

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
BRIEFING OF JUNE 16, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 16, 2020, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 3 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, Commissioner
Joe Belcher, Commissioner
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner
Anthony Penland, Commissioner
Robert Pressley, Vice Chair
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director; Jim Blanton, Library Director; Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director; Tim Love, Business Officer; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

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

Staff Updates:

US Forest Service Proposed Forest Plan Review. Alice Cohen and staff of the U.S. Forest Service provided information and reviewed the plan for the forest land in the region. Some of the features include:

- connecting people to the land
- sustaining healthy ecosystems
- providing clean & abundant water
- partnering with others

Community Paramedicine Program- Dogwood Grant. Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director, explained that Emergency Services will receive \$382, 000 from the Dogwood Trust grant for a year to accomplish county goals of decreasing the burden of the opioid crisis and infectious diseases. The grant will cover personnel for three enhanced EMT paramedics.

Town of Weaverville Collection Agreement. Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector, informed the Board of preliminary discussion for a possible new property tax agreement with the Town of Weaverville. Key elements of the agreement will include 3-year term, monthly and gap billing that will have beneficial results.

FY2021 Fee Schedule. Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, provided the updated fee schedule and outlined the proposed changes in fees for Health & Human Services, Detention Center, Emergency Services, Library, and Planning.

COVID-19 Discussion. Dr. Mullendore, Interim Public Health Director, and Fletcher Tove, Preparedness & Security Officer, provided information of the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. Community testing numbers are up from gatherings and long-term care facility testing is an issue that being examined extensively.

Open Discussion: Commissioner Beach-Ferrara provided information on the NCACC working group for the opioid litigation settlement.

The Board discussed the public comment period for the regular meeting later in the evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS