

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 7, 2018 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 7, 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; Eric Hardy, Interim Finance Director; Terri Orange, Internal Auditor; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Chairman took a moment to reflect on the individuals that service Buncombe County Schools for the upcoming school year and gave recognition to the teachers, staff, coaches and parents.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of July 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Minutes of July 17, 2018 Special Meeting
- Commissioners' Release Report
 - More Information
- Resolution to Fund DWI Court Grant
- Resolution Amending Resolution 17-08-10 Appointing Replacement Review Officers to Review Plats on Behalf of Buncombe County
- FY2019 Budget Amendment Summary 08-07-18
 - FY2019 General Fund Budget Amendments
 - Health and Human Services Division of Social Services Crisis Intervention and Low Income Energy Assistance Program
 - Health and Human Services Public Health Women, Infants and Children Food and Nutrition Program
 - FY2019 Grants Project Fund Amendment
 - Buncombe County Re-entry Council Department of Public Safety Continuation Grant

PUBLIC HEARING

- **Planning Board Zoning Ordinance**

Nathan Pennington, Planning Director, presented a recommendation for the She-Can rezoning of two consistent parcels of land. The rezoning would allow for the expansion of the manufactured home park.

Nathan Best, Property Owner of She-Can, LLC, stated that mobile home park, Rosewood, provides affordable housing for individuals that are least 55 years old and confirmed that the rezoning would allow for the expansion of the park.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the plan consistency statement. Commissioner Frost seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Commissioner Belcher moved to amend the official zoning map. Vice Chair Fryar seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Update on \$500,000 Grant Application for COPS Grant to Install Bi-directional Amplification Repeaters to Enhance Public Safety Radio Signals in Secondary Schools**

George Wood, Interim County Manager, explained that Sheriff Department had taken the lead on the grant and he had signed the grant because its time sensitive deadline. The grant would provide for the purchase of equipment that would help generate a better radio signal for emergency personnel in school buildings.

Commissioner Whitesides addressed the serious nature of the signal situation and was concerned with how many more schools needed the equipment. Mr. Wood stated that 8 out of 22 schools that need the equipment would receive this equipment and recommended that the Board look for other funds for the remaining 14 schools.

- **FYI**

Mr. Wood updated the Board on the successful 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.

Mr. Wood stated that a tax attorney is needed to look into the issue of not including the value of the insurance premiums that were purchased, during a three year span, as it relates to the IRS.

He also mentioned that the County is moving forward with the purchase and implementation of a contract tracking software and updating the purchasing manual.

Three Board members and Mr. Wood will meet with Buncombe County School Board members and the Superintendent to discuss several items.

Lastly, Mr. Wood gave an update on the hiring process for the openings in the Finance Director, County Manager, Budget Director, Communications Director and Library Director positions.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Motion to Approve the Resolution of the County of Buncombe, North Carolina Declaring the Intent of the County of Buncombe, North Carolina to Reimburse Itself for Capital Expenditures Incurred in Connection with Various County and School Improvements from the Proceeds of Certain Tax-Exempt Obligations to be Executed and Delivered During Fiscal Year 2019**

Eric Hardy, Interim Finance Director, presented the resolution and explained that it permits the capital projects that have been approved to proceed. Vice Chair Fryar stated the Board should reevaluate these projects before proceeding. Chairman Newman asked for an overview of these projects. Mr. Hardy provided a brief overview and stated that these improvements were in various stages of development. Mr. Wood proposed that staff would get updates on these projects and report back to the Board with status updates.

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

- **Motion to Approve the Annual Tax Collector's Sworn Settlement for Tax Year 2017 Property Taxes per NCGS 105-373.**

Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector, explained the motion and provided the Board with the requirements for these procedures. She stated that the Tax Department staff is comprised of driven individuals that are committed to the County and its citizens.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the Annual Tax Collector's Sworn Settlement for Tax Year 2017 Property Taxes and Commissioner Frost seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Motion to Issue the Order of Collection of Tax Year 2018 Property Taxes to the Tax Collector.**

Commissioner Frost moved to Issue the Order of Collection of Tax Year 2018 Property Taxes to the Tax Collector and Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Motion to Appoint a Commissioner to the Metropolitan Sewerage District Board to Replace Commissioner Frost**

Chairman Newman stated that Commissioner Whitesides and Vice Chairman Fryar have interest in serving on the MSD board. Commissioner Frost moved to appoint Commissioner Whitesides to the board and Commissioner Beach-Ferrara second the motion. Vice Chair Fryar acknowledged that he was interested in being nominated for appointment to the board and Chairman Newman suggested that since there were two nominations, that they would take a poll of the Board. Commissioners Frost, Whitesides, Beach-Ferrara and Chairman Newman were in favor of Commissioner Whitesides. Commissioners Belcher, Pressley and Vice Chair Fryar were in favor of Vice Chair Fryar.

Commissioner Belcher moved to appoint Commissioner Whitesides to the MSD board and Commissioner Beach Ferrara seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Motion to Select the Finalists for the County Manager Executive Search for Interviews with the Entire Board of Commissioners**

Mr. Wood updated the Board on the County Manager search process and the committee had narrowed it down to two finalists; Slavin Management Consultants and the Mercer Group, Inc. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara, Belcher and Whitesides all praised the firms that were considered and looked forward to the process of having the citizens of Buncombe County be involved.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to make the selection for interviews from the two finalists with the entire Board of Commissioners on August 21 at 2 p.m. and Commissioner Frost seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Motion to Call a Public Hearing on an Ordinance Amending the Buncombe County Personnel Ordinance**

Michael Frue, Staff Attorney, stated that before the personnel ordinance can be amended, that a public hearing had to take place. Mr. Frue also explained which sections of the ordinance were being considered and the proposed amendments.

Chairman Newman moved to call a public hearing on an ordinance amending the Buncombe County Personnel Ordinance and Commissioner Pressley seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Belcher moved to reappoint **Kim Mallicoat, Bennett Lincoff, Judith Dewitt, Jeri Hahner, Marjorie Latta** and **Susan Stuart** to the **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Chairman Newman moved to reappoint **Eric Oelschlaeger** to the **Mountain Area Workforce Development Board**. Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Frost moved to appoint **Catherine Keckeley** and to reappoint **Diane Duermit** to the **Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josh Holmes, Council of Independent Business Owners, spoke and presented a resolution in support of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department.

Michael Harney, Western NC AIDS Project, highlighted the opioid epidemic and the needle exchange program.

Chris Silva expressed his concern for the world being in trouble and the spiritual battle.

Thomas Penland stated that in his neighborhood that there is a misuse of property as an illegal junk yard and zoning enforcement is needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *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.*
- *August 21 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Frost moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a(6) for personnel matters with possible action to be taken following the closed session. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Chairman Whitesides moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a(3) one legal matter with possible action to be taken following the closed session. Vice Chair Fryar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

CLOSED SESSION

- **Motion to Enter into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a(6) to discuss two personnel matters.**

The Board had a discussion on the Finance Director position and a personnel matter relating to an employee.

No action was taken.

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

Commissioner Belcher moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS