



**Land for Maine's Future Program**  
Minutes of the Meeting  
July 18, 2006

Orono Town Council Chamber  
59 Main St., Orono, Maine

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**Board Members Present:**

Commissioner George Lapointe  
Commissioner Patrick McGowan  
Commissioner Seth Bradstreet

Carole Dyer  
Leon Gorman

Marcia McKeague  
Warren Balgooyen

**Board Members Absent:**

Commissioner D. Martin  
[one vacancy]

Martha Freeman, Director

Jeff Thaler

**LMF Staff Members Present:**

Tim Glidden  
R. Collin Therrien

Steve Brooke

Aline Lachance

**Others**

Paul Dest, Wells Reserve  
Richard Andren, Bangor Land Trust  
Sally Jacobs, Orono Land Trust  
Jim Mitchell, Mahoosuc Land Trust  
Steve Wight, Mahoosuc Land Trust  
Roy Wandell, Lewiston/Auburn Trails  
Vasco "Buster" Carter, Maine Dept. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife  
Leon Bucher, Maine Dept. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

**Morning Session - Field Trip**

Board members were given a tour of the Caribou Bog-Penjajaoc Project a conservation/recreation corridor connecting the towns of Bangor, Orono, Veazie, Old Town, Alton and Hudson. The area is identified as a critical focus area by the Maine Natural Areas Program. It includes over 6,500 acres of wetlands,



contiguous wildlife habitat, 5 peat bogs, 7.5 miles of former “Veazie Railroad” bed, over 200 bird species, and an unbroken habitat block for plant and animal species native to central Maine.

### **Minutes of the Meeting**

A motion was made by Carole Dyer and seconded by Marcia McKeague to accept the May 16, 2006 Minutes of the Meeting. Vote was unanimous.

## **CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROJECTS**

- **The Lord parcel**, Wells (2.5± acres in fee under PA with DOC)

- Public Notice

Published both in the Kennebec Journal and Portland Press Herald on 6/29/06.

- Appraisal Review Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommended accepting an appraisal value of \$450,000 for this parcel and further recommends LMF funding of \$50,000 (not including all other costs).

- Public Comments

None.

Paul Dest, Wells Reserve Manager, noted that roughly 45,000 visitors per year visit the Reserve. LMF signage will be posted.

- Vote

A motion was made by Commissioner Bradstreet and seconded by Carole Dyer to support acquisition of this parcel. Vote was unanimous.

- **Grafton Notch**, Grafton Township (3,688± acres in fee to DOC)

- Public Notice

Published in the Kennebec Journal on 6/29/06 and Lewiston Sun Journal on 6/28/06.

- Appraisal Review Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommended accepting an appraisal value of \$3,000,000 for this parcel and further recommends LMF funding of \$660,000 (not including all other costs).

- **Public Comments**

Steve Wight reported that the Mahoosuc Land Trust and its many partners (Appalachian Mountain Club/Trail Conservancy & Land Trust, Northern Forest Alliance, Hurricane Island Outward Bound School, Maine Natural Areas Program, The Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Land) are all working together to protect this spectacular area lying at the heart of the Mahoosuc Mountains stretching from the White Mountains of New Hampshire into western Maine. He encouraged Board members to tour this amazing site.

Ralph Knoll stated that this acquisition is uniquely located between the State's Mahoosuc Unit and Grafton Notch State Park; two major state holdings. Also, this addition would greatly expand conservation and recreation in Maine's North Woods.

- **Vote**

A motion was made by Carol Dyer and seconded by Warren Balgooyen to support acquisition of this parcel. Vote was unanimous.

## WATER ACCESS PROJECT

- **Belgrade Stream**, Mount Vernon (4.3± acres in fee to IF&W)

- **Public Notice**

Published in the Kennebec Journal on 6/29/06.

- **Appraisal Review Committee Recommendation**

The ARC recommended accepting an appraisal value of \$67,000 for this parcel and further recommends LMF funding of \$37,533 (not including all other costs).

- **Public Comments**

Steve Wight mentioned that this stream is part of the Belgrade chain of lakes consisting of seven lakes which provides a pretty neat wilderness canoe trip and bank fishing. He noted that leaf milfoil is present and because of the infestation suggested that motor boating not be encouraged but that the site be designated 'carry-in' only.

- **5 % Access Improvement Grant**

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife is requesting a grant in the amount of \$3,350 for access improvement funds to finish site cleanup and to improve the off-road parking.

- Vote to Support Acquisition & a 5 % Access Improvement Grant

A motion was made by Marcia McKeague and seconded by Warren Balgooyen to support acquisition of this parcel as well as approving an access improvement grant in the amount of \$3,350. Vote was unanimous.

## 5 % FARM CAPITAL PROPOSALS

The Department of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources and Hanson Farm [*farmland known as McDougal Orchards*] seek a \$13,950 capital improvement grant for the first phase of an irrigation system in the main orchard and for the cost of planting 279 trellised apple trees in the same orchard.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote

A motion was made by Marcia McKeague and seconded by Carole Dyer to approve a grant in the amount of \$13,950 for capital improvements. Vote was unanimous.

## PROJECT RECONFIGURATION

The Great Works Regional Land Trust is requesting a modification to the **Tibbetts Farm** proposal to include an additional undeveloped 55±-acre parcel that the Tibbetts have been leasing for over 30 years. The parcel has just become available and is adjacent to the Tibbetts' "Homestead Parcel". The Department of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources, as co-sponsor, is anxious that the parcel not be sold to a developer but instead preserve a larger farmland area in Berwick.

This modification will not require a change in the existing LMF funding allocation and the 55± acre will be encumbered with an agricultural conservation easement.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote

A motion was made by Marcia McKeague and seconded by Commissioner Bradstreet to approve the reconfiguration of the Tibbetts Farm proposal to include this additional 55± acre parcel. Vote was unanimous.

## OTHER BUSINESS

- Staff Updates
  - Working Waterfront Progress

Tim stated Board members could be reviewing pilot project applications late in the year or first of 2007. Deadline for receiving applications is November 1, 2006. The application is available on-line. The Department of Marine Resources has contracted with a Working Waterfront Team consisting of Coastal Enterprises Inc. and Island Institute to assist applicants with the application process. Applicants are encouraged to work with the Working Waterfront Team to assure that proposals are complete and meet program criteria. Hope Hilton, Esq., Jim Connors, and others are working together in preparing a draft easement for review.

- Katahdin & Machias Projects

Tim informed the Board that the Governor held a press conference on July 11, 2006 announcing the preservation of roughly 202,000 acres in central and downeast Maine. The Katahdin Forest Project easement calls for conservation and sustainable forest practices which would protect trees and mill jobs, allows traditional public access and protection of special natural area. The Machias River agreement would benefit wilderness paddlers, preserve critical habitat for wild Atlantic salmon, enhance public recreation, and also ensure a portion of the forest would remain a sustainable working forest.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION** [1:40 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.]

A motion was made by Commissioner Lapointe and seconded by Carole Dyer to go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Rumford Whitecap Project negotiations.

### **Adjourn**

Adjourned at 2:15 p.m.