

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’
BRIEFING OF JUNE 1, 2021 AT 3:00 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 1, 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; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director; Rafael Baptista, Performance Management Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff 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:

Staff Updates:

COVID-19/Vaccine Update. COVID-19/Vaccine Update. Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director, provided information on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic data and trends, vaccination update, and metric data (no category coded red). Vaccinations performed by the County are at the fixed site of A-B Tech with walk-in availability. Outreach will continue to include planning with schools, worksites, and breweries.

Strategic Plan Update. Rafael Baptista, Performance Management Director, updated the Board on the plan that includes launching a status dashboard, conducting a community survey, and investing in other innovative strategies. Information was provided for starting a subcommittee for environmental and energy stewardship.

Transparency Annual Report. Matt Baker, Performance Management, presented a video with instructions on how to navigate the transparency/open data website. The future plan is to increase community engagement with a focus on equity and inclusion to support the strategic plan.

Update on Rental Assistance Program. Phillip Hardin, Social Services, provided an overview on past and current programs that provide rental assistance to the community. Program demographic data was presented and outreach to the community will continue to be a focus of Social Services for these programs.

Reinstating Policies Suspended due to COVID. Michael Frue, Senior County Attorney, informed the Board that a resolution is included on the evening’s consent agenda that will reinstate policies for the Tax, Finance, and Register of Deeds departments.

Open Discussion: The Board discussed voting on the FY2022 Budget that is scheduled for this evening’s public hearing. Instead of this evening, the Board will conduct the vote at the June 15th regular meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS