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WASHINGTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
OFFICE

2013 OCT 29 A 8:34

ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

Introduction

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 5 of Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Chapter 383, Subchapter 3, Article 2-A, the Washington County Development Authority is required to submit an annual report to the Governor, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters. The report must be submitted no later than 120 days after the close of the authority's fiscal year. The Authority's fiscal year ended on June 30, 2013.

Section 13083-F of 5 MRSA requires that the annual report of the Authority include:

- A. A description of the authority's operations and activities;
- B. An accounting of the authority's receipts and expenditures and assets and liabilities at the end of its fiscal year;
- C. A listing of all property transactions pursuant to section 13083-D;
- D. A statement of the authority's proposed and projected activities for the ensuing year; and
- E. Recommendations regarding further actions that may be suitable for achieving the purposes of this article.

History of the Authority

The Washington County Development Authority was established by the Second Regular Session of the 120th Maine Legislature as Chapter 568 of the Laws of Maine 2001. The Authority was established in response to the need to create a state entity that could take title to the former Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station in Cutler, Maine from the United States Navy. Since that time, the legislation was amended to broaden the scope of the authority's mission to allow the authority to provide financial and technical assistance to any governmental entity and nonprofit located within Washington County in support of community and economic development projects. Representation was expanded to include all municipalities in Washington County, including the unorganized territories.

For the reporting period, the Authority was comprised of the following members: William Daye (Lubec), Barbara Drisko (Columbia Falls), Shirley Erickson (Machiasport), Elizabeth "Betsy" Fitzgerald (Machiasport), Robert Hammond (Harrington), Marianne Moore (Calais), Linda Pagels-Wentworth (Baileysville), Dean

Pike (Eastport), Lewis Pinkham (Milbridge), Michael Radeka (Whiting), and Robert Tyler (Calais). For this time period, the following officers were elected: Betsy Fitzgerald/ Chair, Barbara Drisko / Secretary, and Marianne Moore / Treasurer. The following members' terms expired during the reporting period and were not re-appointed: Shirley Erickson (subsequently replaced), Barbara Drisko. Additionally, Linda Pagels-Wentworth tendered her resignation from the Authority on 5/29/13 (replacement pending). For this reporting period, the WCDA set monthly meetings on the first Thursday of every month at 9AM at the Machias Career Center.

Operations and Activities

The WCDA Trustees scheduled ten (10) regular meetings from July 2012 to June 2013, though there was not always a quorum present for official business to take place. Major items of discussion during the course of the report period included the following subjects:

The Authority continues to contract with Sunrise County Economic Council to provide administrative services.

The Authority continued researching the feasibility of developing a centralized food distribution center for the area food pantries. It was determined, after further consultation with the area food pantries, that such a facility was not needed.

The Authority began researching the feasibility of a regional homeless center in central Washington County; in the interim, another group took on the project. WCDA chair Betsy Fitzgerald is monitoring developments at the Authority's behest and will bring the matter back should a clearly defined role for the Authority emerge.

The Authority received briefings on the Down East Coastal Conservancy's "Two Rivers" project, the Washington County Council of Governments' Brownfields program, Sunrise County Economic Council's loan programs, Axiom Technologies broadband expansions, and Washington County: One Community's public health initiatives.

Receipts and Expenditures

See attached Financial Statement

Property Transactions:

The WCDA owns no property.

Proposed and Projected Activities

During the reporting period WCDA experienced a major turnover amongst its membership. As a result, members spent much of the reporting period familiarizing themselves with the Authority, their roles on it, and ways they could make WCDA a more robust entity. In that vein, the Authority has met with several regional economic and community development resource providers and begun actively focusing on two specific projects

First, the Authority is considering how/if it can assist in the economic revitalization of the former Cutler Navy Base property. Working with the Town of Cutler

and the property developer, the Authority hopes to identify ways the property can be repurposed for the benefit of the region as a whole. Suggestions have included affordable housing and housing for elders.

Second, following a tour of the Port of Eastport and a presentation by the Port's Executive Director, Christopher Gardner, WCDA began exploring ways it could assist the Port in bringing rail to the Eastport area, thereby expanding the Port's infrastructure and economic reach within Washington County and beyond.

Recommendations

1. The Authority has no requests or recommendations from the Legislature at this time.

Attachments:

- ❖ Financial reports: WCDA Annual Income Statement

Respectfully submitted:



Betsy Fitzgerald
Chair

WASHINGTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Financial Report							
06/28/2013							
Marianne Moore – Treasurer							
Account No.	Description	Debits	Credits	Balance	Date of Balance	Interest Rate	Maturation Date
8011575930	Non-Profit Organization Checking Account			\$340.52	04/30/13	n/a	n/a
				\$340.52	05/31/13		
12001268	91-Day Certificate Passbook Account			\$0.00	Transferred	0.35%	04/12/11
	(NOTE: CD was closed out and funds transferred to Money Fund Account)						
8012412920	Money Fund Business Account			\$7,250.68	05/03/13	0.25%	n/a
	Interest		\$0.62	\$7,251.30	06/03/13		
	Total			\$7,591.82			