

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on September 20, 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
Terri Wells, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Parker Sloan, Commissioner, was absent from the meeting.

Staff present: Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; John Hudson, Budget Director; Keith Miller, Tax Assessor; Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director; Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director; Jennifer Harrison, Agriculture & Land Resources Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Pressley motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- Approval of September 6, 2022 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of September 6, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Appointing Review Officers
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Display
 - Resolution
- Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Interlocal Agreement with U.S., NC, and Buncombe County Regarding Conservation Services
 - Resolution
 - Agreement
- Approval Revision of Project Scope for FY20 Repairs for Libraries Project
- Budget Amendment for Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Transportation Contract
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for VAYA American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Child & Family Grant - FY23 Additional Funds
 - Ordinance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne Craig, Rachael Bliss, and Tom Craig read parts of their International Day of Peace Proclamation.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Hispanic & Latino Heritage Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara presented and read the proclamation in Spanish and English. Residents of our Hispanic and Latino community were present during the presentation.

- **Tropical Storm Fred Disaster Recovery Program Update**

Richard Trumper and Dana Phillips, NC Office of State Budget & Management (OSBM), updated the Board on the Tropical Storm Fred Disaster Recovery Program. Success of the program was highlighted with local data and information.

- **Board of Equalization & Review**

Debbie Lane, Chairperson, explained the purpose of the board and provided a list of accomplishments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- **FY 2024 Annual Section 5311 Administrative Grant Application**

William High, Planning & Development, explained that the County is a designated applicant/recipient of state and federal transportation funds made available through North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The County's Community Transportation System, Mountain Mobility, provides transportation to older adults, persons with disabilities, clients of human service agencies, members of the general public (outside of the City of Asheville), clients of Medicaid, and citizens of the City of Asheville eligible for ADA Complementary Paratransit. The funds help offset costs for related to providing Mountain Mobility services and programs.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:46 p.m.

The hearing was closed at 5:47 p.m.

Vice Chair Edwards moved to adopt the authorizing resolution as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- **Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization**

Nancy Williams, Planning & Development, explained that the CDBG funds are awarded to the State by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and a portion of the funds are awarded through the Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) Program. The County must adopt a citizen participation plan that provides citizens access to information and participation in all project stages. This is the second of two public hearings required and the funds can be used for a variety of different activities in support of three livability principles: (1) to promote equitable, affordable housing; (2) support existing communities; and (3) value communities and neighborhoods.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:52 p.m.

Katherine Cook inquired about the use of funds for mobile homes.

The hearing was closed at 5:53 p.m.

Commissioner Wells moved to adopt the resolution to approve the submittal of CDBG-NR application. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Conservation Easement Grant Funds**

Ariel Zijp, Farmland Preservation Program of Agriculture & Land Resources Department, explained receiving the \$1.3 million award to help protect land in the County and the process for usage of the funds.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution Granting Utility & Temporary Construction Easements to Public Service Company of North Carolina d/b/a Dominion Energy**

Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney, explained the request to use two County-owned parcels by Dominion Energy to install a gas line. Dominion Energy is requesting a permanent easement to relocate and maintain a replacement underground gas pipeline, and a temporary easement for the installation of the same, on certain County properties located on Old US Highway 70 and adjacent to the Swannanoa River.

Commissioner Pressley moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- **Budget Amendment for State Lottery Project Award - Buncombe County Schools (Security Hardware Upfits)**

John Hudson, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Wells moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Newman moved to appoint, by general consensus of receiving the most votes, **Eric Robinson** to the **Planning Board**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *September 27 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Comprehensive Plan Work Session at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *October 4 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *October 4 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.