

**NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION TO STUDY SCHOOL FUNDING
(RSA 193-E:2-e)**

Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2020 at 2PM in LOB 210-211

Present: Rep. David Luneau; Rep. Mel Myler; Val Zanchuk; Susan Huard; Chris Dwyer; Barbara Tremblay; Rep. Rick Ladd; Sen. Jay Kahn; Iris Estabrook; David Ryan; Jan Bergeron-Beaulieu; John Beardmore; Rep. Richard Ames; Mary Heath; On Zoom: Sen. Jon Morgan, and Corinne Cascadden

Not Present: William Ardinger

Opening Activities

Rep. Luneau called the meeting to order at 2pm and introduced the new members to the Commission (Chris Dwyer, Susan Huard, and Barbara Tremblay)

The meeting minutes from 1/27/2020 were approved with the reminder to include who is present and not present. The next meeting will focus on major court cases associated with school funding, and a reminder that the 2/21 is on a Friday at 2pm, to account for the holiday.

Items for Discussion

Rep. Luneau referred the Commission to the draft calendar for Commission meetings that include agenda items and time for updates.

Dr. Bruce Mallory reviewed the contract between the Commission and the Carsey School for services to the Commission. The revised scope of work and budget were discussed by Commission members after Dr. Mallory's presentation. Rep. Luneau called for an approval of the Carsey School Proposal and all Commission members present voted in favor of the proposal.

Presentations

Jordan Hensley a Policy Analyst at the Carsey School of Public Policy reviewed the four methodologies outlined in the materials provided by the NCSL at the January 27th Commission meeting. The link to resources provided by the NCSL is located at <https://www.ccrslegislation.info/education-finance/nh/>.

Dr. Mallory reviewed the Draft RFP for technical contractors. Commission will review the RFP again at the 2/10 meeting, and they will participate in the interview process for contractors and the process for deciding upon the research questions that will frame the methodolog(ies) selected prior to the beginning of the contractors' work. The draft RFP discussion led to the commission determining that Carsey would provide periodic progress reports to the commission, that language around the commission's oversight role would be clarified to show that the commission has final authority over subcontractors and other aspects of the contract, and that UNH F&A costs would be reevaluated and reduced.

Caitlin Davis and Amy Clark from the Department of Education presented on the Current adequacy formula and funds to schools, building aid. Ms. Davis reviewed funding formula information from LBA “Calculating Education Grants” passed out at the last meeting with clarifications about differentiated aide (p. 14) and reference to the 2008 Commission document (p. 26). Ms. Clark spoke to the group about building aid – “School Building Aid Summary.” Ms. Clark provided a brief definition, history, overview of the laws, and current funding formula.

Closing Activities

Rep. Luneau asked if the public had any comments. No public comment was offered at the meeting. Rep. Luneau also reminded the Commission about the next meeting on February 10th, 2020.

Adjourn

Documents

- School Building Aid Summary
- Carsey School Proposal Update
- Meeting Minutes from January 27, 2020
- Agenda from February 3, 2020
- Proposed Group Agreements for the NH Commission to Study School Funding provided by NH Listens
- Introduction to Method of Costing Out an Adequate Education by the American Institute for Research
- Types of Costing Out Studies summarized by the Carsey School based on NCSL presentation
- Draft Commission Policy/Research Vendor RFP: Key Section