

# OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road  
Peterborough, New Hampshire

## CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

### Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, May 23, 2019

7:00 p.m.

SAU #1

### Minutes

**Present:** John Jordan, George Willard, Bob Marshall, Carl Newton, Karen Hatcher, Jerry Wilson, Janine Lesser

**John Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **1. Accept Minutes of April 25, 2019**

**Karen Hatcher moved to accept the minutes of April 25, 2019. George Willard second. Carl Newton abstained. All else in favor. Motion carried.**

#### **2. Town to Town Cooperation**

Karen Hatcher suggested tackling one big thing at a time. She also suggested a regional library system between the towns/State/schools. Discussion briefly took place about what is currently in place.

Police, Fire, Ambulance, and DPW are also potential areas that cooperation might work; although not related to education.

Karen provided an update on what is taking place at the State level on the topic of education funding. A revenue stream is needed. Property tax is not sustainable to fund education. Keeping pressure on for the long game is important.

#### **3. ConVal Broadband Committee**

Karen Hatcher said that it is obvious that almost every town has looked into broadband. Carl Newton reported that the Town of Sharon cannot participate; they are too rural.

Karen said that a larger group meeting with multi-town makeup might work together to have more leverage for companies to bid. There is a bid for Chesterfield that might be used as a model. There are a number of levels for fixed Wi-Fi, fiber, or a combination of things.

Karen asked if a larger meeting during the summer might form to bring the right people to the table. Logical next steps might evolve. Karen shared historical information related to the work that the Town of Peterborough has done on this topic. It will be interesting to see what Bill SB170 results in.

John Jordan will work on connecting with Tim Theberge and others to further organize a special meeting on this topic.

#### **4. Schedule of Payments**

John Jordan said that 198:5 says that we are not required to pay anything more than we are assessed for with school payments.

## **5. Consolidation Impact Analysis**

The School Board put this on hold until at least September.

Jerry Wilson said that the scope of work to hire a consultant would be so mammoth that the costs could run very high. John Jordan said that he is aware of a consultant that might assist in developing a scope of work for this project. Have individual towns looked at their birth rates? Discussion took place about populations in the towns.

Janine Lesser spoke about work underway at Frankestown Elementary School with multi-age. It is similar to some of the work taking place in local private schools, which is an attraction. We have to find ways to keep young families in the district.

Discussion took place about the need for daycare and early education. Jerry Wilson shared information about work underway to investigate universal preschool.

Affordable housing was touched on as a need in this area.

## **6. Elementary School Costs**

John Jordan reported that work is still underway on fine tuning the elementary school costs.

## **7. Other**

None.

**Karen Hatcher motioned to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Second. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok