

STATE OF MAINE  
BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

Robert A. Foley, Chair

Cynthia S. Bertocci  
Executive Analyst

Ruth Ann Burke  
Board Clerk

**BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Meeting Minutes**

October 17, 2013

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Protection was held on Thursday, October 17, 2013 at the Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta, Maine. Robert Foley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with the following individuals present:

**Board:** Alvin Ahlers, Thomas Eastler, Robert Foley, Susan Lessard, and James Parker. Board members Richard Gould and M. Wing Goodale were absent.

**Others:** Patricia Aho, Commissioner  
Mary Sauer, Assistant Attorney General  
Cynthia Bertocci, BEP Executive Analyst  
Ruth Ann Burke, BEP Clerk and Administrative Assistant

*Draft Pending Board Approval*

**I. Departmental**

- A. Commissioner's Comments:** Commissioner Aho commented on the impact of the federal government shutdown and debate over the debt ceiling. Approximately 25% of the Department's staff is federally funded. For the Department, the issue was whether or not the Department would continue to have access to its federal electronic checkbook. The Department receives payment every 2 weeks for payroll and other expenditures which are eligible for reimbursement. The Department is very pleased that Congress passed an extension of the debt ceiling, although it is a limited extension until February 2014. If access to funds had been impeded, it would have had a significant impact on the Department because of the number of staff and programs that depend upon federal funds. It has been a difficult October for all Department staff due to the uncertainty.
- B. Comments from the BEP Chair:** None.
- C. Executive Analyst Comments:** None
- D. Board Calendar:** Reviewed.
- E. Departmental Orders / Applications Accepted for Processing:** Reviewed
- F. Executive Session:** None

**II. Consent Agenda Items:**

1. BEP Meeting Minutes: September 12, 2013 (approval)  
The Board voted (5-0-0-2) on a motion to approve the minutes for September 12, 2013 with a correction to Consent Agenda Item #1 BEP Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2013 to reflect that Board member James Parker abstained from voting on the August 1, 2013 minutes because he was not in attendance at that meeting.

The vote was taken pursuant to 38 M.R.S. § 341-D.

*Board members Alvin Ahlers, Thomas Eastler, Robert Foley, Susan Lessard and James Parker voted to support the motion. Board members Richard Gould and M. Wing Goodale were absent.*

**(The regular meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05 a.m. for a public hearing on:  
Chapter 200 Metallic Mineral Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining)**