

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2023 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on February 7, 2023, 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, Commissioner
Martin Moore, Commissioner
Parker Sloan, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Terri Wells, Vice Chair, was absent from the meeting.

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Mason Scott, Interim Finance Director; John Hudson, Budget Director; Sharon Burke, Human Resources Director; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Services Director; Sheriff Quentin Miller; Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of January 17, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January 17, 2023 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January 17, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes - Closed Session
- Approval of January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January 25, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
- Tax Collection Report
- Resolution Appointing Review Officers
 - Resolution
- Approval of Settlements Report
 - More Information
- Approval of Pre-Construction Services Contract with Vannoy Construction for Asheville City Schools
 - Contract
- Resolution Ordering the Advertising of Delinquent Real Estate Property Tax Liens
 - Resolution
- Budget Amendment for Grant Award: COVID Support in Buncombe County Detention Facility (BCDF)
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for START Program Funding
 - Ordinance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Allison Sewery, Scott Kuhlman, Chloette Kuhlman, Gary Thompson, Tefa Hallock, and Ande Flavelle expressed their concerns and disapproval for the Pinners Cove (rezoning) new construction project by KLP Pinners EAT, LLC.

Dede Styles thanked the Planning Board on the Comprehensive Plan process that included public input.

Jonathan Wainscott expressed support and made comments for the reparations resolution.

Carolyn Ward expressed concerns about the Comprehensive Plan but thanked the County for its efforts.

GOOD NEWS

- **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award - Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)**

John Hudson, Budget Director, recognized the Budget team for the work in achieving the GFOA Award.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Black Legacy Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Moore read and presented the proclamation. Dr. Oarline Simmons and Joy Wilson accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board for their support.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Sharon Burke, Human Resources Director, informed the Commissioners of the bonuses for the MEET (Meaningfully Engaging Equity Together) Team.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolutions Declaring the County's Intent to Reimburse Itself for Capital Expenditures Incurred with Various County and School Capital Projects, Affordable House Projects, and Open Space Projects**

Mason Scott, Interim Finance Director, explained the three reimbursement resolutions to designate the Finance Director to reimburse expenditures with proceeds of debt and per IRS regulations, counties must adopt a Reimbursement Resolution if they intend to spend currently available funds on capital projects that will be financed by the later issuance of bonds.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the three resolutions as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- **Resolution Authorizing Additional Staff Work to Develop a Scope of Work for an Official Audit to Ensure Compliance with Applicable Regulations, Statutes, and Local Requirements to Cease Harm Impacting the African American Community**

Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager, explained the immediate recommendations and key components from the resolution to cease harm impacting the African American community by conducting an official audit of the City and County.

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

- **Resolution Approving the Buncombe County Commissioners' Legislative Agenda for 2023**

Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations, stated that the Commissioners worked with Governmental Relations Firm Ward & Smith to develop a 2023 Legislative Agenda, which includes appropriations and policy priorities that will be pursued during the 2023 Biennium.

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

- **Resolution in Support of the Buncombe County Board of Education Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars**

Chairman Newman explained that on January 12, 2023, the Buncombe County Board of Education passed a resolution supporting an amendment to the current school calendar law and requesting that local school boards have more calendar flexibility from the General Assembly.

Chairman Newman moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Special Projects Fund - Community Reparations**

John Hudson, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Newman moved to reappoint **Carol Peterson, Ann Babcock, Derek Turno, Lean Richards, Stuart Cowles, Ally Howell**, and appoint **Kevin Conrecode** to the **Parks, Greenways, & Recreation Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to appoint **Sabrina Rockoff** to the **Economic Development Coalition**. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Commissioner Edwards moved to appoint **Dennis Fagnant** (Emergency Response/Disaster Preparedness Professional) to the **Independent Review Committee (Water Outage)**. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Chairman Newman moved to appoint, by general consensus of receiving the most votes, **Kim Murphy** (Residential Water Customer) to the **Independent Review Committee (Water Outage)**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *February 21 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *February 21 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Sloan moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS