

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

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 5, 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; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Eric Grau, Information Technology Director; Sheriff Quentin Miller; Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director; Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Services Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Dane Pederson, Solid Waste Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **INVOCATION**

Chairman Newman requested a moment of silence for the passing of Max Queen, Buncombe County Schools (BCS) Board of Education representative.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Sloan motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and the remainder of the agenda. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of March 15, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of March 15, 2022 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Tax Collection Report
- Approval of Architectural Services Contract with Novus Architects for A-B Tech Deferred Maintenance Projects
- Resolution Authorizing Execution of Memorandum of Street Acceptance and Encroachment Agreement to the City of Asheville
  - Resolution
  - Memorandum
  - Agreement
- Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Lease Agreement for Buncombe County Courthouse Space to the North Carolina Department of Justice
  - Resolution
    - Exhibit A
  - Lease Agreement
- Budget Amendment for Minority Diabetes Prevention Program
  - Ordinance

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Yelton questioned the establishment of the reparation commission and property taxes on vacant land.

Matt Barker expressed issues with the construction of the Dollar General in Swannanoa.

Sharon Kanipe expressed concern for traffic and density issues with the Ferry Road project.

Philip Cooper expressed his support for the prison re-entry services and questioned the lack of black men being served.

Elizabeth Williams, Tiffany Goss, Barbara St. Hilaire, and Melinda Robb expressed their support for aging services and adult day services.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- **National Public Health Week Proclamation**

Vice Chair Edwards read and presented the proclamation. Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director, accepted the proclamation and expressed gratitude.

- **Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation**

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara read and presented the proclamation. Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director, accepted the proclamation and expressed gratitude.

- **Food Waste Reduction Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Sloan read and presented the proclamation. Casi Lohmeyer, Solid Waste, accepted the proclamation and expressed gratitude.

## COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Avril Pinder, County Manager, announced the Black Mountain public input session for the Comprehensive Plan and the deadline for the application request for ARPA funds.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution Approving the Financing of Improvements to the Asheville Regional Airport with the Proceeds of Tax-Exempt Bonds to be Issued by the Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority**

Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney, explained that the reason for the resolution is that the Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority seeks to issue revenue bonds in the amount not to exceed \$275,000,000. These will be used to finance all or a portion of the costs of various capital improvements to the Asheville Regional Airport.

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

- **Budget Amendment for Grant Award - Jail & Prison Re-entry Grant 2022**

Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Services Director, explained the budget amendment will fund this grant award to continue Buncombe County's existing Jail & Prison Re-entry Program, funded through Dogwood Health Trust. The grant will provide \$445,000 to extend the program for 12 additional months and no county dollars are required.

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

- **Budget Amendment for Cybersecurity Contract**

Eric Grau, IT Director, and Mark Goodwin, Chief Information Security Officer, explained the budget amendment will augment and strengthen the County's Cyber Security Program. These funds will help ensure critical County systems are operational, County data is secured, and residents of Buncombe County are able to receive services.

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

## BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Newman moved to reappoint **Ken Kahn** and **Cindy Weeks** to the **Planning Board**. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *April 19 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *April 19 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Whitesides moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.