

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 2016 AT 4:30 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on October 18, 2016, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 4:30 p.m. where and when the following business was transacted:

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

David Gantt, Chairman
Brownie Newman, Vice Chair
Joe Belcher, Commissioner
Ellen Frost, Commissioner
Mike Fryar, Commissioner
Holly Jones, Commissioner
Tim Moffitt, Commissioner

Staff present was: Wanda Greene, County Manager; Mandy Stone, Assistant County Manager/HHS Director; Jon Creighton, Assistant County Manager/Planning Director; Tim Flora, Finance Director; Robert Deutsch, County Attorney; Kathy Hughes, Clerk to the Board.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jane Bilello wanted to know what agencies might be bringing refugees to the community and warned of the costs in disease, economic impact, safety and security if this became a resettlement site.

Don McClain also expressed his concerns on the location of refugees to this community asking that all refugees be required to go through the same process as anyone wanting to become a citizen of the country.

Jeri Cruz-Segurra read a statement that is attached to the minutes of the meeting regarding water contamination from coal ash. *The County Manager said that the comments would be passed on to the appropriate department.*

Loretta Mallory spoke in opposition to the refugee resettlement. She said she was from Utica, New York, a resettlement site that had overwhelmed the welfare, housing and schools in that community. She said that there were contractors that were making money off the resettlement at the expense of the communities.

Patty Hess spoke about homeless children in the county school system and the problem of homelessness throughout the County stating her opposition to the influx of refugees.

Jerry Rice commented on the budget and the revaluation and his opposition to tax increases and land revaluation.

Lisa Baldwin criticized the school system and the possibility of building a new high school. She was opposed to more building and asked the Board to question the need for a new high school. She was opposed to the Swannanoa location of the community school.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL TO FOLLOW AGENDA

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

- **Approval of the Minutes of the October 4, 2016 Regular Meeting****
- **Budget Amendments: Fund 10 (Asheville Humane)**
- **Special Projects Ordinance**
- **Grant Projects Ordinance**
- **ABTCC Capital Projects Ordinance**
- **Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of Applications and Approval of Housing Projects for the Affordable Housing Services Program**

GOOD NEWS

- **Pisgah Elementary School—National Blue Ribbon School**

Commissioner Belcher and Commissioner Moffitt presented a certificate to Principal Yates and former Principal Dale and the staff at Pisgah Elementary in recognition of being designated a National Blue Ribbon School.

PUBLIC HEARING

- **Establishing the Reems Creek Fire Protection & Ambulance Rescue Service District**

Mike Frue, Staff Attorney, explained that a year ago the Board consolidated 35 fire protection districts into 20 realizing at the time that there would need to be some boundary adjustments. This was a boundary adjustment between the Reems Creek district and the Barnardsville district. The Chief's identified parcels that were served by Reems Creek but were paying the fire tax to Barnardsville. The proper reports and maps have been filed with the Clerk and required notices have been given.

The Chairman opened the public hearing at 5:11 p.m.

Jerry Rice asked if the property owners were notified of this change.

The Chairman closed the hearing at 5:12 p.m.

Mr. Frue said that mailed notices were not required in this situation but the chiefs had communicated the changes to the property owners impacted by the change.

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded thanking the Fire Chiefs for working so well together. The motion passed 7-0.

The Barnardsville Fire Chief encouraged everyone to check their tax bill to make sure they are being served by the correct district.

- **Establishing the Skyland Fire Protection & Ambulance Rescue Service District**

Mike Frue, Staff Attorney, said that this was a boundary clarification between Skyland and the Asheville Suburban district involving property in the Ramble. The proper notices and reports have been filed as required by statute.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:20 p.m.

Jerry Rice asked how many bills were returned and not delivered when the original fire district lines were changed.

The Chairman closed the hearing at 5:24 p.m.

Commissioner Moffitt moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Proposed FY18 Administrative and Capital Annual Grant Applications to be Submitted to NCDOT for Mountain Mobility**

Denise Braine, County Planner, explained the application for funding for Mountain Mobility as outlined in the information attached with the minutes of this meeting stating that the public hearing was required as part of the application process.

The Chairman opened the public hearing at 5:29 p.m.

Jerry Rice praised the program and asked if there was any way to have a private company run this system instead of the government. He suggested that the vans be out posted in the communities.

The Chairman closed the hearing at 5:32 p.m.

Ms. Braine said that Buncombe County provided general oversight to the contracts; however, the system was administered by the Land of Sky Regional Council and operated through the bid process by McDonald Transit System. Vans were not out posted due to daily GPS data recognition. The surplus vans were sold through the surplus auction process with the proceeds used to offset local matching grants.

Commissioner Newman moved to approve the **Resolution Authorizing the Filing of Applications with NCDOT – Public Transportation Division for Grant Years FY2018-22 for Federal Transportation Assistance.**

Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Newman moved to approve **Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Execute an Application for Funding, Enter into Agreement with NCDOT and Provide Necessary Assurances for FY 2018 Section 5311 Community Transportation Program.** Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Newman moved to approve **Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Execute an Application Under the FY18 Public Transportation Consolidate Capital Call for Projects Program, Enter Into Agreement with NCDOT and Provide Necessary Assurances.** The Chairman seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Ordinance Adopting Schedules, Standards and Rules to be Used in Appraising Real Property for the 2017 General Reappraisal**

Keith Miller, Reappraisal Manager, gave an update on the reappraisal and asked that the Board approve the ordinance as submitted. The Clerk will advertise the notice once a week for the next four weeks.

Commissioner Moffitt said that after reviewing the schedule of values and working with the Tax Office personnel, he had high confidence in the process and was not dreading the revaluation. He commended them for a job well done and moved for the adoption of the ordinance as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Art Project Selection**

Gigi Francis, Library Manager, presented the proposals on the history wall and kinetic sculpture. Her presentation is attached to the minutes of the meeting.

The Chairman asked for more time for the Board to review the proposals.

Commissioner Moffitt moved to defer action on selection of the art project until November 1. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0. Ms. Francis reported that the WNC Woodcarvers have completed the carved quilt of county history which would be installed in the Courthouse and highlighted on November 15.

- **School Capital Fund Commission Recommendations**

Tim Flora, Finance Director and Secretary to the School Capital Commission, gave the power point that is attached to the minutes of this meeting. The School Capital Fund Commission funding recommendations included Asheville High School roof renovation; Asheville City Schools; Montford School; Buncombe Community High School and multiple County school maintenance projects totaling \$44,161,525.

Commissioner Belcher asked about the possibility of pay as you go to address some of the needs on the schools' lists that were not part of the school capital funding recommendations.

Commissioner Frost and Vice Chair Newman, who are members of the School Capital Fund Commission, said that the Commission followed the schools requests for renovation projects and felt these projects were the ones most necessary.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the recommendations. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Jones asked that local businesses be used as much as possible.

Commissioner Belcher said he would like to see more buildings preserved like Asheville High School.

- **WastePro Rebate**

Bob Christy, Attorney for WastePro USA, said that Waste Pro had hired a new manager in the past year who had made dramatic changes and the company had invested \$1 million to help alleviate collection problems; however, as a result of all these changes, they did not realize a rebate was possible and the request was late.

Jon Creighton Assistant County Manager, explained the rebate program that was set up to help keep the landfill receiving adequate waste and competitive. The program required haulers to bring a minimum of 23,000 tons to the landfill for a rebate. WastePro met the requirements but missed the deadline to submit the rebate request. The rebate amount would be \$121,959 and would come out of the enterprise fund.

Vice Chair Newman said that the County was not required to grant the rebate; however, he supported granting it to continue a good working relationship.

Commissioner Moffitt moved to approve the rebate as explained. Commissioner Fryar seconded the motion and it passed 6-1 with Commissioner Frost voting no.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Jones moved to appoint **Tony Reid** to the **Mountain Area Workforce Development Board**. The motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcement:

- **October 20** – *Early Voting Begins*
- **November 1** - *Commissioners' Regular Meeting beginning at 4:30 p.m. in Room 326 at 200 College Street in Asheville.*
- **November 8** – *Election Day*

Commissioner Frost moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Moffitt seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

KATHY HUGHES, CLERK TO THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DAVID GANTT, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS