



Land for Maine's Future Program
Minutes of the Meeting
March 9, 2010

Governor's Cabinet Room
Augusta, Maine

Board Members Present:

Commissioner George Lapointe
Commissioner Seth Bradstreet
Martha Freeman, Director

Diane Doyle
Leon Gorman
Jeff Thaler

Don Marean
Bucky Owen

Board Members Absent:

Commissioner Danny Martin

Commissioner Eliza Townsend

Ben Emory

LMF Staff Members Present:

Tim Glidden
R. Collin Therrien

Steve Brooke
Aline Lachance

Jim Connors

Others

Lindsay Bourgoine, Appalachian Mountain Club
Bob DeForrest, Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Nancy Perlson, Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust
Sally Jacobs, Orono Land Trust
Eric Dibner, Loon Echo Land Trust
Dick Clime, Coastal Enterprises, Inc. – WWAPP
Dave Wood, Sunrise Trail Coalition
Skip Varney, Dept. of Conservation, Bureau of Public Lands, ORV
Brenda Verrill, DOC, Bureau of Parks & Lands
Vasco Carter, Dept. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
Jim Connolly, Dept. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Announcements

Commissioner Lapointe was happy to announce that Diane Doyle has been reappointed to the Board for a second term. He was, however, sad to report that Vasco 'Buster' Carter, IF&W, is retiring from State service. He provided valuable assistance to the Board and LMF staff and we wish him our best.

Minutes of the Meeting

A motion was made by Bucky Owen and seconded by Diane Doyle to accept the January 12, 2010 Minutes of the Meeting. Vote was unanimous.

- OLD BUSINESS -

GREAT POND LOWER PENOBSCOT FOREST, GMO 24,661± acre Working Forest Easement, T-32 MD and Great Pond, Hancock County; and Milford & Greenfield, Penobscot County, to the Maine Department of Conservation (*Re-tabled at the January 12, 2010 meeting.*)

A motion was made by Bucky Owen and seconded by Diane Doyle to remove this project off the TABLE. Vote unanimous.

Tim informed the Board that the project needs to be re-tabled as we are still waiting for the Feds to complete the appraisal process. The process is on track and hopefully this project will be ready for discussion at the May Board meeting.

A motion was made by Jeff Thaler and seconded by Diane Doyle to RE-TABLE this project. Vote was unanimous.

GREAT POND LOWER PENOBSCOT FOREST, Madden parcel, Bradley & Milford, Penobscot County, 251.38± acres in fee plus an access ROW to the Maine Department of Conservation

(Note: taken out of order)

- Vote to Remove from Table

A motion was made by Bucky Owen and seconded by Martha Freeman to remove this project off the TABLE. Vote was unanimous.

- Announcement of Public Notice

On August 28, 2009 published in the Kennebec Journal and on August 29, 2009 published in the Bangor Daily News

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$115,800 and further recommends LMF funding of \$77,200 (not including All Other costs) for this parcel.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote to Support Acquisition

A motion was made by Diane Doyle and seconded by Martha Freeman to support acquisition of this parcel. Vote was unanimous.

- NEW BUSINESS -

— CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROJECTS —

KENNEBEC RIVER ESTUARY Project, Berry parcel, Woolwich, Sagadahoc County, 37.47± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in the Kennebec Journal and on February 24, 2010 published in the Times Record.

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$410,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$48,125 (not including All Other costs) for this parcel.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote to Support Acquisition

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

KENNEBEC RIVER ESTUARY Project, Bouscaren parcel, Bowdoinham, Sagadahoc County, 38± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in the Kennebec Journal and on February 24, 2010 published in the Times Record.

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$90,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$75,000 (not including All Other costs) for this parcel.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote to Support Acquisition

A motion was made by Bucky Owen and seconded by Diane Doyle to support acquisition of this parcel. Vote was unanimous.

KENNEBEC RIVER ESTUARY Project, Robinson West parcel, Topsham, Sagadahoc County, 56± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife.

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in the Kennebec Journal and on February 24, 2010 published in the Times Record.

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$38,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$7,500 (not including All Other costs) for this parcel.

- Public Comments

Steve Brooke informed the Board that this parcel was acquired without LMF funds and is now a MATCH to the overall Kennebec River Estuary Project. As such no vote is required by the Board.

MEDFORD LAGRANGE MULTI-USE TRAIL, Lagrange & Medford, Piscataquis and Penobscot Counties, 135.86± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Conservation

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in the Kennebec Journal and on February 24, 2010 published in the Bangor Daily News.

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$246,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$128,000 (not including All Other costs) for this multi-use trail project.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote

A motion was made by Bucky Owen and seconded by Diane Doyle to support acquisition of this project. Vote was unanimous.

— WATER ACCESS PROPOSAL —

KILKENNY COVE, Hancock, Hancock County, 7.5± acre to be acquired in fee by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust under a Project Agreement with the Maine Department of Conservation to be transferred at a later date to Frenchman Bay Conservancy.

- Proposal by Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Acquisition of this property would provide access to the proposed Maine Shore Line Railway trail from the western side, thus increasing public recreation and utility of the last 1.2 miles of the trail. It would also provide public water access to Kilkenny Cove which is currently used by wormers, clambers, hunters and hikers. The access point and shorefront along the western end of the trail would greatly add to the community benefit of the Maine Shore Line Railway trail and assure that there is at least one point where the public could gain access to the flats and waters of Kilkenny Cove.

- Vote to Allocate Funds

A motion was made by Diane Doyle and seconded by Commissioner Bradstreet to move this project forward into the ‘active’ water access category and to make a preliminary allocation of \$83,000 for the project. Vote was unanimous. This project will come back to the Board for final approval.

5% ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS:

Note: After a brief overview of each request, it was decided by the Board to combine the vote into one motion in order to fund these 10 access improvement proposals.

A motion was made by Diane Doyle and seconded by Bucky Owen to fund the amounts requested by each applicant. Vote was unanimous.

Highlights below:

RUMFORD - WHITECAP, Rumford, Oxford County, 752± acres in fee to the Mahoosuc Land Trust under a Project Agreement with the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from Mahoosuc Land Trust

The Mahoosuc Land Trust is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$12,050 to improve pedestrian access to the Rumford Whitecap Mountain Preserve.

MAQUOIT BAY, Brunswick, Cumberland County, 126± acres in fee to the Town of Brunswick under a Project Agreement with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

- Proposal from the Town of Brunswick

The Town of Brunswick is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$36,750 to create a small parking area, install a kiosk, improve eroded areas on the primary trail, and plan a connection between the primary trail to the secondary trail further east on the property.

EXPANDING MAINE'S WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, Gervais parcel, Scarborough, Cumberland County, 46± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

- Proposal from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

The Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$8,000 to modify a communication tower into a Wildlife Observation Tower, install an educational kiosk, develop a small gravel parking area at the access point on Manson Libby Road, and development of a link hiking trail between the tower and the Eastern Trail.

EXPANDING MAINE'S WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, Meyer parcel, Raymond, Cumberland County, 19± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

- Proposal from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

The Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$2,200 to improve safety and enhance access to the eastern portion of the WMA. An informational kiosk will also be installed.

WABASSUS, T42 & T43 MDBPP, Washington County, 6,628± acres in fee to the Downeast Lakes Land Trust under a Project Agreement with the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from Downeast Lakes Land Trust

The Downeast Lakes Land Trust is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$25,395 to develop a hiking trail on Wabassus Mountain, a path to Dawn Marie Beach, a new campsite on the Downeast Lakes Water Trail, and to restore two sections of road totaling 1.7 miles that provide key recreational access to Third Machias Lake and the Machias River.

Moose River/#5 BOG, Bradstreet Twp & T5R7 BKPWKR, Oxford County, 4,720± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from DOC

The Department of Conservation is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$25,000 for improvements to:

(1) *Holeb Pond Boat Launch & Turner Brook Road-*

Improve 2 miles of road and construction of toilet facilities at the boat landing site.

(2) *Portage Trail -*

Purchase 5,000 board feet of rough saw cedar and construct bog bridging to span numerous wet areas along the 1.25 mile Portage Trail.

(3) *Spencer Rips-*

Construct removable log ladders and stabilize shorefront access areas along points of entry at Spencer Rips.

HIGHLAND FARM, York, York County, 151± acres in fee to the York Land Trust under a Project Agreement with the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from York Land Trust

The York Land Trust is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$88,750 to partially fund the cost of constructing a parking lot for 3 school buses and up to 21 cars, with two spaces available for people with limited mobility as parking is not available on the street; a universally accessible trail and viewing platform to ADA standards; and cutting and blazing hiking trails at Highland Farm.

TURNER COVE & ANDROSCOGGIN LANDS, Turner & Leeds, Androscoggin County, 2,318± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from Maine Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$24,050 to:

(1) *Southern Trailhead parking area (Turner Cove) –*

Construct a gravel surface parking area for 4-6 cars and install an access control gate

(2) *Signage –*

Install entrance sign at the Center Bridge Road entrance, install trail marker signs designating allowed uses at trail heads and junctions, and install signs at sensitive habitat areas.

(3) *Trail Improvements –*

Install/replacement of culverts, ditching, installation of barriers, and erosion and sediment control.

SEBOOMOOK & CARRY BROOK, Seboomook Twp., Somerset County, 147± acres in fee to the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from Maine Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$30,500 to improve public access and prevent further degradation of the road system; culvert replacement, spot gravelling and ditching.

DEAD RIVER TRAIL, West Forks, Lower Enchanted, T3 R4 and T3R5 Townships, Somerset County, with 1,120± acres under a project agreement and 55± of conservation easement to the Maine Department of Conservation

- Proposal from the Western Maine Charitable Foundation (aka Maine Huts & Trails)

The Maine Huts & Trails is requesting an access improvement grant in the amount of \$25,450 to construct more than twenty miles of non-motorized trails, a 200' pedestrian footbridge crossing the Dead River and a Trailhead Parking lot located along Route 201 in West Forks.

Note: Tim stated that staff will be drafting Guidelines for future Access Improvement Requests in order to have consistency throughout the application process.

— **WORKING WATERFRONTS** —

NORTH END COOP, Westport, Lincoln County, 3.8± acres of Working Waterfront covenant to the Maine Department of Marine Resources from the North End Coop

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in both the Kennebec Journal and the Lincoln County News.

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$650,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$135,250 (not including All Other costs) for this working waterfront covenant.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote to Support Acquisition

A motion was made by Commissioner Bradstreet and seconded by Diane Doyle to support acquisition of this working waterfront covenant. Vote was unanimous.

FISHERMAN'S HERITAGE LOBSTER REALTY COOP, Friendship, Knox County, 0.71± acres of Working Waterfront covenant to the Maine Department of Marine Resources from Fisherman's Heritage Lobster Realty Coop.

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in the Kennebec Journal and on February 24, 2010 published in the Herald Gazette.

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$875,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$182,000 (not including All Other costs) for this working waterfront covenant.

- Public Comments

Dick Clime stated that while both co-ops (Fisherman's & Friendship) are located in the Town of Friendship there is extensive use of both facilities as they serve roughly 100 boats.

- Vote to Support Acquisition

A motion was made by Diane Doyle and seconded by Martha Freeman to support acquisition of this working waterfront covenant. Vote was unanimous.

FRIENDSHIP LOBSTER REALTY COOP, Friendship, Knox County, 0.6± acres of Working Waterfront covenant to the Maine Department of Marine Resources from Friendship Lobster Realty Coop.

- Announcement of Public Notice

On February 25, 2010 published in the Kennebec Journal and on February 24, 2010 published in the Herald Gazette

- Appraisal Committee Recommendation

The ARC recommends accepting an appraisal value of \$930,000 and further recommends LMF funding of \$232,500 (not including All Other costs) for this working waterfront covenant.

- Public Comments

None.

- Vote to Support Acquisition

A motion was made by Diane Doyle and seconded by Bucky Owen to support acquisition of this working waterfront covenant. Vote was unanimous.

— PROJECT UPDATES & RECONFIGURATIONS —

Reallocation Round for Project Amendments

The Ad-Hoc Committee found that all applications warranted support and, with one exception, recommends that the Board fund them at their requested levels; see Table below.

- Vote

Without objection, the Board decided to combine the vote into one motion and, as such, a motion was made by Bucky Owen and seconded by Martha to fund the Expanding Wildlife Management Areas Project at the full amount requested of \$217,249 as well as fund remaining projects at the amounts recommended by the Ad-Hoc Committee. Vote was unanimous.

LMF Project Name	Requested Amount	Ad-Hoc Committee Recommendation	Board Vote to Allocate Funds
Central Falmouth: Dictar parcel	\$94,500	\$94,500	\$94,500
Madden-Bradley; Great Pond-Lower Penobscot	\$77,200	\$77,200	\$77,200
Heads of the Estuaries: Meadow Brook	\$254,000	\$254,000	\$254,000
Roberts Farmstead	\$19,300	\$19,300	\$19,300
Branch Lake Conservation Project	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$260,000
Expanding Wildlife Mgmt. Areas	\$217,249	\$105,000	\$217,249
Hunter Cove	\$170,000	\$170,000	\$170,000
Piney Knoll	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Pleasant Mountain Preserve	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000

Note: The Board did receive one inquiry (River Rise Farm on the Androscoggin River) related to a new project that did not meet the eligibility for this round.

— **THE BUSINESS** —

Updates:

- **Pending legislation impacting LMF Program**

LD 1803 Resolve, Authorization Certain Land Transactions by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks & Lands and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. This legislation authorizes the Department of Conservation and LMF to negotiate as necessary on the proposed Bangor Hydro Electric transmission line project in the vicinity of Schoodic Bog (legislation now enacted).

Also, the Legislative Committee on Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry has reviewed and authorized the use of “friendly eminent domain” proceedings to clear title in the Bureau of Parks & Lands acquisition of the Medford-Lagrange Rail Trail.

- **Project Updates**

About half a dozen projects will close end of March early April. LMF Project Status Report was distributed to board members.

- **Spruce Head Coop thank you letter**

Richard Waldron sent a letter expressing his delight that the Co-op was able to purchase and forever protect the Spruce Head site for fishermen’s use.

- **Other**

Tim mentioned that the Trust for Public Land is planning a celebration on April 7, 2010 in Bethel to commemorate the preservation of Stowe Mountain. Senator Susan Collins plans on attending.

State Planning Office has also been involved with legislation dealing with Offshore Wind Energy.

Looking to schedule a FALL field trip for board members as well as a ‘listening session’ to gather input for future LMF consideration.

- **Next Scheduled Meeting**

May 11, 2010

Viles Arboretum (*formerly known as the Pine Tree State Arboretum*)

153 Hospital Street

Augusta, Maine

Adjournment

2:35 p.m.