

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 28, 2013 AT 4:30 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 28, 2013, in the Commissioner Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 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
Holly Jones, Vice Chair
Joe Belcher, Commissioner
Ellen Frost, Commissioner
Mike Fryar, Commissioner
David King, Commissioner
Brownie Newman, Commissioner

Staff present was: Wanda Greene, County Manager; Mandy Stone, Assistant County Manager; Jon Creighton, Assistant County Manager/Planning Director; Donna Clark, Finance Director; Mike Frue, County Attorney; Kathy Hughes, Clerk to the Board.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Chairman gave the invocation.

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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairman reviewed the rules for 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 talked about the potential 15 percent tax increase in the FY14 budget. He was not happy about the culture and recreation tax.

Jerry Rice said that he was ashamed of the republicans and was opposed to any tax increase.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL TO FOLLOW AGENDA

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- Approval of May 7 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of May 14 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Amended Economic Development Coalition Bylaws Adding the Town of Weaverville
- Release Report
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Displays (Biltmore, Black Mtn. Center, Grove Park Inn)
- Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of the Funding Plan and Other Information Related to the JCPC Program for FY 14
- Budget Amendments:
 - Fund 20 – Occupancy Tax Revenues to TDA \$450,000
 - Fund 10 – Sales Tax Revenue – Public Schools Capital \$942,333; transfer capital for projects not completed
- Approval of Independent Financial Audit Contract for FY13
- Grant Projects Ordinance
- Capital Projects Ordinance

Commissioner Fryar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Chairman Gantt presented Donna Clark with a plaque from the NC Government Finance Officers Association for serving as President of the Association for the previous year.

GOOD NEWS

- **Green Industry Focus**

Cliff Ruth, Area Horticultural Agent with the Cooperative Extension Service, gave the power point presentation that is attached to the minutes. He outlined the success of the horticulture industry in the area and his work to build a training program and increase the development of this industry.

PUBLIC HEARING

- **Road Renaming: SR 3526 to Ferncliff Park Drive**

Jon Creighton, Planning Director, explained the petition and map that are attached to the minutes. He said that there were no residents other than the petitioner on the road and no addresses would be effected.

The Chairman opened the public hearing at 4:54 p.m.

No comments were taken and the hearing was closed at 4:55 p.m.

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the renaming of SR 3526 Ferncliff Park Drive. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- **County Schools Safety Report**

Mandy Stone, Assistant County Manager, said that the Safe Schools Task Force included experts in law enforcement, behavior systems, education systems and health and human services who looked at policies, procedures and best practices across the nation.

David Thompson, with Buncombe County Schools, said the Task Force reviewed the current policies and procedures. He gave a power point presentation that is attached to the minutes. The Task Force looked at educational practices, programs to support mental health, communication tools, reporting and conflict resolution models. Local parent/teacher surveys showed that increased social workers, counselors, law enforcement personnel and increased safety measures were important to parents with children in the schools. They suggested adding cameras in schools and buses; adding school resource officers in the elementary schools and increased support for mental health alternatives.

Mike Ruby, SRO Supervisor with the County Sheriff's Department, said that the School Resource Officers build relationships and act as informal counselors. He felt the elementary school presence was an important recommendation.

Commissioner Fryar said problems could not be fixed with additional law enforcement or mental health assessments. He was concerned that there was no plan to help charter schools.

Sheriff Duncan said that most of the recommendations were based on prevention. He said that almost every parent was concerned about bullying and they want the SRO's to help out in elementary schools to prevent bullying at that level. He said that the plan recommended no high school or middle school be left without an SRO on duty. Charter schools were asking for help with safety planning and his staff would be meeting with the administrators.

Vice Chair Jones said that she was encouraged by the mental health emphasis in the recommendation and supported everything done toward anti-bullying. She wanted more emphasis on the prevention of sexual assault on young women.

The Chairman thanked the safe schools task force for their recommendations.

- **County Budget Message FY14**

Dr. Wanda Greene, County Manager, presented the budget message for FY14 as attached to the minutes of this meeting. She said that the revenue neutral tax rate was .5783 cents and reviewed the increasing demand on core services and the impact on the overall county. She reviewed new budget costs stating that the Board members would be meeting on June 4 at 11 a.m. to review the capital plan.

The Manager said that HB418 would allow the County to move costs to a new governmental structure

called the Culture and Arts Authority at a tax rate of 3.5 cents. This authority would take over library, parks, greenways and recreation services and absorb their capital projects to plan and manage.

She reviewed other impacts that are out of the county's direct control that could impact the budget before its adoption. She urged the Commissioners to talk with the legislators regularly about the impact of their actions on the County's budget.

She thanked Diane Price for her work on the budget and Lisa Eby for her work on the power point. The Manager announced the public hearing on the budget set for June 4 at 4:30 p.m. in the Chambers. She asked that any questions go to budget@buncombecounty.org.

- **Special Projects Ordinance**

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve this ordinance. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Board Appointments

- **Nursing Home Board Community Advisory Committee**

Chairman Gantt moved to appoint **Jon Byers** to the **Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee** for a term of one year. Vice Chair Jones seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *The next meeting of the Board 11 a.m. to discuss capital needs at June 4 at 200 College Street.*
- *The next meeting will be June 4 beginning at 4:30 p.m. in Room 326 at 200 College Street in downtown Asheville. The Board will hold a Public Hearing on the county's FY14 budget*
- *The next regular meeting of the Board will be June 25 (NOT June 18) at 4:30 p.m. in Chambers at 200 College Street, Room 326, 3rd Floor*
- *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*

Commissioner Frost moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Fryar seconded. The motion passed 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

KATHY HUGHES, CLERK TO THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DAVID GANTT, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS