

**REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING  
November 20, 2019**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on November 20, 2019.

**Those in attendance were:**

CSD	Bob Duke, Tori Manzi, Andrea Palise	(69.62/ea)
Islesboro	John Gorham	(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Joanne Richards, Loren Andrews, Gerald Weinand	(77.82/ea)
SAD 40	Seth Hall, Matthew Speno, Rick Butler, Danny Jackson	(77.89/ea)
SAD 7	Jerry White	( 7.49)
SAD 8	Yvonne Thomas	(24.58)
St. George	Alane Kennedy	(54.68)

Beth Fisher, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr., Fred Brewer, Auditor;

**Absent** – Brooks Crane

Chair Jerry White opened the regular meeting at 7:03 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 930.38**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**ADJUSTMENTS** – Add approval of flooring vendor after Executive Session (8.B).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Richards, to approve the minutes of the regular October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting

Motion approved with abstentions (Jackson, Kennedy, Weinand, Palise)  
**Total weighted votes: 650.37**

**FY19 AUDIT REPORT**

Fred Brewer was present to discuss the FY19 Audit report. He discussed the accounting standards and the Management Discussion and Analysis. Fred reviewed the Budget to Actuals that included the overdraft items. He reviewed the combined statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance for both the general fund and special revenues. Fred handed out a prior years summary for a twelve year period from 2008 to current outlining total income and capital outlays for the same period. He discussed the bond payment schedule (Note I- Loans Payable). A new fund was added this fiscal year: School Lunch Program. Fred reviewed the various reserve and special revenue funds. He discussed the assigned and unassigned fund balance. Andrea asked about the 3% rule and the use of fund balance. Joanne clarified that excess fund balance could be moved into a special revenue fund to help cover the debt service payment.

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Richards, to approve the FY19 Audit Report as presented

Motion approved unanimously  
**Total weighted votes: 930.38**

**UPDATE ON FENCE AND AMPHITHEATER PROJECTS**

Bob reported his expectation was that the new fence plan and outdoor learning space would be presented to the Planning Board with some success. The fence plan did not seem to cause issues with the Planning Board. A member of the Planning Board felt the soils where the outdoor seating would be placed may be sub-standard. She voiced concerns about proper anchoring. Bob felt our attorney did a good job articulating our position. There did not seem to be any issue with either project. However, the board had issues with our landscape plan mainly due to a revision to the plan that occurred that

removed some islands in the middle of the parking lot. It was noted that the revised plan had been approved by the Planning Board. The Planning Board is also asking that a noise study be done in the next several months. Seth asked the board if an Op-Ed article be published to answer some questions and discuss the board's position about the fence and outdoor learning space. Bill spoke about discussing the issue proactively with Rockland citizens. Matt felt the students would make a better impression. The teachers wrote a thoughtful editorial and submitted it to the local newspaper. Bob continued his discussion of the Planning Board meeting. The Planning Board reviewed the Finding of Fact list from the beginning and found some technical issues with the "to scale" map. The end result was the Planning Board voted that the application is incomplete and they will notify the Region 8 Board in writing of their conclusions. Beth asked the board on how to proceed with the current conditions on the school grounds.

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Palise, to post the school property with No Trespassing signs

Motion failed with six opposed (Duke, Manzi, Butler, Weinand, Andrews, Gorham) and three abstentions (Jackson, Pearce, Kennedy)

**Total weighted votes: 335.29**

Seth asked if a sign prohibiting dogs, alcohol and drugs on the premises would help the situation with trespassers.

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Duke, that the school post signs in the area from the bluff to the shore with a statement of school policy prohibiting dogs and illegal activity

The board discussed where the signs would be located and how many signs would be placed.

Motion passed with four opposed (Jackson, Butler, Weinand, Andrews)

**Total Weighted Votes: 618.96**

## **SATELLITE CTE EXPLORATORY PROGRAMMING**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Butler, to table the vote on board approval of satellite CTE exploratory programming until the Director and Assistant Director has met with and discussed with the Superintendents of RSU 13, Five Town CSD and RSU 40, answered the many questions they have concerning it, and for the Region 8 Board to receive the necessary supporting information as required in Board policy BEDB

Beth asked that the board listen to the facts surrounding this issue. Danny advised he has the support of both the Five Town CSD and RSU 40 Superintendents on this motion. Tori asked to hold the vote and get an explanation from Beth. Beth stated the State Board of Education asked CTE Directors to attend a conference in August to discuss increasing CTE participation statewide. In late September, Beth and the Assistant Director and Curriculum Coordinator created a proposal for CTE programming. The Department of Education awarded Region 8 \$115,000 towards the proposal. The Department of Education advised the monies needed to be spent starting in the current fiscal year. The Assistant Director visited the sending schools and began discussing programming with the principals. Beth discussed the new funding formula and how current student enrollments are affecting the number of teaching positions being funded by the State. The state also told Beth that in order to get programming approved, she needed to put in an application for new programs immediately. She did a straw poll to the board earlier this month to get their tacit approval. Andrea asked Danny to clarify his discussion with the two Superintendents. Danny reviewed the application with the board. Tori felt there would be time to work out details of the programming. Gerald felt that a satellite program would be great for students at Oceanside although he felt space would be a major issue.

Motion failed with thirteen opposed

**Total weighted votes: 155.78**

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Andrews, that the board approve the Satellite CTE program and accept the grant funds and move forward with all deliberate speed

Motion approved with one opposed (Butler) and one abstention (Jackson)

**Total weighted votes: 774.6**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION by Manzi, seconded by Richards, pursuant to Section 405(6)(C) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, move that the Board enter into executive session to discuss the status of the construction project

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 930.38**

Enter: 8:56 PM

Exit: 9:11 PM

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Jackson, to authorize Bob Duke and Joanne Richards to negotiate with ELCO during mediation sessions with counsel present and authority to agree to a settlement subject to final board approval

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 930.38**

## **FLOORING**

Jerry advised the board voted up to \$65,000 for flooring remediation in a prior meeting. The installer, Floor Magic, is owned by a board member who is recusing himself from the board vote and discussion.

MOTION by Richards, seconded by Hall, for approval for the floor tile vendor, Floor Magic, to repair the floors

Motion approved unanimously with one recusal (Duke)

**Total weighted votes: 860.76**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FINANCE**

#### **Warrants and Budget**

Bob reported the committee met and signed the warrants for October and November. The committee met and previewed the audit with our Auditor, Fred Brewer.

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Richards, to accept and approve the warrant and budget reports for October and November.

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 930.38**

### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

Bill advised last month the Polciy Committee met and the result is a list of policy changes for first reading

MOTION by Mazi, seconded by Jackson, first readings of Policies ACAA, ACAA-R, ACAB, ACAB-R, ACAD, ADC, ADC-R, JICK, and JM

Gerald asked about a couple of policies and suggested several minor changes. He also suggested a language change on the Scholarship policy. Bill will work with Sherry on getting the policy changes for second reading in December.

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 930.38**

#### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Tori discussed the state funding formula and staffing levels based on student enrollment. She discussed the need for an Ed Tech position during Café. Matthew Speno asked that he be added to the Personnel Committee.

#### **CHAIR UPDATE**

Last month Jerry attended a National Rural Association conference in Louisville, KY.

#### **DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Beth advised Bobby will be meeting with the Superintendent's tomorrow to discuss Intro to Applied Tech (new programming). She discussed KVCC's college level classes being held this fall at Mid-Coast. More are planned in the spring. Beth is on several committees through MACTE including a CTE sub-committee of the State Board of Education. She is also on a committee working on revising the current CTE subsidy formula. Also being discussed is funding Special Ed positions in CTE schools. Another topic under discussion is teacher to pupil ratio which varies greatly from regular education.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Jerry declared the meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.

Next Board Meeting: December 18, 2019

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Elizabeth Fisher, Board Secretary