

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
BRIEFING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on November 17, 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; Donald Warn, Finance Director; Sharon Burke, Human Resources Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:05 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.

Staff Updates:

COVID-19 Discussion. Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director, provided information on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic data and trends. Saunders stated that there has been 119 new cases per 100K population, with a positive test rate of 4% in the County and stressed the importance of following the three W's. Thanksgiving holiday recommendations were provided, as well as, information about getting flu vaccinations.

Transparency Update. Matthew Baker, Performance Management Supervisor, explained some background information on the development of the transparency site. The site provides information that is contextualized, visual and interactive. Request for data information goes through a step by step process before it is available for publication.

Upward Mobility Grant. Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director, stated that the grant will provide initiative to develop and launch efforts to narrow inequities and support upward mobility from poverty. The grant will award \$125K for up to eight counties.

Open Discussion: The Commissioners discussed how to conduct the public comment session for the regular meeting later that evening. The agenda had public hearing items that many people registered for comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS