

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on September 18, 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
Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Commissioner
Robert Pressley, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Ellen Frost, Commissioner, was absent from the meeting.

Staff present: George Wood, Interim County Manager; Jim Holland, Assistant County Manager; Eric Hardy, Interim Finance Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director; Terri Orange, Internal Auditor; Tim Love, Business Officer; Jennifer Chilton, Budget Manager; Curt Euler, Employee Benefits & Risk Management Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence for communities in NC and SC affected by Hurricane Florence. He also thanked public safety and emergency personnel for their service during this difficult time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- Approval of August 7, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of August 21, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement
- Resolution Authorizing Execution of Easement to the Metropolitan Sewerage District
 - Conveyance of Sewer System and Easement

GOOD NEWS

- International Day of Peace - Rachael Bliss

Rachael stated that Western NC for Peace will have a celebration on September 21 at 11:30 a.m.

PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Various Updates**

George Wood, Interim County Manager, updated the Board on the following items:

- Informed the Board on the current status of Lee Walker Heights Development Project.
- Mentioned that there is an Opioid Class Action Lawsuit in Chicago, IL that request the attendance of two commissioners and a legal staff representative on September 26.
- The County will bid out the parking services contract for multiple lots and, in the future, try to manage all the lots under the same contract.
- The Parks and Recreation Department submitted an application to the Tourism Development Authority for \$6 million sports project in Enka/Candler.
- The County received the \$2,088,740.70 settlement check from the insurance companies for the whole-life insurance policies.
- The County executed the contract with Slavin Management Consultants for County Manager search.
- The County executed a lease agreement for Solid Waste for a loader and excavator.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- **FY2019 Budget Amendment Summary 9-18-18**

Jennifer Chilton, Budget Manager, explained each budget amendments and votes were made separately on each.

1. General Fund (\$15,836) - Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
2. General Fund (\$419,871) - Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
3. General Fund (\$1,863,907) - Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
4. Capital Project Fund (\$413,914) - Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
5. Solid Waste Capital Projects Fund (\$145,519) - Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to approve the amendment as presented. Vice Chair Fryar seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
6. Grants Projects Fund (\$450,000) - Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the amendment and acceptance of the grant as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
7. Inmate Commissary Fund (\$189,000) - Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
8. Health, Employment, Property & Casualty Fund (\$2,088,741) - Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Commissioner Belcher spoke to the fact that some of these budget items were previously in the Consent Agenda and by moving them to New Business, it gives the Board and the public an opportunity to hear details associated with some of these agenda items.

Dane Pederson, Solid Waste Director, explained a \$318,272 budget amendment for a Task Order 19-01 from SCS Engineers.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- **Presentation by Interim County Manager on Fringe Benefits, Health Insurance Plan, and Beginning the FY2020 Budget Process**

Mr. Wood explained the memo and provided additional information associated with this topic. Curt Euler, Employee Benefits & Risk Management Director, detailed important points with the use of a PowerPoint presentation and explained to the Board that changes can be made to the Health Insurance Plan because it is not canned plan. He also stated that the goal was to try to provide great health care options to County employees and the County. Board members expressed their thoughts about the plan options and mentioned the addition of including a wellness component in the future.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Belcher moved to appoint **Jillian Humphries, Ann Von Brock, Ana Cabello-De la Garza, Karen Plemmons, Ariel Shumaker-Hammond** and **Whisper Moore** to the **Women's Commission**. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Janet Compton, as a County retiree, said she was willing to eliminate the selling of leave to save her health benefits.

Chris Winslow, as a County retiree, expressed concerns with the potential change in the health benefits.

Rosemary Kirkmire-Ross said that the County should look out for retirees.

Don Yelton stated that the Board should take notice of the Interim County Manager's recommendations and gave the Board advice on his ideas to make the County run better.

Tim Wallace mentioned his desire for more transparency. He also wants to have public comments during the library board meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *October 2 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville*
- *October 16 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville*

Commissioner Whitesides moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a(3) for a legal matter and NCGS 143-318.11a(4) for an economic development matter with no possible action to be taken following the closed session. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board heard an update and discussion of pending legal matters involving the former County Manager and other former county employees at the center of the ongoing investigation. No action was taken.

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 Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Commissioner Belcher moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS