

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
PRE-MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 2019 AT 12:00 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 20, 2019, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Ground Floor Conference room in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 12:00 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  
Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Vice Chair  
Joe Belcher, Commissioner  
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner  
Mike Fryar, Commissioner  
Robert Pressley, Commissioner  
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Donald Warn, Finance Director; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Eric Hardy, Performance Management Director; Mike Mace, General Services Director; Jim Blanton, Library Director; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Keith Miller, Tax Assessor; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnership Director; Tim Love, Business Officer; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

During the meeting, the Board and staff will review and discuss agenda items and receive staff updates with discussions as noted:

**Review the Board's Agenda.** The Board heard information about a request for additional funding for AB Tech. Dennis King, AB Tech President, and Dirk Wilmoth, AB Tech CFO, gave context to the \$300,000 request. The majority of funding is a result of the state not being able to fund for communications items.

**Staff Updates:**

**Strategic Planning – Preview initial results.** Tim Love, Business Officer, and Avril Pinder, County Manager, recapped the strategic planning sessions that were completed last month. The sessions were led by Rebecca Ryan and provided direction on trends and values that the County will determine its focus.

**Monthly Collection Report.** Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector, explained that her department will be modifying monthly reporting and gap billing. The tax payers will be made aware of the new gap billing process with staff being attentive to their concerns.

**East Asheville Library Lease Agreement.** Jim Blanton, Library Director, stated that the lease agreement fee from the City of Asheville is \$1/year for 99 years. The expected completion date for construction is October 2020.

**Technical Corrections for Contracts.** Mike Frue, Staff Attorney, explained that the corrections to modify the budget ordinance will make it consistent with the procurement manual.

**Open Discussion.** Elias Varn, Asheville High student, gifted a portrait that he painted of Commissioner Whitesides to the Commissioner Whitesides.

The Board discussed making changes to the public comment session of the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

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LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS