



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 11/5/2020

New Business

Department: TAX COLLECTIONS

Presenter(s): JENNIFER PIKE

Contact(s): JENNIFER PIKE

Subject: REQUEST TO WAIVE OCCUPANCY TAX PENALTIES INCURRED DUE TO COVID-19 – FOR THE SALES MONTHS OF FEBRUARY THROUGH AUGUST 2020, DUE MARCH THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2020

Brief Summary:

At the September 30, 2020 meeting of the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority (BCTDA), the Board took action to automatically approve all COVID-19 related penalties incurred for late occupancy tax remittance reports and payments that were due in March through September 2020, for February through August 2020 sales. A two-step process is required for granting occupancy tax penalty waivers, approval by both the BCTDA and Buncombe County Board of Commissioners. Following approval of the penalty waivers resulting from COVID-19 by the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, penalty amounts for the sales months of February through August 2020 will be removed as outstanding amounts, refunded, or not invoiced to establishments.

As of October 21, 2020, 67 establishments have incurred penalties in the amount of \$105,717, for sales months February 2020 through August 2020. Penalty amounts for 29 establishments are not yet known, due to sales reporting yet to be submitted for sales months February 2020 through August 2020.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approval of following the recommendation of the BCTDA to automatically waive all COVID-19 related penalties incurred, or to be incurred, for late occupancy tax remittance reports and payments for the sales months of February through August 2020.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation:

Recommends approval.