

SUZANNE M. GRESSER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

To: Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

From: Suzanne M. Gresser, Executive Director *SMG*

Date: February 6, 2023

Re: Submission of report by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank

5 MRSA §12023, sub-§2 requires quasi-independent state entities to submit a report to the Legislature by February 1st of each year. That report must include, among other things, a list of procurements exceeding \$10,000 in the preceding year for which competitive procurement was waived under policies adopted pursuant to law, a list of persons to which the entity made contributions greater than \$1,000 and the total contributed, and a description of changes to written policies and procedures required by section 12022 or to procedures used to monitor compliance.

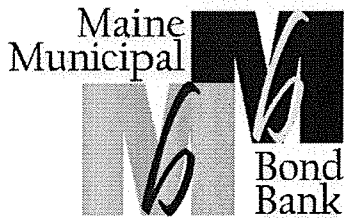
Pursuant to 5 MRSA §12023, sub-§2 regarding distribution of the reports, I am attaching the report that was recently filed by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to the committee for its review.

Pursuant to 5 MRSA §12023, sub-§3, by March 1st of every second regular session, a joint standing committee of the Legislature receiving reports pursuant to subsection 2 shall review the reports received within the past 2 calendar years, and gather additional information as necessary from the submitting entities, to assess whether policies and procedures adopted by a governing body in accordance with section 12022, subsections 3 to 5 are consistent with expectations established in those subsections and whether all reported waivers of competitive procurement and reported contributions made are in compliance with the adopted policies and procedures, including proper justification and documentation. The joint standing committee shall report the results of its review, including any areas that should be reviewed in more depth, to the joint legislative committee established to oversee program evaluation and government accountability matters.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 287-1615.

Thank you.

Attachment(s)



Terry Hayes, *Executive Director*
Tel 207-622-9386
Fax 207-623-5359

January 11, 2023

Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank due by February 1, 2023.

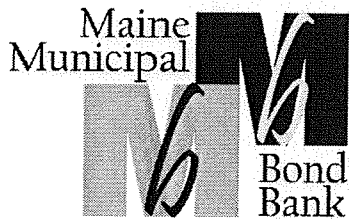
Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you need additional information. I can be reached at 622-9386 or by email at Terry@mmbb.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry Hayes".

Terry Hayes,
Executive Director



Terry Hayes, *Executive Director*
Tel 207-622-9386
Fax 207-623-5359

January 11, 2023

Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

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RE: Quasi-Independent State Entities annual report required under 5 MRSA c.379, sub-c.3, Section 12023

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

I am pleased to provide the following report concerning the operating activities of the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (the Bond Bank) for our fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

The Bond Bank has adopted and implemented policies and procedures concerning purchasing, contributions and travel during fiscal year 2013. All employees of the Bond Bank are familiar with these policies and procedures and are aware that only the Executive Director can waive them. No changes have been made to the policies and procedures since adoption.

The Bond Bank's Board of Commissioners approves an annual operating budget. They are provided a periodic Treasurer's Report that details all expenditures, including a comparison of budget to actual, and includes a list of checks written during the period of the report, so that they may monitor compliance with all policies and procedures. The Board members are given an opportunity to question the staff concerning the report before they vote to approve it. Backup for any expenditure is provided to the Board or a member, upon request.

General Expenditures:

I have not included expenditure detail to vendors that aggregate more than \$10,000.00 for the fiscal year but were made over the course of the fiscal year in payments that were less than \$10,000.00 each. These expenditures represent payments for items such as computer equipment, software and other miscellaneous expenditures. I have also not included detailed expenditures for employee withholdings, payments to the Treasurer of the State of Maine for property and other insurances and other miscellaneous fees that aggregate more than the \$10,000.00 threshold. In addition, I have not included expenditures that aggregate more than the \$10,000.00 threshold for electricity, utilities and property taxes paid to the City of Augusta. Property taxes are reimbursed to the Bond Bank by our tenant, Bangor Savings Bank.

Bond Issue Related Expenditures:

Because of the mission of the Bond Bank, issuing bonds on behalf of our borrowers, there are payments that the Bond Bank makes to vendors that are bond issue related. These vendors include Standard and Poor's and Moody's Investor Services who provide bond ratings for our issues. These payments totaled approximately \$119,040.00 in fiscal year 2022.

Other bond issue related payments that aggregate more than \$10,000.00 but may be less than \$10,000 per issue include Anderson Aquino, LLP, who is the counsel of our Trustee, US Bank, totaling \$11,000.00, Hawkins, Delafield & Wood, the Bond Banks bond counsel, totaling \$123,194.00 and Hilltop Securities Inc, the Bond Banks financial advisor, totaling \$110,000.00 in fiscal year 2022.

Expenditures with Competitive Procurement Waived:

The Bond Bank has an ongoing relationship with three vendors that it has not issued an RFP for in more than several years.

The Bond Bank purchases its health and dental insurance through the Maine Municipal Employee's Health Trust (the Health Trust) and also provides the employees an opportunity to purchase long and short-term disability and vision insurance, at their option. The Health Trust is a multi-employer, non-profit aggregator of these employee benefits and the Bond Bank believes that it will not be able to purchase these benefits at a lower cost elsewhere. Therefore, the Bond Bank does not issue an RFP for this purchase. The Bond Bank paid the Health Trust approximately \$579,043.00 in fiscal year 2022, which included benefits that the employees purchased at their option.

The Bond Bank has a continuing relationship with Bangor Savings Bank which provides the Bond Bank with investment custodian services. Bangor Savings Bank has not increased the fee that it charges for these services since the inception of the relationship in 1994. The Bond Bank believes that it is receiving superior service at a reasonable cost. The Bond Bank paid Bangor Savings Bank approximately \$230,350.00 in fiscal year 2022.

The Bond Bank also has a continuing relationship with its bond trustee, US Bank. This relationship began in the early 1980's and has continued because US Bank has honored the original fee schedule and it has provided superior service. The Bond Bank paid US Bank approximately \$106,872.00 in fiscal year 2022.


Other:

The Bond Bank did not make any contributions to any person during fiscal year 2022.

The Bond Bank does not employ any person, other than Bond Bank staff, for the purpose of lobbying.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments that you might have concerning this report. I can be reached at 622-9386 or by e-mail at Terry@mmbb.com

Sincerely yours,



Terry Hayes,
Executive Director