

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’
BRIEFING OF JANUARY 5, 2021 AT 3:00 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 5, 2021, 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
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner
Robert Pressley, Commissioner
Parker Sloan, Commissioner
Terri Wells, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Vice Chair

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; Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:04 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:

COVID-19 Discussion. Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director; Fletcher Tove, Preparedness & Security Officer and Dr. Bill Hathaway, Mission Health, provided information on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic data and trends, vaccine prioritization rollout, and metric data (5 categories coded red). The vaccination rollout will move through five phases.

Comprehensive Plan RFP Process. Shannon Capezzali, Planning, provided a status update of the comprehensive plan and the timeline. As the Commissioners approved the Request for Proposals (RFP) in March 2020, it is scheduled for release in January 2021.

911 Consolidation Efforts. Brooke Hazlett, 911 Division Manager, outlined the benefits of the 911 consolidation. Eliminating calls that must transferred, under the current process, can save valuable time during emergency situations. Next steps include plain talk radio conversions of all county law enforcement agencies and communications with other local municipalities.

Sustainable Fleet Policy. Jeremiah LeRoy, Sustainability, explained that the purpose is to align fleet purchasing policy with Strategic Plan Focus Area of greenhouse gas reduction. The policy would require that departments purchase the most efficient vehicle possible based on vehicle class requested.

FY22 Early Childhood Funding. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara, presented the background of funding under the last two years of grant making. The funding will help support the 2025 Strategic Plan and improve the access to quality Pre-K with the goal of achieving universal Pre-K.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS