

Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN  
ENVIRONMENTAL and ENERGY STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

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- WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes § 153A-76 authorizes a board of commissioners to create, change, abolish, and consolidate offices, positions, departments, boards, commissions, and agencies of the county government in order to promote orderly and efficient administration of county affairs;
- WHEREAS, recognizing that climate science and observations of climate change are having dangerous impacts on human populations and the environment, this Board recognizes a duty and obligation to provide leadership in responding to the climate crisis;
- WHEREAS, this Board has established a strategic priority to foster Environmental and Energy Stewardship in Buncombe County to give rise to high quality air, water, farmland, and renewable energy for future generations, including efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to preserve farmland and environmentally sensitive tracts;
- WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the purposes and intents of this strategic priority and related goals this Board is of the opinion that it is in the best interests of the citizens and residents of the County to appoint a subcommittee of its membership as a Climate and Environment Working Group to review and provide recommendations to this Board on items related to these strategic priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That the Board of Commissioners hereby establishes an Environmental and Energy Stewardship Subcommittee;
2. That the Subcommittee will have six (6) or seven (7) members to be determined by the Board at a later date; this Subcommittee will be comprised as follows:
  - three (3) Commissioners each appointed to serve a term of two (2) years, or until their term on the Commission expires, whichever occurs first, beginning July 1, 2021;
  - three (3) or (4) community members appointment by the Board;
  - community members will be appointed to serve a term of two (2) years limited to two consecutive terms; and
  - two (2) community members will initially be appointed to serve one year terms, but these initial appointments will not count toward the two term limit;

3. That in order to provide recommendations for action to this Board, the Subcommittee is authorized to examine opportunities environmental and energy stewardship including, but not limited to, the following:
  - conservation easement strategies
  - reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
  - renewable energy development and access
  - preservation of farmlands and natural resources
  - solar and other renewable energy
  - solid waste management and recycling
  - air and water quality
  - green building;
4. That the Subcommittee may establish a set of by-laws, a meeting schedule, and other business necessities in order to carry on its business;
5. That the Subcommittee may be staffed by County personnel through the County Manager's office;
6. That this Subcommittee will serve as an advisory body to the County Commission and has no authority to bind Buncombe County; and
7. That this resolution is effective upon adoption.

This the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

ATTEST

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lamar Joyner, Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brownie Newman, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM

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County Attorney