

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2021 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in special session on January 26, 2021, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 5 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; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director; Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director; Fletcher Tove, Preparedness & Security Officer; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

- **One Buncombe Fund Public Hearing**

Tim Love, Business Officer and Matt Raker, Mountain BizWorks Executive Director, explained that the One Buncombe, COVID-19 Rapid Relief Fund was created in April 2020 and the Community banded together to raise nearly \$1.4M for individuals and small businesses. The pandemic has continued to stress the Community and the need to assist individuals and small businesses is critical. Approving the request will authorize \$150,000 of economic development appropriation and reinvestment of any funds received from One Buncombe repayments back into the One Buncombe program.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:18 p.m.

Don Yelton questioned the program's administration and amount money, and expressed his displeasure for the public comment process due to the meeting being closed to the public.

The hearing was closed at 5:20 p.m.

Commissioner Pressley moved to adopt the resolution as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Vice Chair Whitesides moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **COVID-19 Update Presentation with FAQs**

Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director; and Fletcher Tove, Preparedness & Security Officer provided information on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic data and trends, vaccine administration, and metric data (2 categories coded red). Total vaccine administered to date is 7,500 (1st dose = 7,000 & 2nd dose = 500). A second vaccination site will open up at A.C. Reynolds High School.

Zo Mpofu, HHS, presented information on addressing equity within the vaccine program and the use of communications and outreach to assist with some of the disparities.

Vice Chair Whitesides moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS