

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 10, 2018 AT 5 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on July 10, 2018, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 5 p.m. where and when the following business was transacted:

The Chairman called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Brownie Newman, Chairman  
Mike Fryar, Vice Chair  
Joe Belcher, Commissioner  
Ellen Frost, Commissioner  
Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Commissioner  
Robert Pressley, Commissioner  
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: George Wood, Interim County Manager; Jim Holland, Assistant County Manager; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director; Terri Orange, Internal Audit Director; Matt Cable, Planning; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **INVOCATION**

The Chairman mentioned the Thailand youth soccer team and coach being trapped in a cave and the outpouring of rescue assistance that was provided. He wanted to give thanks to the Buncombe County Public Safety for their service.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2018 Special Meeting
- Approval of June 19, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Awarding a Service Firearm to a Retiring Deputy of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department
- Release Report
  - More Information
- FY2019 Buncombe County Aging Funds Recommendations
  - More Information
- FY2019 Budget Amendment Summary 07-10-18
  - FY2019 General Fund Budget Amendments
    - Minority Diabetes Prevention Program
    - Information Technology Position Budget Alignment
    - Strategic Partnership Funding for Affordable Housing Special Projects
  - FY2019 Special Projects Ordinance
    - Affordable Housing Special Projects FY19 Housing Trust

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

- **Waste Pro Request for Rate Increase**

Jim Holland, Assistant County Manager, explained the request for the rate increase and the history of the current Waste Pro contract with the County. Robert Allen and Bob Christy, representatives from Waste Pro, highlighted the reasons that the increase is needed. A few of the reasons include increases in consumer price index (CPI), recycling demands, and capital investment priorities. The Board expressed concerns of hearing instances from customers where scheduled services were not rendered or delayed. Waste Pro stated that they will respond timely whenever there is a service error and that they were working to decrease errors.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve a 4.35% rate increase effective on August 1, 2018 and additional 4.35% increase effective on April 1, 2019. Commissioner Whitesides seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

## COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

George Wood, Interim County Manager, discussed the August 14, 2018 Work Session that would focus on Benefits/Health Insurance and Pay Plan. The consultant for the Pay Plan would be available to answer questions during the work session. The Benefits/Health Insurance discussion will give the Board time and opportunity to make decisions before budget preparation and open enrollment for benefits in October. He also stated that there would be public meeting at 6 p.m. on August 28 at AB Tech for the recipients of the Isaac Coleman Grants to give presentations. Mr. Wood also explained to the Board some his recent tasks that were completed or that were on the horizon.

## OLD BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Presentation on DHHS Services by Stoney Blevins, DHHS Director**

Stoney Blevins explained some of the details of House Bill 630 and its effect on DHHS. One important aspect of the bill is the creation of regional supervision/offices that Mr. Blevins thinks would make for better leadership and more efficient response to issues. Another key aspect will include a broad overview of the social services system in North Carolina by a third party vendor. Lastly, there is a written agreement between the State of North Carolina and the counties for there to be working relationship where the counties are the agents and the state will supply supervision.

- **Amendment to the Resolution Setting Fees and Costs for Fiscal Year 2019 (Mountain Mobility Fares)**

Matt Cable, with the Planning Department, explained the resolution and the reason for addressing the fees and cost for using Mountain Mobility as public transportation.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Frost seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Discussion and Possible Motion to Approve or Disapprove the Interim County Manager's Recommendation to Use an Executive Search Firm for the County Manager Selection Process**

George Wood, Interim County Manager, detailed the process in hiring the county manager and explained the timeline that would be most efficient. He stated that the process can be conducted in-house or by using an executive search firm.

Commissioner Frost moved to follow the Interim County Manager's recommendation to use an executive search firm for the County Manager selection process. Commissioner Whitesides seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Motion to Approve or Disapprove the Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Loan Modification, Subordination Agreement and Release Deed with Eagle Market Place, LLC, by Mountain Housing Opportunities, Inc., Member/Manager**

Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney, presented the resolution and stated that request does not change the underlined rights and obligations to these agreements.

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Motion to Approve or Disapprove the recommended CDM Smith firm for engineering services in response to a request for qualifications, and authorize the Solid Waste Director to negotiate a contract for later approval by the Board of Commissioners.**

Dane Pederson, Solid Waste Director, presented the process that was taken and the components that were considered in selecting the CDM Smith firm.

Mark Cathey, from McGill Associates, was disappointed that a local firm was not selected. Mr. Pederson stated that the RFQ (request for qualifications) did not mandate that geographic location of the firms be considered.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the recommended CDM Smith firm for engineering services in response to a request for qualifications, and authorize the Solid Waste Director to negotiate a contract for later approval by the Board. Commissioner Frost seconded the motion.

The motion passed as follows:

AYES: Chairman Newman, Commissioners Frost, Whitesides, Beach-Ferrara, Pressley, and Vice Chair Fryar  
NOES: Commissioner Belcher

- **Motion to Approve or Disapprove the recommended move of the Veterans Office to the DHHS Building on Coxe Avenue; and the move of the Community Engagement staff into the current Veterans Office.**

George Wood, Interim County Manager, explained the recommended move and stated that this would benefit the veterans that would use the County services.

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the recommended move as presented. Vice Chair Fryar seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Commissioner Frost moved to appoint **Sarah Hall** to the **Mountain Area Workforce Development Board**. The motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to appoint **Caryl Richardson** and **Nancy Kniffin** to the **Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee**. Chairman Newman seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Belcher moved to reappoint **Keynon Lake** to the **Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College Board of Trustees**. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Pressley moved to reappoint **Brit Lovin** to the **WNC Regional Air Quality Board**. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lisa Landis talked about corruption and being silenced. She spoke about funding and record documents associated with BCTV.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *August 7 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *August 14 @ 12:30 p.m. - Commissioners' Work Session on Benefits/Health Insurance and Pay Plan to be held in the First Floor Conference Room at 200 College Street in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Belcher moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a(3) for one legal matter with possible action to be taken following the closed session. Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a(4) for one economic development matter with possible action to be taken following the closed session. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board heard an update and discussion of a pending legal matter involving the former County Manager and the ongoing investigation. The Board also heard an update and discussion on an economic development matter. No action was taken.

Commissioner Belcher moved to go back into open session. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS