

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 17 AT 4:30 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 17, 2012, in the Commissioner Chambers, 30 Valley Street in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 4:30 p.m. where and when the following business was transacted:

The Chairman called the meeting to order with the following members present:

David Gantt, Chairman
K. Ray Bailey, Commissioner
Bill Stanley, Vice Chairman,
Carol Peterson, Commissioner

Holly Jones, Commissioner, was present via telephone

Staff present were: Wanda Greene, County Manager; Jon Creighton, Assistant County Manager; Mandy Stone, Assistant County Manager; Donna Clark, Finance Director; Stacey Woody, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Mike Frue, County Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Vice Chair Stanley gave the invocation.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL TO FOLLOW AGENDA

The Chairman reminded the Board that in accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. He asked if any Board member had any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the Board. None were stated.

Commissioner Peterson moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- **Approval of Minutes of the April 3, 2012 Regular Meeting**
- **Budget Amendment: Fund 10 - Social Services LINKS funds (\$34,000)**
- **Release Report**
- **Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Acquire a Approximately Thirty (30) Acres Located on Desert Drive in Arden from Robert and Ray Ann Collier**
- **Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Accept a Grant of \$280,500 from the NC Parks & Recreation Trust Fund**
- **Resolution Approving the Opening and Maintenance of Court Plaza as a Public Road**
- **Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Displays**

Vice Chairman Stanley seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

GOOD NEWS

- **Public Health Report -- Buncombe Health Rankings 2010-2012**

Gibbie Harris, Health Director, gave a report on Buncombe's health ranking and presented a video highlighting public health. She thanked the public relations staff for the video. Ms. Harris

explained the health rankings that compared all 100 counties in North Carolina. Buncombe was ranked 25 out of the 100 healthiest in 2009 and has moved up to 14 in 2011. She reviewed the County's improvements including the reduction in deaths by motor vehicle and cases of sexually transmitted disease. She said that the Health Department will continue to work with partners in the County to focus on physical activity, tobacco use, & nutrition.

PROCLAMATION

- **Stroke Awareness Month**

Chairman Gantt read the proclamation and moved for its approval. Vice Chair Stanley seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The proclamation was presented to Teri Giordano with Buncombe County EMS and Robin Jones the Stroke Program Coordinator for Mission Hospital. They presented a PSA produced by Buncombe County on stroke awareness and reviewed the fastest way to identify stroke.

- **Motorcycle Awareness Month**

Vice Chair Stanley read the proclamation and moved for its approval. Commissioner Peterson seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The proclamation was presented to Roger Williams who thanked the Commissioners for drawing attention to and promoting motorcycle awareness.

- **Special Olympics Day**

Commissioner Peterson read the proclamation and moved for its approval. Vice Chair Stanley seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The proclamation was presented to Greg Mace of Buncombe County Parks, Greenways, and Recreation.

- **Foster Care Awareness Month**

Commissioner Bailey read the proclamation and moved for its approval. Commissioner Peterson seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The proclamation was presented to Tara Foster, a Social Worker for Buncombe County DSS.

PUBLIC HEARING

- **Amendment to Community Development Block Grant 10-C-2165 From the NC Department of Commerce Community Investment and Assistance**

Donna Cottrell, County Planner, said Buncombe County applied for and received funding and was seeking approval to amend the application, as outlined in the documents attached to the minutes of this meeting, which required a public hearing.

Chairman Gantt opened the public hearing at 5:10 p.m. and there were no comments. The Chairman closed the hearing at 5:11 p.m.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Hank Dunn, President of A-B Technical Community College explained the GED program and introduced Melissa Quinley who oversees all the academic programs at the college. Ms. Quinley explained that the GED program was still going strong. They had to cut a few hours because of a reduction in grant funds, but everything was still on track and full programming would be back after the next budget.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Public Safety Report**

Sheriff Van Duncan and EMS Director Jerry VeHaun gave updates on public safety. Sheriff Duncan reviewed the highlights of the report from 2011 that can be found online at buncombecounty.org/sheriff.

Jerry VeHaun reviewed the number of emergency calls received by the 911 center which averaged about 600 every 24 hours. He also reported on the work of the arson task force and Fire Marshal's office.

- **Adult Care Home Report**

Angie Pittman, Social Work Administrator, reported that Buncombe County had the highest number of Adult Care Homes in the state--87 homes. Nearly 50% of these patients are from outside Buncombe County. She said that the Department of Social Services was responsible for monitoring the homes but had no authority. In some homes almost all of the residents had mental illness, many residents had been evicted or just gotten out of jail and proper resources were not available to help them.

The Sheriff's Department had developed COPS – Community Oriented Problem Solving teams and had assigned some employees to try to tackle this issue.

Commissioner Jones, attending the meeting by phone, disconnected at 5:55 p.m.

Jerry Vahaun reported that the number of ambulance calls to adult care homes had almost doubled in the last year.

Mandy Stone explained the complex issues surrounding how the adult care home residents from out of state become the responsibility of Buncombe County. She encouraged the Commissioners to take these facts to the local legislative delegation and to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners for help.

Chairman Gantt moved to instruct the County Manager to draft a letter to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners regarding the issues discussed. Commissioner Peterson seconded and the motion passed 4 -0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee (4 vacancies)
 - Cesor Romero

Vice Chair Stanley moved to appoint **Cesor Romero** to the **Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Peterson seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *The next regular meeting of the Board will be May 1 at 4:30 p.m.*
- *Commission meetings can be seen on:*
 - *BCTV Charter Cable Channel 2*
 - *AT&T U-Verse Channel 99*
 - *Live on buncombecounty.org during the meetings or*
 - *Online anytime at buncombecounty.org*

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairman reviewed the rules for public comment.

The official business of the County has concluded and we will now hold public comment.

- *The time limit for any comment to the Board is three minutes.*

- *If your time expires then you may leave any questions along with your name, address and phone number with the County Manager.*
- *Board members are not expected to comment on matters during public comment.*
- *Comments should be limited to subjects that are within the jurisdiction of this Commission or pertain to matters upon which it may act.*
- *Any individual speaking during public comment shall address the entire Board. Any polling of Board members is inappropriate.*
- *Persons addressing the Board are expected to observe the decorum of the Chamber, and to be respectful of everyone in the room.*
- *Any person who willfully interrupts, disturbs, or disrupts the session will be asked to leave the meeting.*
- *The Board reserves the right to deny public addresses on a subject previously presented to the Board.*

Don Yelton suggested that the Commissioners ask citizens to help with the Adult Care Home situation by having them contact the local delegation. He requested that a list of hazardous waste sites be put on the Buncombe County website.

Milton Byrd suggested mutual aid protocol and working together with other jurisdictions to address the adult care home problem.

Joe Belcher commented on foster care and the care in local adult care homes.

Jeannie Roper thanked the Board for limiting white pollution and praised the gas to energy project.

Jerry Rice said the Adult Care Home problem is not a new issue and he doesn't want it to become a political issue.

Heidi Dorf requested the Commissioners help in allowing her daughter to use a new wheelchair at her school. Chairman Gantt stated that he will put her into touch with the school board.

Linda Southerd would like to see the Adult Care Home problem dealt with on the state level.

Mike Fryar commented on the way the sales tax referendum was paid for through Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College. He planned to file a complaint with the state board of elections.

Chairman Gantt made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143.318-11a(3) for a legal matter. Commissioner Bailey seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

Closed Session

Discussion was held regarding a legal issue involving feral cats. No action was taken. Commissioner Bailey moved to return to open session. Commissioner Peterson seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

Chairman Gantt moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Stanley seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

KATHY HUGHES, CLERK TO THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DAVID GANTT, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

STACEY KEITH, DEPUTY
CLERK TO THE BOARD
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS