

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on February 1, 2022, 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, Vice Chair
Robert Pressley, Commissioner
Parker Sloan, Commissioner
Terri Wells, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Sharon Burke, Human Resources Director; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Whitesides motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, add **Affordable Housing Goals and Policies to Presentations**, and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of January 4, 2022 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January 4, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Ownership of Retired K9 "Pitcher" to His Handler, Deputy Mark Whitted
 - Resolution
- Resolution Ordering the Advertising of Delinquent Real Estate Property Tax Liens
 - Resolution
- Tax Collection Report
- Appointment to Swannanoa Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department Fire Relief Fund Board
- Approval of Asheville High School Track Replacement Design Contract
- Approval of Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR) Construction Contract for A-B Tech FY21 Capital Plan Maintenance Projects
- Approval of Architectural Services Contract Amendment with CPL Architects for the New Fleet Services Complex
- Approval of Jury Commission Compensation
- Budget Amendment for Additional Funding for Code Purple Emergency Shelter
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for Rental Equipment for Small Farms Grant
 - Ordinance

PUBLIC COMMENT

April Burgess-Johnson and Ginny Raviotta, Helpmate, expressed their support of the County's efforts to fight domestic violence.

Don Yelton questioned the affordable housing goals and the use of BCTV.

Roy Harris thanked the County for the grant he received to help on his property expenses.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Black Legacy Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Whitesides shared some his experiences, read and presented the proclamation. Rachel Edens, Chief Equity & Human Rights Officer, accepted the proclamation and expressed her gratitude.

- **Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) Findings**

Paulina Mendez, Kelda Harrison, and Katherine Watkins of Justice Services, presented a timeline of the domestic violence fatality review findings, and recommendations for system change. The mission of the Buncombe County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) is to prevent domestic violence (DV) deaths, increase safety for DV victims, and increase accountability for abusers through systems change.

- **Affordable Housing Goals and Policies**

Chairman Newman shared some data about affordable housing and laid out some goals from the Affordable Housing Subcommittee that includes investment strategies and multiple long-term scenarios. The Board will have an opportunity review the information and present additional options for consideration at a later date.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Homeowner Grant Program**

Phillip Hardin, Social Services, provided an overview on the homeowner grant program that highlighted the successes and recommendations for the upcoming fiscal year. Demographic data and funding information was presented.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Ordering & Distribution of KN95 Masks to the Public**

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to add this item to **Old Business**. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to order \$50K of KN95 masks that can distributed to the public as they use County buildings. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-1. (NOES-Pressley)

NEW BUSINESS

- **Budget Amendment for NC PRO Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Grant**

John Hudson, Budget, explained the budget amendment.

Phillip Hardin, Social Services, provided an overview on the grant program for rental assistance to the community. Demographic data and funding information was presented.

Commissioner Wells moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Additional Funding for Low-Income Energy Assistance**

John Hudson, Budget, explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Additional Education Appropriation Related to FY2022 State Budget**

John Hudson, Budget, explained the budget amendment.

Vice Chair Edwards moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **COVID Recovery Fund Award**

Chairman Newman, Commissioners Sloan and Edwards, as the Affordable Housing Subcommittee, explained the support of funding the Haywood Street affordable housing proposal.

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve the COVID Recovery Fund Award in the grant amount of \$749K for construction of the Haywood Street affordable housing project. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Newman moved to reappoint **Nathan Pennington** to the **Metropolitan Sewerage District**. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0

Vice Chair Edwards moved to appoint **Keith Thomson** to the **Jury Commission**. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to appoint **Ginger Clough** to the **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *February 15 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *February 15 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to hear legal matters with no possible action anticipated following the closed session. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

The Board heard the legal update and had discussion regarding the matters. No action was taken.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to go back into open session. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the Motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Sloan moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS