car is to go into a revolution so that I have it for the officers. O.K. I hate telling you that, because I don't want to give you more reason to cut the two officers.

N. Nelson: What if we did something like funded one officer?

S. Story: I would certainly be tickled to death at that. Again, like I told you when I started this thing, it is a tough decision. I wouldn't want to be sitting in your shoes trying to decide which way to balance this thing.

J. Bennett: I don't think this is the time to be adding anybody new.

****J. Bennett moved, T. Biggs seconded not to fund the two new officers.**

B. Sneed: Alright, let's continue the discussion. Dick Desmarais?

R. Desmarais: Scott, I know that the call volumes have increased. I believe it was the first of October that we exceeded last year's in our town - calls for service. One good thing about Searsport is this year, I believe, we've only asked for your coverage one shift, which is a milestone for us because in the past, you have covered us on many occasions. Stockton, I believe, is requiring less coverage from your department. Lincolnville has a police department that's giving them coverage. Belfast has coverage.

S. Story: Actually, all my officers are working for Lincolnville and Stockton; I don't know why they bother to call their own departments.

R. Desmarais: You don't sign their paychecks, Scott. So, there is an offset here; it's just unfortunate that our figures are going up like your figures, and they are going to continue to go up. We're in hard times all around. Right now we have a situation, I'm going to say it, it's not quite the way you may want to hear it, but here's an example of the federal government stomping on the State. The state has to ask for cuts, so that they're pulling back. It has fallen down to the taxpayer, who is still dishing it out. Somebody has to pay the bill, and it has fallen down to us. I do support the cutting of those two officers, definitely. We have to pull back, and we have to hope that through education, or whatever we can stop of this – get them while they're young and get them on the straight road and not have to deal with them later on. You are not supposed to be the parent when they're eighteen; and that's what is happening to the police departments – they're taking over where the parents let things fail.

S. Story: I wish it was as easy as eighteen. The call that came in last night was a seven-year-old out of control. I hear you, Dick.

N. Nelson: I'd like to see, and I know it's not the motion is on the table, but maybe one car and one officer. I think, especially with hiring an officer; yes, the taxpayers are paying for it and it's coming out of the budget. Obviously, there has been a solid argument made for the need, and I also see that as creating another job for Waldo County. It's not necessarily something where the money just goes poof! into smoke. That's where I stand.

B. Sneed: Tim?

T. Biggs: Scott, I'm sorry. I don't understand. When you said that the Sheriff and Deputy become full-time positions in this budget – where does this money get subtracted from? What department?

S. Story: Out of the Jail, the 1050. I won't say you don't get to see it; you can certainly look at it, but that one now goes to the Board of Corrections, and that particular budget, they were backed out of that budget. You're still paying for both of them – it's just now that it's being allocated out of the 1075 line – all of the salary, instead of half there and half in 1050.

T. Biggs: O.K., I see.

R. Desmarais: I left one thing out, Scott, as I'm looking at paperwork here. I'll go back to the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff – your half pay coming out of the Sheriff's Department last year; now your full pay is coming out. I look at that as gaining a man. We're paying for an extra man right there, because you've gone full-time now; you and Bob have gone full-time and costing us another half a man apiece, which I assume, that can add up to a full man.

S. Story: Well, it does; but what you've done, you've also saved that from the 1050 budget. All you've done is moved it from the left pocket to the right. It hasn't cost the taxpayers one penny more.

R. Desmarais: You are absolutely right, but the Jail is kind of pushed off to the side now; it's a new animal that I hope you'll fill us in on the latest and greatest on that.

S. Story: That Jail - what's happened so far is the best thing that's ever happened to the taxpayers of Waldo County. I'm not sitting in front of you this year with a 7% increase on a \$2.8 million budget.

R. Desmarais: And, we appreciate that, Scott.

S. Story: My point is that those two half salaries are not costing you one penny; not a penny.

R. Keating: I'd just like to speak to that, if I could. Our duties and responsibilities for running that jail haven't changed. If you think Governor Baldacci is coming down and running the Jail and taking care of personnel matters, that's not happening. We're still doing it.

R. Desmarais: No compensation from the State?

R. Keating: That's right.

R. Desmarais: It always ends up that way. We're always the guy on the bottom.

B. Sneed: There has been a motion made and seconded on line item 3000 to remove two new patrol officers. Any further discussion? All in favor of that? All opposed?

****Motion failed with 4 in favor J. Bennett, R. Desmarais, R. McLaughlin, T. Biggs and 4 opposed B. Sneed, H. Potter, R. Crossman, N. Nelson.)**

****N. Nelson moved, B. Sneed seconded supporting one new officer.**

B. Sneed: Any discussion? All in favor of allowing Scott to hire one new officer?

R. Crossman: If we supported one officer, where do we stand on the cars?

S. Story: [Joking] From the petition forward - if I could just get the front seat and the motor, we'll build something from one of the old wrecks for the back end of it...no! I have to look back to my Chief; he manages my fleet. Bob [Keating], if we got one officer, can we forego a car for six months, or something? I don't know what the fleet looks like.

R. Keating: Any decision you make tonight about purchasing cruisers, if the budget goes through; in January we out to bid, by February, those bids are presented to the Commissioners. This year, we took delivery of our cruisers at the end of July. By the time they were outfitted and on the road, it was August. So, it's probably going to be the same thing. We normally get three cars a year; the three cars this year, if we are allotted them - one would go to Sergeant Porter. He is currently driving the 2001 Crown Victoria with 119,000 miles. Keep in mind that we're going to have to get eight more months out of that car. The next one would go to Deputy Dave Mushrall, one of our new officers. His cruiser currently has 122,800 miles on it, as of this week. The third one would go to Sergeant Brown; his current mileage on his is 82,000; we have to get eight months out of that, but that car is giving mechanical problems with the transmission. It's been in four times now for transmission problems, and it's still slipping. Our feeling is we want to get that off the road before we get over the 100,000 miles. We have a warranty package on that one. Then, we have three spare cruisers. Spare cruiser 1417 has 145,000 miles; 1425, which is a 2003 Ford, has 130,000 miles; and 1427, which is another 2003, has 135,000 miles on it. So, when we start running them up over 100,000 miles, we're in trouble. We normally ask, and you guys have allowed us over the last few years, to get three a year to get our fleet in much better shape than we used to be when we were running the 200,000/250,000 [miles]and just paying the long dollar to keep them running. Besides the fact, it's officer safety. The other thing you have to consider with these cruisers, is that they are working automobiles. What you see on the odometer isn't what may be on the car sitting at crime scenes, traffic accidents, structure fires, or whatever - running and idling with all the equipment running. I guess if we were going to get one new officer, I would still like to see us get that extra cruiser, as well. I think we need it. If not, we're going to be having one of our officers out there on patrol with a car with around 150,000 miles.

J. Bennett: If we take the two people out, that's \$77,828.00; then, you go down here under the Capital Outlay and deduct one cruiser and one additional person, that's another \$48,500.00; then there's going to be benefits for the benefit line. We're talking a lot of money to just hire another...I still don't think it's time to do it.

R. Desmarais: The vote, I mean the decision has been made to give them one of the two.

N. Nelson: We haven't voted on that motion.

J. Bennett: I understand, but you can turn down one, too.

B. Sneed: Any further discussion?

R. Crossman: That was my question – as it stands right now, you are getting two new officers, the way we just voted.

B. Sneed: No, we get one.

J. Bennett: No, we haven't voted for that.

D. Parkman: The vote was to do away with two.

N. Nelson: And, that failed, so...

B. Sneed: You're right.

N. Nelson: We'll give them one new officer, is what we'd be voting on now.

R. Desmarais: So, actually, your motion is to cut one of the two.

N. Nelson: To cut one of the two.

B. Sneed: Seconded. Any further discussion? Tim?

T. Biggs: Well, even if we cut an officer and a car, we're still looking at a 10% increase, at least, for the department again this year. Can we keep doing this forever? We just keep doing it every year.

B. Sneed: I think when we get to the next page we can reduce this a bit more.

T. Biggs: Is there any kind of penalties you can give all these kids who are calling 9-1-1 and making you go out there?

S. Story: I wish.

**** Motion failed with 4 opposed (R. Crossman, T. Biggs, J. Bennett, R. Desmarais); 4 in favor (N. Nelson, B. Sneed, R. McLaughlin, R. Lee).**

B. Sneed: We have to make a decision on this guys. As it stands now, he's going to get two.

****J. Bennett moved, again, to not hire two new officers. R. Desmarais seconded.**

B. Sneed: Any further discussion?

T. Biggs: Like Jim was saying, we are adding, in reality, \$40,000.00 for each new officer, when you talk about benefits and everything.

J. Bennett: It's more than that by the time you go to the car and everything else. That's a lot of money.

R. Desmarais: About \$37,000.00 for that fourth cruiser.

D. Parkman: What happens when an officer doesn't show up?

A. Fowler: Hopefully, they've got their overtime to pay somebody to answer the call.

N. Nelson: I have one comment, I guess. I think this is one of those essential services to the County that how can you even begin to put a price on that service not being there when you need it?

J. Bennett: I don't think they are.

N. Nelson: I think our Sheriff is asking for this, and I don't think he would ask for it if he didn't feel that he needed it. Not to give him even half of what he asked for...

J. Bennett: That's why we're here – if we're here to give everybody what they want, then we shouldn't be here.

N. Nelson: No, but I think that's why he's here, too – to ask what he feels he needs to run his department to the best of its potential.

T. Biggs: Well, the best would be ten more officers. In reality, fifty, maybe. Where do you draw the line? I know my town is having trouble paying taxes this year.

R. Desmarais: Nakomis, do you take care of the worthy poor in your town? Are you a Selectman and keeper of the worthy poor? Is that your title?

N. Nelson: I try to make the best decision I can for the people that voted for me.

R. Desmarais: Is part of your job keeper of the worthy poor? Do you have the people who can't get heat in their house and can't get their furnace fixed? Do you deal with that?

N. Nelson: We do. Our town has a community fund where everybody makes donations to, and they pay for heating oil or college tuition.

R. Desmarais: You have to sit there at every meeting and hear those that fall through the cracks and try to resolve it, and you'll realize that things are tight.

N. Nelson: I'm sure they are.

B. Sneed: Motion made and seconded. All in favor of not hiring two new officers under section 3000; all in favor of NOT hiring. (Motion failed; tied, 4 in favor, 4 against.) We're not going to get anywhere tonight!

S. Story: Might I make a suggestion, gentleman, that might help? Might I suggest we come back to this? Let's go through the rest of the thing, because there some areas in here. One of the benefits that I have is I have a huge amount of gas that I go through; and as we all know, when I make my budget in September, I'm making my best guess. Well, the day I did this budget, it was \$4.11 a gallon. I don't think it's any secret that I can show you some money in there. I doubt if that's going to help you with your decision-making later; maybe it will be in an adverse way, but I guess I don't want to leave this unresolved. Let's come back to it, if that would help.

N. Nelson: First, I would just again think that I would really encourage maybe everybody to try and fund one new officer and only three new cruisers. I know that may make hardship, but it seems that there will be a car that will run; or if something can be made to happen, and if that gives them an officer that they need, that is what I would support.

B. Sneed: Let's come back to it, and we'll see if we can mull it over. Contractual Services – Gas. I was already going to make a motion to reduce that to \$135,000.00, Line 4200 under Contractual Services.

A. Fowler: Reduce it to what, sir?

B. Sneed: \$135,000.00.

S. Story: That's a little more than I was going to offer up, I'll be honest with you.

A. Fowler: Yeah.

B. Sneed: O.K., fine!

S. Story: Let me suggest that our consumption will be around 30,000 gallons. I budgeted this at \$4.50 and I think everybody at this table knows that is high right now. I hope I don't see \$4.50 a gallon gas, but I think we are going to see \$3.50 again; and I would suggest that you base your 30,000 on \$3.50 a gallon. That would cut that down by \$30,000.00.

J. Bennett: That new cruiser and two new people - I'm sure you'd put gas in there for them if you got them, right?

S. Story: Actually, what I did was I figured the additional amount of consumption on about a 17% increase in calls; so, to some extent, it's somewhat covered in that 17% increase - actually 30% increase.

B. Sneed: Thirty thousand gallons times \$3.50 a gallon works out to \$105,000.00.

A. Fowler: But, there's also tires, maintenance, so on and so forth.

B. Sneed: Oh, O.K.

S. Story: That whole line item includes the maintenance. We're on track this year on maintenance for about \$50,000.00; that's what I projected for '09. The fuel, like I said, I calculated out at \$4.50 a gallon.

****N. Nelson moved, R. Crossman seconded cutting line 4200 to \$150,000.00 - \$100,000.00 in gas; \$50,000.00 in maintenance.**

B. Sneed: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Tim?

T. Biggs: Sir, how many cruisers is this maintenance and gas and tires for? Is that ten?

S. Story: Well, sixteen.

R. Keating: Actually, if you want to add the Sheriff's vehicle, it's seventeen.

B. Sneed: I don't know. I look at the weekly budget; we're down to about 85% of the year, and you've spent 8% of the budget of \$135,000.00 – that just strikes me that you're right on tick from last year, and at very high prices in the interim.

S. Story: Well, remember, last year we only budgeted \$3.50 a gallon for gas, too. You cut me last year, as well.

B. Sneed: Yeah, and for part of the year, you paid \$4.00. Somehow or another...

S. Story: In the front of the year, we paid the big dollars, little dollars - I don't recall - but it balanced out. It's like I told you last year, if the gas prices stay down, I'm in great shape – if they go up, I'm in trouble. It's as simple as that.

B. Sneed: Yes, it's a crap shoot.

S. Story: Yeah, sure it is.

R. Desmarais: We went 30% increase in our town on all our buildings, and we ate it all up. We'd better have a mild December, or we are going to be over in those accounts.

T. Biggs: So, do all your personnel drive cruisers? Do your detectives drive them, too? Is it something that's mandatory? Is it possible to work in a Toyota or something that lasts a lot longer?

S. Story: I will tell you this: As Bob said, this isn't your Dad's Ford, or something like that - your Grandma's car. We actually tried that one year, Tim. We went with Taurus's with the detectives, and they were dead at 80,000 miles. These cars - what you see on the odometer is, Bob's exactly right, they sit out there in the middle of the winder and idle for quite a while at a crime scene. Make no mistake, they get pounded on...when somebody screams, "I'm being beat up," or they have a knife, we don't drag our feet getting there. We get there as quick as we can, as safely as we can. Boy, anybody ever want to travel Route 52 faster than the speed limit last couple of years, that will take ten years off a car in a half an hour. That's what we're up against; they take a pounding.

****Motion passed with six in favor; two opposed (J. Bennett, R. Desmarais).**

B. Sneed: Anything else you want to reduce there, Scott, for us before we...

S. Story: I'll toss you another one, if you're interested.

B. Sneed: Up or down?

S. Story: Down. Telephone. It started out very frustrating because I wanted to get on the State's - we were up on our cell phone contract, and I wanted to get on the State's contract with U.S. Cellular. We couldn't get on it, at first. We screamed and hollered and this, that and the other, and we managed to get on the State contract. We saved a pile of money doing that. I would recommend to you that you could probably cut \$2,500.00 off the telephone line (4315).

****N. Nelson moved, B. Sneed seconded to cut Telephone (line 4315) by \$2,500.00. Unanimous.**

S. Story: The last one I'll offer up - it's not a lot of money, but every little bit helps, is on Printing. We had \$1,200.00 budgeted in that last year, I think. I asked for it again this year. We just now are getting around to printing up our policy books for new employees, that sort of thing. So, as long as we take care of them all at the end of this year, we can cut that in half. So, you could take \$600.00 out of line 4840 very easily, if you wanted to, as well.

B. Sneed: I hate to argue you out of money, but in years past you've spent about \$1,200.00.

S. Story: We're going to be a little bit ahead because we dragged our feet this year.

B. Sneed: O.K.

S. Story: Believe me, I wouldn't be offering it up if I thought I needed it.

****B. Sneed moved, J. Bennett seconded to cut line 4840 to \$600.00. Unanimous.**

S. Story: Really, gentlemen, the rest of the areas that I have that can go either way are kind of predicated on what you do with those officers.

N. Nelson: That would be uniforms and training?

S. Story: Uniform and training – you have some area in there.

N. Nelson: If we cut one officer and hired one new officer, would there be room in those?

S. Story: It costs me \$1,500.00 to send one to the Criminal Justice Academy, so each one of those officers is \$1,500.00 under Training; and as far as uniforms and badges, we take a bit of a bite on that, but by the time we outfit one in new uniforms and such, just to get them started, we're going to be at a bare cost of somewhere around \$700.00, give or take.

R. Keating: It's a little over \$1,000.00 now just for the basics.

S. Story: Is it really, just to get them started?

R. Desmarais: Scott, you said the Academy was \$1,500.00?

S. Story: That's correct. That's the bill we get when we send them.

R. Desmarais: Is that the \$100.00 one?

S. Story: No, that's the big one. That's cheap, actually.

R. Desmarais: I thought it was \$15,000.00.

S. Story: No, \$1,500.00.

R. Keating: It's not just the Academy – it's also the wages and the cost of the cruiser, etc. That's just the bill we get from the Academy.

****N. Nelson moved, B. Sneed seconded to reduce line 5375 by \$1,500.00**

B. Sneed: All in favor? All opposed? Tim, you had a question?

T. Biggs: This was last week's spreadsheet, but 4493 out of that line.

R. Crossman: Which one?

T. Biggs: [Line] 5375. That's how much we had expended by last week.

S. Story: I just got a bill for \$4,224.00 that we just sent down for payment for ammunition. As anyone who is in the firearms world knows, trying to find ammunition right now is like pulling teeth. We normally have to get 223 and 40 caliber; the war is eating all that stuff up.

T. Biggs: How much ammo are you using these days?

S. Story: For training, quite a bit. That's the line it's under, and now the price of it has gone through the roof. We were late getting the ammo and getting the bills; we actually borrowed ammo from somebody, didn't we, Matt [Detective Curtis]? We still have to pay the bill.

B. Sneed: I know; I bought a brick of 22's a couple of weeks ago and I almost had to take out a mortgage. So, motion made and seconded to reduce line 5375 by \$1,500.00; any further discussion?

**** Motion passed with 7 in favor; 1 opposed (R. Crossman.)**

R. McLaughlin: Can we go back to a motion that would entail having one deputy and three cars?

B. Sneed: Let me do the arithmetic here, first. Then we can certainly do anything you'd like. So, if I'm keeping track of things, at the moment, under Contractual Services, that's down to \$179,400.00; Commodities would be down to \$38,250.00. Let's go back to the first page. Dick McLaughlin?

****R. McLaughlin move, N. Nelson seconded to fund one new officer and three cruisers.**

B. Sneed: Do it piece by piece?

R. McLaughlin: I was trying to put them together.

J. Bennett: What about the warranty that's on that cruiser that you're not going to buy?

R. McLaughlin: I think we can take that afterwards, if this passes.

A. Fowler: We didn't hear the motion.

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin has made a motion to fund one new officer and three new cars. Nakomis seconded it. Any further discussion?

****Motion passed with 7 in favor and 1 opposed (J. Bennett.)**

****R. Desmarais moved, R. McLaughlin seconded to deduct one warranty of \$1,500.00 and cruiser equipment of \$12,000.00.**

N. Nelson: We're cutting cruiser equipment?

B. Sneed: I think we're going to talk about it - I think.

S. Story: You're on track. That cruiser equipment, that \$12,000.00, is for four cars, so take a fourth of it if what you're trying to do...

R. Desmarais: Wait a minute – you’re buying a new car; you don’t have a cage, you don’t have a radio; you don’t have all of that stuff. That’s where I’m assuming that \$12,000.00 is coming from, to supply that car, to equip it.

S. Story: Not for one car, no. That’s for four cars. \$12,000.00 equips four cars.

R. Desmarais: What are you getting on these four cars? I’m assuming you have three cars, you’re going to transfer equipment. Now you’ve got the stand-alone car that comes stripped down and you have to put it together.

S. Story: Correct.

R. Desmarais: O.K., that’s coming out of the \$12,000.00; what’s the difference between them and the other three cars?

S. Story: As you said, we recycle most of our stuff, but we still have to buy the – the lights are worn out by the time you get this stuff. You have to replace strobe packs; the strobes. The radios; we are not replacing in that. By the time we get the striping done on the cars, by the time we get the radio equipment transferred over, by the time we put the cameras in, transfer the cameras over; we do have to buy some new lights. If we rebuild light bars, which we’ve been doing over the years; when we go low profile, we have to buy some new lights for that - we are running about three grand (\$3,000.00) a car right now.

B. Sneed: And, it’s been consistently \$2,800.00 to \$3,000.00 for the last number of years, as far back as I’ve looked. It’s pretty much a fixed cost.

R. Desmarais: O.K. Where does the motion stand? Did it get a second?

R. McLaughlin: Yes, I seconded it.

R. Desmarais: Okay, want to modify it?

****R. McLaughlin withdrew his second on the previous motion.**

****R. Desmarais moved, R. McLaughlin seconded that the warranty be reduced by one, for \$1,500.00 and that the cruiser equipment be reduced by \$3,000.00. Unanimous.**

R. McLaughlin: Scott, you have bullet-proof vests on there for \$600.00 apiece; there’s grant money out there for that.

S. Story: I know there is, and I’ve gotten it every year except for the last two; last year we didn’t get it – not last year, the year before last year – we didn’t get an award, and I have no idea why. This year, I did everything that I thought was right and we still didn’t get it. They said we missed the deadline. I’m still disputing that with the website. As a matter of fact, we got an email last week that said, “Congratulations, here’s your money,” and then we get another three minutes later that says, “Never mind.” I don’t know what’s going on with that vest grant program. When I get

the grant, it ends up being surplus by 50% of what that number is that you're seeing. That's one other item, by the.....no, it's not; I'm sorry.

R. McLaughlin: If we don't fund four bullet-proof vests, does that mean we have four officers out there without bullet-proof vests on?

S. Story: No, but what it will mean is that you will have one, the new guy, without a vest and you'll have vests that may outside of their shelf life.

R. McLaughlin. O.K.

S. Story: We do the vests just like the cars – we try and cycle them. The vests, actually, have a wear life of about five years; beyond that it's anybody's guess.

R. McLaughlin: So, we could cut it \$600.00 and still have everybody protected?

S. Story: I'll find a way to make it happen, if that's what you see fit.

R. McLaughlin: You have two new vests for two new officers; you've only got one officer.

S. Story: That's right, yes. Yes.

B. Sneed: You want to make a motion?

****R. McLaughlin moved, B. Sneed seconded approving \$1,800.00 for bullet-proof vests.**

B. Sneed: All in favor?

A. Fowler: What?

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin made a motion to reduce the bullet-proof vests by one at \$600.00 a pop.

A. Fowler: Thank you.

N. Nelson: Back on the other page, Uniforms and Badges, we never really quite finished that up.

B. Sneed: Well, let's finish this, which is fairly complicated at the moment.

B. Arseneau: Who seconded that motion to reduce it to \$1,800.00?

B. Sneed: I did.

B. Arseneau: Thank you.

B. Sneed: All in favor? All opposed? Tim, you're opposed to reducing that?

****Motion passed unanimously.**

N. Nelson: Haven't we already voted on this?

A. Fowler: No.

B. Sneed: No, we haven't.

R. McLaughlin: Scott, you're getting a new man; you have a \$20,000 increase in your overtime. Will this new man have some effect on lowering that overtime?

S. Story: Chief?

R. Keating: It will not. The overtime – I can break it out for you, if you'd like. It covers court, training costs, replacements for vacation/sick time, the Islesboro patrol; from Memorial Day through Labor Day we put a full-time deputy out there. This year we did that because of lack of part-time guys, and I can explain that situation to you, if you'd like. We've been in a two-year recruiting cycle, trying to get part-timers. So, this year we filled the Islesboro slot with a full-time, certified officer and tried to back up as much as we could or go shorthanded. The State Police, also, with their call share, put troopers out on Islesboro this year to help us. With their scale back, next year that won't happen. I'm sure we're going to be covering Islesboro entirely. That all comes out of the overtime and part-time accounts. Court time - overtime covers for the guys' time in court. To give you an idea, so far this year, as of the end of October, I have spent \$6,205.00 in overtime just for officers in court. I can break it out more if you want. The training costs; we arrange all of the training that goes on, all of the replacement cost if someone is out sick - vacations, holidays. If you remember, last year we had asked for \$97,000.00 and something in overtime, and you cut me \$4,500.00 to cover the costs of the tasers. I think you funded me at \$93,000.00 for overtime, and I'm rounding numbers off. I think if you look at my overtime, right now I'm probably \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 overspent. Because I am overspent, we have cut back on using some part-timers to try to make up the balance.

R. Keating: At overtime, we have you at 92% of our budget has been spent. That's what we were handed tonight.

R. Keating: Yes, well, I'm over because we should be at 88%. I think I'm at 92%.

R. McLaughlin: You're only at 55% on your part-timer budget.

R. Keating: The situation with part-time, so that everybody understands, it used to be you could have all kinds of part-time officers. The training has changed so much through my career, and I think through Lieutenant Madden and Sheriff Story's careers. They now have to go to the Academy for 100-hour pre-certification before they can even be hired. They have to pay for that themselves. The cost of that is \$400.00, plus if you're working full-time, you have to lose two weeks of work to go to the Academy. It's hard to get people that are interested. All of last year, I was running with two part-time people. Right now this year, I have got five part-timers, but the situation I'm in is one

of my part-timers, Chris Dyer, who is a full-time game warden; he has a full-time job. The other part-time officer is Dave Caswell. He's a full-time military man. He's been with me since 2004, however he was deployed twice – once to Iraq, once to Cuba, I believe – so we didn't have his services. This year, we've gained Damien Stone, who we hired in June after he completed the 100-hour [training]. We got him through our field training program on July 22nd. I didn't have him available to go on the road to fill a shift until July 22nd. The new one we just picked up is Kevin Littlefield. Kevin works full-time here in Belfast, and he just completed and came out of FTO October 24th and now is covering shift. I have a third young man who is currently in FTO, Austin Reed, who just came to us. He had completed the Academy this summer; he's just moving into what we call Phase Three. He's with a patrol Sergeant who will sign him off after two weeks to go on Patrol. I'm looking to maybe next year of having three part-time officers who are going to be able to work a lot, and my other two - Chris Dyer and, hopefully, Dave Caswell not having to be deployed - having five part-time officers. If you look at the town of Lincolnville, I think they have six part-time officers just to cover Lincolnville. In fact, they pay about \$2.00 to \$2.50 more an hour than I pay my part-time people. That's why most of my people want to work in Lincolnville. Anyway, I think if you look at Searsport, they have several part-time officers. My part-time money - that we look pretty comfortable in, and part of the reason for that is that I haven't spent it when my overtime was over. The other thing just before I came down here – to finish out November and all of December - the shifts I have to cover, I have seven shifts left in November I'm covering with part-time officers; and I have twenty-six shifts to cover in the month of December that I'm covering with part-timers. So, I have about another \$4,500.00w of that part-time money already committed to guys I have plugged into openings. That money is going to come down to about \$4,500.00, plus if their shift doesn't end at the end because of a bad accident or a call, it could be more. I know I'm going to probably spend somewhere between \$4,500 to \$5,000 out of my line item for part-time. We work hard, the Sheriff and I have for two years. We have been looking to improve our part-timers. There is a heck of a lot of training that goes with it, and there's just a limited amount of hours you can work them.

R. McLaughlin: O.K., thank you, Bob.

B. Sneed: Nakomis, you had a question about the next page?

N. Nelson: I was just going to say that I think there was room to cut on the Uniforms and Badges, if we were willing to do three employees.

B. Sneed: On the other hand, if you just look back in the previous years, we've spent about \$9,200.00 a year, regardless.

N. Nelson: I was only going by what we were being told. What's your feeling?

S. Story: When I budgeted for this, keep in mind I tried to keep in tight because, honestly, I didn't anticipate that I would get two officers. We knew that we'd be scratching. Instead of budgeting a \$1,000.00, I budgeted \$650.00 for each officer, which is actually more of a maintenance rather than a start-up. We can maintain uniforms, boots, leather, equipment for \$650.00 a year, but the Chief is right that when you start a guy, it's about \$1,000.00. I wouldn't mess with it much; I had that pretty tight to start with.

B. Sneed: Allrighty. I'm going to go through these block by block, and let's hope that Ms. Fowler is going to keep me honest. For Personnel Services, I have as a final number \$884,169.24.

A. Fowler: Correct.

B. Sneed: For Capital Outlay Detail, I have as a final number \$89,850.00.

A. Fowler: Correct.

B. Sneed: For Contractual Services, I have as a bottom number \$179,400.00.

A. Fowler: Correct.

B. Sneed: For Commodities, as a bottom line I have \$38,250.00.

A. Fowler: Correct:

B. Sneed: If Texas Instruments has done their job right, I have a total departmental budget for 1075 of \$1,191,669.24.

A. Fowler: Bill, if I may?

B. Sneed: Sure.

A. Fowler: Under 7000, what did you folks – I don't have anything on the tasers. Did we get all the tasers?

B. Sneed: Yes, nobody made any motion about it.

A. Fowler: Excellent; O.K., thank you.

B. Arseneau: Can I ask what your Personnel Services line was again - your math for that?

B. Sneed: Personnel Services, Barb; I just simply reduced the original line by \$33,914.00.

B. Arseneau: No, it was \$884...

B. Sneed: \$884,169.24.

B. Arseneau: Thank you.

****N. Nelson moved, R. McLaughlin seconded to approve \$1,191,669.24 for Department 1075 total.**

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin seconds. All in favor? All opposed?

****Motion passed with 1 opposed (J. Bennett.)**

B. Sneed: Dick McLaughlin has to take off, which means we'll be down to an odd number of odd people. Can we take five minutes to stretch and get some water or something? I know we're running late.

(Five Minute Break)

E.M.A. (1010) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was E.M.A. Director Dale Rowley.

B. Sneed: Let's start again. Dale Rowley EMA (1010)

D. Rowley: Dale Rowley, Emergency Management, 1010 account. First one –

B. Sneed: Any questions for Dale about line 3000?

D. Rowley: My overall budget is up by 3.9%. The Personnel piece is 4%, but the rest of my budget is less than, so it actually brings it down to 3.9%.

N. Nelson: You've obviously heard, I guess, everything is getting cut. Is there anything you would offer up if anything had to be cut?

D. Rowley: I didn't try to add any cushion in there. Outside of Personnel, some of the items I actually lowered. For example, Telephone went down by \$200.00; my Supplies budget, I dropped \$400...

B. Sneed: You've added Vehicle Maintenance this year.

D. Rowley: Yes, I did. Basically, that is because I was able to get a vehicle donated to Emergency Management – it's a used ambulance – that was donated by Aroostook County to Waldo. They got it on a Homeland Security grant; then they got a second one in a grant, and they gave me their first one. That \$1,000.00 is, basically, to maintain that: Tires, oil, anything that goes along with it - anything that needs to be done to that vehicle. I did get a grant for \$10,000.00 to put communications in that vehicle. What we are hoping to do with that vehicle – we're going to call it an Emergency Response Vehicle – is to be able to put the Hazmat response equipment in there. Right now, if we have a Hazmat incident, we have to wait for somebody to come from Rockland or Ellsworth, Bangor - actually Orono or Waterville. We would like to have some sort of Hazmat capability. Also, it gives us some communications capability. We've done quite a few exercises, and as most people know, it's usually communications that makes it the most difficult. This vehicle will have communications assets; it will have Hazmat assets. We also got a grant to put a wireless laptop in there, so that's what that \$1,000.00 is for is to support that vehicle. I tried to make up for that increase of \$1,000.00 by cutting some other areas, like my Supplies budget and some others.

N. Nelson: I think you have kept it within what I think would be the rate of inflation. The buying power of your budget hasn't changed any.

D. Rowley: No. One thing that I have been able to do is in the three years that I've been here, my total budget is probably less than \$300,000.00 for the three years. I've been able to bring \$3,000,000.00 in grants and assistance – that's about ten dollars for every dollar. When I got money for exercise, I purchased batteries and what-not for the exercise, but I bought more than I probably needed for the exercise. So, a lot of my stuff hasn't gone of this because I've able to sneak parts and pieces out of state and federal grants to pay for things; buy extra stamps and use them instead.

B. Sneed: Jim, any questions?

J. Bennett: I don't have no questions.

****J. Bennett moved, N. Nelson seconded to approve \$95,772.00.**

B. Sneed: Motion made and seconded to fund department 1010 at \$95,772.00. Any further discussion? All in favor? All opposed?

****Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Sneed: Thank you, Dale.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY (1015) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was District Attorney Geoffrey Rushlau.

B. Sneed: Sir? District Attorney [Department 1015].

G. Rushlau: Do you have the Agenda? I didn't know who was next.

B. Sneed: You're next – sorry.

G. Rushlau: I hope I have all the right documents.

B. Sneed: Does anybody have any questions about any part of this? Well, I'm going to be in the odd position of asking if you shouldn't increase your Metro/D.A. Central a little bit, because it's running way behind, isn't it?

D. Parkman: You should have a new one on that. They look like they...but I didn't make an entry in my department. He's only spent about 80% of that budget.

B. Sneed: O.K., let's forget about increasing it, then.

G. Rushlau: I was worried there; that's one I actually pay attention to, because it's supposed to have gone down in the last couple of years, and I was hoping it did.

D. Parkman: I wanted to get the D.A. off the hook.

G. Rushlau: Thank you very much. I need all the help I can get.

B. Sneed: Any questions about any of it?

J. Bennett: I do; I just want to know why we should give an increase to you people when you're only representing apparently only part of the town. I mean, you and I have discussed this, and it seems like we pay more and more every year and get less and less.

G. Rushlau: What are you talking about?

J. Bennett: I'm talking about the pothole situation and stuff; you say you can't do nothing about that. Augusta is doing it, and there was just a thing on Bangor right now. They're looking for people; they've been painting this and that, and when people turn them in, they will pay. It comes down here, and you scale it out the door.

G. Rushlau: I'm wondering if this is the proper place to discuss that, but I'll answer your question, which is that all three attorneys in my office, including me, made an objective, professional decision that the matter involving the painting on the roads in Thorndike was not a crime that we could prosecute. That's what we determined because we're the ones responsible for bringing those cases before a judge or a jury; that's the job we're supposed to do. So, we did what we're supposed to do, Sir.

****B. Sneed moved, R. Crossman seconded to fund Department 1015 at the level of \$161,657.00.**

B. Sneed: Any further discussion on this budget? All in favor? All opposed?

**** Motion passed with 1 opposed (J. Bennett.)**

B. Sneed: Thank you, Sir [to G. Rushlau].

B. Sneed: Does it make any sense to get rid of Parkman before we deal with you, Jim [Arseneau]?

J. Arseneau: Whatever you folks would like to do.

TREASURER (1025) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for the discussion was Treasurer David Parkman.

B. Sneed: This way we can just take whatever money we can out of him, and... Anybody object to take this out of order and go to David, 1025? (There were no objections.) Let's take a look at that, then, quickly.

D. Parkman: While you're taking a look at it, I had a list of the towns that have paid and haven't paid. The reason I'm bringing this up right now is if a town has not paid, we charge interest the first of December. With Thanksgiving in the middle, the 27th this year, we're off – of course, the Post Office, as long as it's postdated this month. I'd like to congratulate Freedom while I'm here, because Freedom was the very first town this year to pay their County tax, and I'm very happy to report that.

B. Sneed: This way you don't have to fine them the \$1.69, or whatever it is.

D. Parkman: Some of the towns that haven't paid are Belmont; Belfast has paid; they owe about \$469,939.00, so they've paid about half of it, or a little bit more than that; Brooks has not paid; Frankfort hasn't paid.

[Unknown female voice, possibly Melissa Leali from Frankfort]: You'll have it next week.

D. Parkman: Islesboro hasn't paid.

N. Nelson: Islesboro...it's being mailed out this week.

D. Parkman: I just wanted to make sure that you get it in before December 1st because we charge interest. With the holiday being so late, there's nobody in this office. I just wanted to make sure, and, Stockton Springs hasn't paid, Lincolnville and Monroe. That's it. My budget is just about the same as it was last year. We got about the same amounts on that, as far as the Personnel Services, Karen has worked a little bit extra this year, a lot extra on the Jail reorganization program. From the other departments, we had to put it all into one department, whether it was a TAN note or personnel or buildings, out of Facilities and everything else. That took a lot of work. Last year, you gave her a little bump and I appreciate it very, very much. This year, we're asking that you give her the same as the other girls in the Commissioners' office.

B. Sneed: Any questions for Dave?

****R. Crossman moved, N. Nelson seconded to fund the Treasurer's Budget (1025) at \$57,629.00. Unanimous.**

TECHNOLOGY (1020-7000, 7001 & 7002) BUDGET REVIEW:

Present for this discussion was Technology Consultant James Arseneau of J&B Diversified Associates, Inc.

B. Sneed: Come on up, Jim.

B. Arseneau: I need to pass out some updated information, if you don't mind. Pages seven and eight needed to be changed, of the Technology detail.

S. Story: If I could, only because there may not be another opportunity in the middle of Jim's presentation, I just want to share real quick while Jim's up: Last year, there was another thing that saved us a fair chunk of change, and we haven't been able to really articulate an exact amount on it;

but Jim did a pile of work with getting a lot of our laptops upgraded. A lot of that was done with grant money; we got some new laptops with grant money. Another thing is that he picked up some air cards that saved us a pile of driving time. My guys aren't having to drive all the way back into Belfast all the time to do their reports. Obviously, if you know what cell coverage is like in Waldo County, if you see a cruiser parked on a hill with his left hand stuck out the window, he's probably doing paperwork. Just so you know, those technology things that aren't necessarily in my budget; they are in Jim's - really were a big help to our budget. I just want to throw that in before he makes his presentation tonight.

B. Sneed: Let's take a look at Capital Outlay Detail, number 7000. I'm sort of curious as to why we're putting up a security camera on the EMA building when it's next to the Sheriff's Department. Somebody's not taking care of Dale?

J. Arseneau: What we want to do is - this is something we put in the budget. We've got the video recorders are part of the purchase that were done with the Capital Outlay that you folks did last year.

B. Sneed: No, but why do you want a camera on the outside of the building?

J. Arseneau: Because when there are prisoners out working, there have been occasions where there has been stuff that has been put into the building - it's not visible from any of the cameras that are out, so there has been some issues. We thought if you put a camera out there, then it's recorded and the officers can see what's going on from a security standpoint, just like they are also monitoring the fields when they are out working the gardens and doing the various yard work that's around there. That's one item that doesn't require any additional equipment in the Jail; it's just an external camera. [Sergeant] Bobby Walker ran all the conduit and stuff last year as part of the effort to keep the variance on the Jail. The other thing that's in here that I should make note of, there's a Spillman Training Number Nine. This is something that is probably something that we're going to ask that you just strike off of here altogether, but I will put this caveat to it: The software that we have that's used for the law enforcement software that's used by Searsport, Lincolnville, Belfast and the Waldo Sheriff's Department, as well as the Correctional Facility and Dispatch, and also Islesboro and Stockton Springs want to come on board - this software gets upgrades. There's a new upgrade that affects, specifically, the Jail module, and to have someone come out and do the training, there is a fee associated with that. This is two weeks' worth of training to have them come out and train them. We don't think that we're going to necessarily do the upgrade to the Jail module next year. We're trying to look and see if it's possible to upgrade the rest of the software; not touch that. If that's the case, then we won't need the training; but if we do have to do the upgrade and it does effect some of the Jail software, there may be a requirement to do some training in there. How much of this that you folks are going to want to fund, I'll leave that up to you. We could strike the whole thing, but we are going to put ourselves in jeopardy. We'll get to a point where the software will not be at the right level that it's supposed to be in order to keep the maintenance.

B. Sneed: Why do you have to train at each rev level? Come on, Jim.

J. Arseneau: It's not each rev level, Bill. This is a brand new interface to the Jail. I'm just telling you what...

B. Sneed: I've already reduced it to zero anyway, in my mind; so you're not going to have to convince me. Maybe the other guys.

J. Arseneau: But, basically, the thing that you folks have to remember is that there has been an investment in technology in the County. If you let it sit and you let years go by and you don't do the upgrades, then the software and the investment that was done up front is of no value. This is a major rev level to a particular module, and that's why the training has been put in there. It's not something that we're just... There's already been three patch levels that we have received and that have required no training whatsoever. Also, in this portion, we are asking for some additional wireless cards so that all the laptops of the Sheriff's Department will have cards so they don't have to keep swapping out. You'll find that there is a spreadsheet that you folks were given that if we were figuring on the gasoline and maintenance on the vehicles, there are some soft numbers in savings for the number of trips that the deputies have. As Sheriff Story pointed out, the officers have already found it to be quite helpful not having to come back to the office to do their paperwork. They can actually sit in their patrol zones and do a good majority of it. They still have to come back and do finish paperwork, signatures, and things like that – loading of pictures and all; but it does allow for a fast response time and better coverage for the citizens in the patrol zones that they are in.

B. Sneed: Now, that number line six includes cards for the EMA Director, who says he's already got wireless...

J. Arseneau: Right, which that can be... we're looking at \$42.00 a month is basically what that will whack out of that; and \$200.00 for the installation.

B. Sneed: There's Owen's in there, too.

J. Arseneau: Yes, there's one in there for part of the laptop that he has.

B. Sneed: A mobile wireless for Owen? No offense, but why?

J. Arseneau: If there is a situation where the Comm. Center has to be closed down, they have a "grab and go" laptop that they would take with them. With the wireless card, short of the Comm. Center being destroyed completely, they have full access to the system and can run dispatching from any location that they have access for wireless service. That's basically adding a card to an existing laptop that they have.

R. Desmarais: Why is Corrections in line six?

J. Arseneau: That might be a typo, because I don't think they have any cards; I'm pretty sure that is a typo.

R. Desmarais: Is that typo going to change the dollar figures any?

J. Arseneau: If you go to the page that shows the spreadsheet, you'll notice there it shows what departments are affected with the laptops; there is no Corrections on there, so that was a typographical error. Originally, two years ago, we had talked about putting one in one of the laptops that the Jail Administrator has, and that probably didn't get changed – that's my fault. The other item that's probably a big ticket item that we haven't had in the past is NDS, which is the financial software what's used by the Treasurer's Department, is based on a platform that is in the verge of bankruptcy. The company that supports the system has basically encouraged the move of all of their customers over to a Windows-based platform, and we're perhaps the last customer of theirs that has not done that. Their recommendation is that if we don't do it for next year, they will not be able to support the software that we have in operation, keeping it updated and any issues that they have, because of the type of technology it is based on.

B. Sneed: So, they're going to charge you \$15,000.00 to migrate the data?

J. Arseneau: It's data, software and hardware.

B. Sneed: There's \$6,500.00 in Dave Parkman's budget for NDS already.

J. Arseneau: Right now, we have to keep that maintenance fee in there and licensing in place until the new system comes online. That will probably have some reduction in it, but we don't know when or how much that will be, based on when the new system comes online. This won't happen for January 1st. Even if you gave us the go ahead, you're probably looking at sometime towards the end of June that it will go into effect.

B. Sneed: And, NDS is switching over, which is a completely free database owned by a company that has just announced laying off six thousand employees.

J. Arseneau: Well, I haven't seen anything on that from them.

B. Sneed: Son, that's a lot of money for one single server for two people.

J. Arseneau: It's licensing fees. Look how much you're paying on the fees per year - \$6,000.00 in licensing fees.

B. Sneed: Which brings me back to my next question: Why are we paying \$6,000.00 for a database that's free?

J. Arseneau: You still have to maintain the existing database that we have at present; that's going to come due sometime in May. If we're able to convert the new system over, we probably will not have to spend that; but if we don't have it, there's going to be some portion that's going to be expended. You are also going to have to keep the other system up and running for a period of time; if there's any issues with that for the support, they require that the contract be in place. It's kind of a "catch 22." We got the letter in February, which was well after the budget season for 2008.

B. Sneed: Owen?

O. Smith: I would like to add something about the upkeep of these upgrades and software upgrades. Penobscot County, two years ago, began to realize that they needed to do something about the CAD system. They are like we are: Penobscot County has a system where everybody's in it, with the exception of Bangor P.D. They hired a consultant for a lot of money to come in and study what they needed to do for new software and new hardware. In the end, the consultant said that Spillman is as good as anything out there; what you've done is you have failed to maintain it over the years. What you need to do is to spend some money on it, upgrade it – hard, software – and you'll have a state-of-the-art system. My fear is if we don't take care of what we have, eight/ten years down the road we're going to be in the same position that Penobscot is in. I just shudder to think that we'll go backwards in technology the way we were in 2001, when I came up here from the City. All the computers were already there, except for four of them, but one was Windows 95; they could barely run the CAD system that came from Belfast. A couple of them had Windows 98. We began to upgrade those computers, and we've done pretty well since then to keep up with it. If we don't support it, we don't support the software upgrades, then the County is going to be behind, the City of Belfast is going to be behind; the Town of Searsport is going to be behind; the Town of Lincolnville is going to be behind; and Islesboro and Stockton wanting to come in. I'll make a little statement: They deserve to come in, because we provide for everybody else. We're all going to fall behind, and the system is going to be junk because we failed to maintain it; we failed to up the software; we failed to up the hardware. So, I just know where we were in 2001, and I know where we are today. I know how Penobscot is struggling and how much money they've spent in upgrades. In the end, they had to pay for it. I guarantee you it was more expensive in 2007 than they thought. I just fear that long after I'm gone, you're going to realize that we didn't take care of what we had; and now we've got to take care of it. It affects everybody - all the law enforcement in the County; fire and ambulance in the County. Technology is technology.

****B. Sneed moved, R. Desmarais seconded, to reduce line 7000 by \$26,000.00.**

B. Sneed: Motion made and seconded to reduce line 7000 by \$26,000.00. Any further discussion? Nakomis?

N. Nelson: So, that's \$20,000.00 for the Spillman training?

B. Sneed: Yes, and \$5,000.00 off of the server and \$2,000.00 off for the camera. You can parcel it out however you want; I just made a motion to reduce the whole thing by \$26,000.00. Motion made and seconded. All in favor? All opposed? No opposed.

****Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Sneed: So, the bottom line on that one should be \$86,570.00. Let's move onto block 7001.

J. Arseneau: In this particular one, the things that are constant are one, two and three, as well as four. Those are all a part of the initial lease that we have that will run until 2013 for the software that we have; August 16th, for the Spillman software and hardware that was purchased for doing the upgrade to the County. The two additional things that are added here is a five-year lease to bring the licensing in place for Stockton Springs and Islesboro, as well as five laptops for the Sheriff's Department to replace four laptops that are from either 2000 or 1999. They are Tough Books; they

take almost 15 to 20 minutes to boot up for the officers, so they won't shut them down. They don't have sufficient memory to run the programs they are supposed to, and they are very inefficient for just the operation. That being said, there is a Homeland Security grant that we are applying for that we're going to be submitting paperwork for the 21st. If we can get both of these through the Homeland Security grant, we will do that and it will not come from the County budget.

B. Sneed: I guess I have a question. Why are we paying for Stockton Springs and Islesboro?

J. Arseneau: It's a licensing per agency for the software. You can have as many users as you want for each agency, but they [Stockton Springs and Islesboro] were never licensed initially for using the law enforcement software.

B. Sneed: Why aren't Stockton Springs and Islesboro paying for this?

A. Fowler: Because they are taxpayers like everybody else.

J. Arseneau: Yes, they are taxpayers like everybody else; and Belfast got it, Searsport and Lincolnville received these services.

B. Sneed: We've asked you the question before about other towns.

J. Arseneau: Right. That was the thing that we had talked about initially; that we are going to probably have to provide that. As to any other agencies coming on board, the Sheriff is working with Owen to do up a memorandum of understanding so that the agencies meet specific requirements, so not everybody and his brother can just request to pop on the system.

B. Sneed: So, the laptops - you had budgeted \$25,000.00 for five laptops.

J. Arseneau: Yes. These are Tough Books, with the mounts for the car and the software that's used to run the laptops. Just the laptop alone is between \$3,500.00 to \$3,900.00; they are like what the State Police use, and they are very reliable. The other ones that Scott got through a grant from the State, we've had those, what - how many years, Scott - the second batch?

S. Story: The second batch we've had three or four years now, but the first batch, you're right, we've had those close to seven, eight or nine years now. They are called the Tough Books - they ARE tough! My guys aren't always the easiest on equipment, and they seem to survive. The other thing with these, too, we may get fortunate. I certainly would suggest that you appropriate what Jim is asking for, but we may get fortunate. Every one of these, so far, that we've purchased, we've done by grant. Occasionally, like every two or three years, the State will come up with more grant money for the traffic/accident reporting - that's where we pick them up. I haven't seen a grant for three or four years; I think they're due.

J. Arseneau: I talked with a woman at the State back in the springtime about this and she said she didn't know of anything coming up; but, like I said, there is a Homeland Security grant. November 21st it was submitted for the laptops and the licensing; and in 2009, there is another Homeland Security grant that is going to be coming that we are going to resubmit. We are going to break it up

in pieces, so if they choose to fund it, they will fund the licensing and the laptops in pieces so that it is more functional for them. Plus, the other thing we are going to be asking for in the grant is some additional software to allow the officers to be able to run plates from their car so they don't have to have the radio traffic back and forth. So, there is stuff that they can do that will alleviate a lot of the traffic when they're running traffic stops or doing a radar detail, or something like that. There won't be a lot of chatter on the radio regarding what people have for things on their record, and stuff like that. It will all be done through the computer.

R. Desmarais: These antiques they are running now. How long have they been running them for, the ones that they will replace?

J. Arseneau: It was either 2000 or 2001, wasn't it?

S. Story: The first or second year I was Sheriff, so it would have been 2000 or 2001.

R. Desmarais: So, you've been running them for eight or nine years. Could they hold off another year and let this grant flow?

J. Arseneau: If we don't get the grant, they won't make it through. They're already on borrowed time. I'm having problems with several of them with some disk errors. It's not like I can send it out and get it repaired, because it's too old – no one will repair it. It's an integrated system with the way the motherboard is set up. We had asked for these last year, if you remember, and you folks decided that we wouldn't do that last year. I came before you last year because there was a need back then, and it is a need still today. It hasn't gone away - it's just gotten worse.

B. Sneed: Have you looked at any of the other Tough Books, like the semi-rugged ones? They're half the price.

J. Arseneau: For what they are looking for in the car, they won't match the docking stations that we have. That would mean that I would have to purchase different equipment so they can use them in the office. We've already outfitted the office so that they can come in and put the system down. We're looking for consistency, too, for how the equipment works and the software that's on it. That makes a big difference, because as officers change, other officers are training on the same piece of equipment. It's not like, "Oh, you're running this laptop, so we have to do it this way versus running it that way."

N. Nelson: So, this is the technology that saves you miles and gas and time?

S. Story: Yes.

****T. Biggs moved that Line 5 be funded at zero.**

B. Sneed: Motion made. Second? (None recorded.)

J. Arseneau: Did you folks get the letter from Islesboro requesting to come on? Can I read this to you? This is from the town of Islesboro; it was sent to the Commissioners. It was a formal request from Islesboro that says:

“Dear Commissioners:

I have been in contact with Dave Kinney the Lincolnville Town Administrator about the law enforcement Spillman computer program that the County has allowed his town law enforcement department to use and access without any additional County fees being assessed to Lincolnville. He has spoken very positively about the computer program and the advantages that having access to the program has afforded his law enforcement department. The Islesboro Board of Selectmen respectfully requests the same access to the computer program as the Town of Lincolnville currently has. The Islesboro law enforcement department employs one officer year round and a second officer added during the summer months. This is in addition to the Waldo County deputy that you provide to the Island during those same busy summer months. Computer access to the Spillman program would benefit all three of these officers. Please let me know if there is any additional equipment the town would need to budget for in anticipation of the County allowing the town access to the program.”

We’ve told them what they need for hardware for the computer systems and what they are going to use out on their setup. Stockton Springs also contacted us, and they’re supposed to be sending a letter, as well.

B. Sneed: So, if I understand this, in that \$31,000.00 is folded in \$25,000.00 for five laptops and \$6,000.00 for software licensing for two additional towns.

J. Arseneau: No, it’s all together. It’s a lease for \$104,000.00 total, spread over five years. So, you have \$104,000.00 plus \$25,000.00 divided by five, gives you \$31,000.

N. Nelson: Are you wondering why line 6 is zero, though?

J. Arseneau: That amount, the laptops is added, is part of, the \$31,000.00. I didn’t know how else to show it, because it’s bundled in. It’s two different components, but we put it in one lease.

B. Sneed: So, how much is the lease?

J. Arseneau: \$31,000.00 per year for five years.

B. Sneed: Not including the laptops.

J. Arseneau: That includes the laptops.

B. Sneed: How much not including the laptops?

J. Arseneau: I don't have that figure; I gave them a bundle.

R. Desmarais: I hate to see us put this money out there this year, if the grants can come through. That's an unknown.

J. Arseneau: If we do some sort of conditional - say we'll fund it if you don't get the grant, but if you do get the grant, we won't fund it - that would be, because if we get the grant, we're not going to spend this money for the next years. This is if we don't get the grants, then we'll expend this amount of money.

R. Desmarais: So, people are going to be taxed, the money is going to be taken from them, one way or the other.

N. Nelson: You don't know what it would cost not to get the laptops, but to put Stockton Springs and Islesboro in the Spillman system?

J. Arseneau: The software licensing is about \$71,000.00 for that. Let me go to that section. Yes, the software is \$72,000.00; then we rounded the laptops off to a total of \$129,000.00. I think you're doing about \$5,000.00 for the laptops, because that's for five laptops, not for four, \$25,000.00.

B. Sneed: Tim?

T. Biggs: I have a motion out there.

A. Fowler: Could you repeat the motion?

T. Biggs: I would like to fund line 5 at zero, and hope the grants come in.

B. Sneed: Jim?

J. Arseneau: So, then what is the Budget Committee saying to the town of Islesboro? They are paying taxes, and their request is that since they're paying taxes for something that everybody else got, they would like to be able to have the licensing in place.

A. Fowler: And Stockton Springs.

J. Arseneau: And Stockton Springs. That's a viable request.

R. Desmarais: What is the amount for the licenses, \$6,000.00?

J. Arseneau: \$71,000.00 for the licensing. It's a one-time fee that provides them full access, so they can add officers - as many as they wish.

R. Desmarais: Divided over five years?

J. Arseneau: Well, you could divide it over five years.

R. Desmarais: Where did the \$71,000.00 suddenly pop out from? I missed that figure when it came out.

J. Arseneau: O.K. You have the laptops at \$25,000.00 and the \$71,000.00, plus some of the software is for the actual software that's running the licensing. We have two components: We have the Sheriff's Department piece, and we have Islesboro and Stockton Springs, rolled into one lease.

R. Desmarais: So, this \$104,000.00 you're talking about, \$105,000.00 you're talking about - \$25,000.00 is for these computers, these laptops.

J. Arseneau: Yes.

R. Desmarais: So, the rest of it is what we're talking about.

J. Arseneau: Yes, the actual equipment cost is about \$130,000.00. By the time you get done with your interest, you are going to be at \$31,000.00 times 5.

N. Nelson: So, the number we're trying to get is what line 7000 would be without the laptops?

R. Desmarais: That's probably what we're looking for.

B. Sneed: Is that what you're looking for, Tim?

J. Arseneau: I do have a payment factor that's 0.237561; so including the maintenance, it's \$104,000.00. So, \$104,000 times 0.237561 is probably going to be about \$25,000/\$26,000 a year for five years.

R. Desmarais: That's for Islesboro and Stockton?

J. Arseneau: Yes.

R. Desmarais: But, that's not the computers?

J. Arseneau: That's not the computers. I really think that, however you vote this, if you do vote in favor, you should keep in mind that it's provided we don't get the grant. If we don't get the grant, then we won't be spending any money on this line item.

B. Sneed: Oh, you'll find a way to spend it some place, Jim.

J. Arseneau: No.

B. Sneed: Yes, I suspect. Motion made and seconded. All in favor or reducing line 5 to zero, all in favor of doing that? All opposed?

****Motion fails.**

R. Crossman: Can you do the laptops incrementally?

J. Arseneau: The problem we're going to run into, as everybody know, is that we're running XP right now. That's what the County has. If we wait until, let's say, the end of next year to do the laptops, now we will have Vista. We're going to have to fight with integrating that software into the system. What we're trying to do is, if we can get these laptops, then we're basically going to jump over Vista altogether because by the next time we do the refresh on the equipment, it's going to be five or six years when the new operating system is out. That's the recommendation that the Technology Task Force originally made – that every three to four years, the hardware should be replaced. We just completed the replacement of the hardware last November, so we're hoping now to be able to jump over the Vista platform and come out on the next one, because Vista has turned out to like ME was - it has a lot of issues.

B. Sneed: Yes, like it doesn't work.

R. Crossman: I have a question. The way you're saying it, if you get the grant, you can subtract \$104,000.00?

J. Arseneau: If we get the grant, then the \$31,000.00 that would be expended every five years would go to zero.

R. Crossman: Right, so that's \$104,000 plus the laptops and interest.

****R. Crossman moved to fund this** at \$137,620.00, with the stipulation that if they get the grant, then that \$150,000.00 roughly is not funded. (No second recorded.)

R. Crossman: Does that make sense?

B. Sneed: It does, except for the little blue printing at the bottom with the asterisk.

R. Crossman: Which is?

B. Sneed: "The Commissioners reserve the right to make changes as needed."

(Laughter from A. Fowler.)

R. Crossman: Can we deal with the little blue asterisk? It's their budget.

B. Sneed: But, we're the ones being asked to vote on it.

A. Fowler: I don't have a problem with that statement - stipulation.

J. Hyk: If it's in the budget, it goes to surplus. That's the only thing that can technically happen to it.

A. Fowler: As I say, I don't have a problem if the grant comes through, then that money automatically goes back. I'm not a computer guru, Bill, so it's not like I'm going to scheme some evil plot to spend it. I appreciate what you guys are saying.

B. Sneed: How about if we make a motion that if they get the grant, the money goes into the Technology Reserve fund?

A. Fowler: That would be good.

J. Arseneau: If that's what you folks so motion, that would be excellent.

****J. Crossman: I'll amend my motion that way.**

B. Sneed: Does that make any sense?

D. Berry: Yes, it does make sense.

B. Sneed: Harry, any thoughts on that?

H. Potter: I didn't know we had that authority to dictate.

J. Hyk: I think you'll see, if you look at the Reserve Accounts, the Commissioners put quite a bit of money into the Technology account this past year, because it wasn't funded to what it needed to be last year. So, we're already looking at that and doing that. If you look at your Capital Reserve accounts, I think we put \$70,000.00 in there from last year.

J. Arseneau: And, Bill [Sneed] will remember that was one of the things that in talking to the Budget Committee back in 2001 when we talked about the initial purchase of the PCs and the need to establish the Reserve account, Bill made it quite plain that it's very important that the money be put aside and be spent for future improvements to the technology. That's what has been done. That's what the County did, as was recommended by the Task Force.

B. Sneed: As Bill's wife frequently reminds him, he frequently makes mistakes.

(Laughter.)

N. Nelson: So, our motion right now has been seconded?

A. Fowler: Yes.

B. Sneed: And voted on?

N. Nelson: It was voted on?

B. Sneed: It was voted on.

N. Nelson: Okay, that went right over my head.

B. Arseneau: The amended one was voted on?

B. Sneed: Oh, I'm sorry! You're right.

R. Crossman: Somebody read the motion again?

B. Sneed: Did anyone write it down?

B. Arseneau: I still don't have it seconded, but Mr. Crossman moved to fund it at \$137,620.00 with the stipulation that if the money wasn't spent, it would go to surplus. Then you amended it and said you'd prefer it go to the Technology reserve.

R. Crossman: Yes, if they got the grant.

****N. Nelson: I'll second it if nobody else has. Motion passed with 1 opposed (T. Biggs.)**

B. Sneed: The last page is block 7002.

J. Arseneau: You will notice that this has gone up for several things. The hardware that was installed in 2006 for the Spillman software, the Sun System, as well as the servers that we have in-house, the maintenance contracts on them have expired. Because the Sun servers run a mission critical application to renew the maintenance contracts, we have the coverage if there are hardware failures. That's in there – you have \$6,000.00 for the Sun equipment that is a two-year; then, you have for the HP servers. So, you would do it this year, but for 2010, there wouldn't be an expenditure because it is a two-year contract for the maintenance. Then, in 2011, we probably will refresh the servers, so they'll pick up a new contract that comes with the equipment when they're installed.

B. Sneed: So, the CSH is still running?

J. Arseneau: No. There's no money being, it's going to be taken off line as soon as Belfast puts their server on; they have it out to bid right now.

B. Sneed: Then, I don't understand why we're spending \$6,050.00 on a maintenance contract.

J. Arseneau: That has nothing to do with CSH server; it's the Sun.

B. Sneed: Doesn't it run on the Sun?

J. Arseneau: No, that's still a Unix.

B. Sneed: What runs on the Sun?

J. Arseneau: That's the Spillman software. It's a Sun V240 server and a storage array. It says right there what the – that's for the Spillman software for the law enforcement agencies and Corrections,

as well as the CAD system. The HP service contracts are for the servers that take care of the files, domain control, the remote access that is used by the law enforcement officers and the outside agencies, as well as the Probate server. If you'll notice, too, when I did the budget I did some adjustments; you see what the actual costs would have been, and there's an adjustment that's been made because some of these fees the State is now responsible for. We prorated based on what Corrections was using, so this is not the full amount that the County is asking to foot the bill on.

B. Sneed: Any questions on any part of this? We will revisit the Commissioners' budget as a whole; we'll revisit all of this one more time at the public meeting. Any motion to be made on line 7002?

****R. Crossman moved, N. Nelson seconded to fund it at \$33,489.00.**

B. Sneed: All in favor? All opposed? No opposition.

****Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Sneed: I guess we're done for the night. Thanks, Jim.

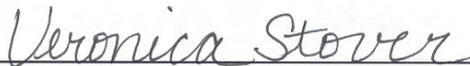
J. Arseneau: Thank you very much, folks. I appreciate it.

B. Sneed: Do we have any idea who is going to be here next week for sure?

Multiple exchanges regarding what budget lines will be presented: 1080, Commissioners, Facilities, Employees Benefits, 1030, 2025.....

****R. Crossman moved, N. Nelson seconded to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by



Veronica Stover, Deputy County Clerk