

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 2, 2023 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 2, 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
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner
Martin Moore, Commissioner
Parker Sloan, Commissioner
Terri Wells, Vice Chair
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Commissioner, were 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; 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 Martin motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and the remainder of the agenda. Vice Chair Wells seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- Approval of April 18, 2023 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of April 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Tax Collection Report
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Display
 - Resolution
- Approval of Holiday Leave Change (Juneteenth)
 - Leave Policy
 - More Information
- Approval of Extension and Modification of Collection Agreement for the Town of Weaverville
 - Agreement
- Approval of Updated JCPC County Funding Plan for FY2022-2023
 - Funding Plan Draft
- Budget Amendment to Establish Three Conservation Easement Projects and Increase an Existing Project
 - Ordinance
 - Maps
- Budget Amendment for Adult Protective Services (APS) Essential Services Fund
 - Ordinance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dede Styles stated concerns with the public comment structure water issues due to construction development and climate change.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Older Americans Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Whitesides read and presented the proclamation to Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director. Stoney accepted the proclamation and thanked the Commissioners for their support.

- **Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Edwards read and presented the proclamation to Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager. The proclamation was accepted and gratitude was expressed.

- **Financial Quarterly Report - FY23 Third Quarter**

Mason Scott, Interim Finance Director, presented the FY23 Second Quarter Report with an update on revenues, expenditures, and investments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- **Consideration of an Ordinance Imposing a Temporary Moratorium on Cryptocurrency Mining**

Nathan Pennington, Planning Director, explained the consideration to adopt an ordinance imposing the temporary moratorium to allow the Board time to develop standards and mitigation methods for cryptocurrency mining.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:31 p.m.

Craig Deutsch, Kimberly Stonebreaker, Justin Orkney, and Dennis Fassuliotis expressed their opposition for the temporary moratorium.

Michael Reynolds, Chris Joyeil and Ken Brame expressed their support for the temporary moratorium.

The hearing was closed at 5:54 p.m.

Vice Chair Wells moved to approve the Ordinance Imposing a Temporary Moratorium on Cryptocurrency Mining. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Review of Open Space Bond Conservation Easement Criteria Adoption**

Jill Carter, Open Space Bond Project Manager, and Ariel Zijp, Agriculture & Land Resources, explained to the Board the proposed criteria had been updated to reflect their concerns on how to best allocate funding towards conservation. Staff, with input from the Agriculture Advisory Board, Land Conservation Advisory Board, and the public, developed the criteria for evaluating land conservation projects. The Board had deferred voting on the criteria during the regular meeting on March 21, 2023.

Vice Chair Wells moved to adopt the Open Space Bond Conservation Easement Criteria. Commissioner Sloan seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Moore moved to appoint **Destiny Burgess** (Substance Abuse Professional), and reappoint **Eric Robinson** (Community-at large), **Sylvia Clement** (Chief Court Counselor), and **Suzanne Avett** (DSS Director) to the **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Chairman Newman moved to appoint **Dee Williams** to the **Mountain Community Capital Fund Operating Committee**. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Chairman Newman moved to appoint **Laina Stapleton** (District 1) and **Summer Bartow** (District 3) to the **Library Board**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Vice Chair Wells moved to reappoint **Joel Mazelis** to the **County Board of Adjustment**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *May 9 @ 8:30 a.m. - Commissioners' Budget Work Session at East Asheville Library, 3 Avon Road, Asheville, NC 28805.*
- *May 16 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *May 16 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Whitesides moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to hear legal matters for a general liability case and Katrina Williams v. Buncombe County, NC Industrial Commission file# 23-1969, with no possible action anticipated following the closed session. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

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

Vice Chair Wells moved to go back into open session. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Commissioner Edwards moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.