

# OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road  
Peterborough, New Hampshire

## CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

### Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 24, 2019

7:00 p.m.

SAU #1

### Minutes

**Present:** John Jordan, Karen Hatcher, Bob Marshall, Keith Charlton, Fred Woodhouse, Dale Gabel, George Willard, John Robertson, Dr. Ann Forrest, Janine Lesser, Tim Theberge, Alan Edelkind

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

#### 1. Accept Minutes of September 26, 2019

Karen Hatcher moved to accept the minutes of September 26, 2019. John Robertson second. Karen Hatcher moved to amend the minutes on page two, "School Funding" to reflect the change of wording from "Karen Hatcher said that she joined the board "in part" to address..." to read "Karen Hatcher said that she joined the NH School Funding Fairness Project to address school funding fairness." Second. Unanimous.

Dale Gabel noted that further under the same section, the minutes read "Dale Gabel said that the figure of ...." should read "Kimberly Saunders said that the figure of...". Second. Unanimous.

#### 2. Transition

John Jordan reported that he is not running for Selectboard in Hancock and he wanted to think about the future. He wants to pass along the archived material that he has gathered over ten years to his successors on this committee.

#### 3. SAC's Role

The role of Selectmen's Advisory Committee was noted.

#### 4. Regional Broadband

John Jordan reported that Dublin went out for an RFP. Dale Gabel said that the town will vote to bond it. The bond would be paid off with user fees.

John Jordan reported that Hancock also sent an RFP out. He spoke about the difference between charging a user fee and taxing it out.

Tim Theberge said that it makes sense to cover it through the budget for towns that are at higher rates with no coverage.

John Jordan equated having broadband with having roads. It is a critical piece to the infrastructure.

Keith Charlton asked how far this has expanded out. Tim Theberge said that in July, legislature passed

which allowed it to expand across towns. Keith shared that he is present to work on this topic for Temple and how he got involved on the topic. He had been asked to attend tonight's meeting. Tim Theberge said that the benefit of the RFI will result in a map that will identify where the gaps are in coverage.

Karen Hatcher shared that what SAC is looking at is trying to get the mapping done as a district to determine the open spots and work together. Karen further said that there is a meeting next week "The Economic Inclusion and Digital Conference" at St. Anselm College on this topic. Karen recommended towns sending a representative.

Discussion took place about lines that run that are designed to connect main institutions. It is not meant for residential.

Tim Theberge said that the school district provides every student, grade 5 and up, with a Chromebook for learning. It becomes an educational issue.

Karen Hatcher said that the towns need to keep updating each other.

## **5. School Funding**

Karen Hatcher said that the way that the RSA was written, it said that a special meeting would be needed.

Tim Theberge said that a special meeting would not be necessary if it was returned to the general fund. Ann Forrest reported that the School Districts Business Administrator, David Jack, is abreast of the issue.

## **6. Adequacy Dollars**

The difference between adequacy and stabilization was briefly discussed.

## **7. Enrollment Update**

John Jordan shared enrollment data. The district is down overall 30 students. Kindergarten numbers are up. Looking at 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade numbers were discussed.

Discussion took place about tuition students in the ConVal School District and the associated costs. Homeschool populations were discussed.

## **8. Other**

John Jordan reported that the School Board/Budget Work Session and presentation is on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is a public meeting. From there, the Budget and Property Committee will review the proposed budget, as well as at School Board meetings and it will move on to Deliberative Session.

**Dale Gabel motioned to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. Fred Woodhouse second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok