

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 19, 2020, 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
Joe Belcher, Commissioner
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner
Anthony Penland, Commissioner
Robert Pressley, Vice Chair
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Donald Warn, Finance Director; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Sharon Burke, Human Resources Director; Sheriff Quentin Miller; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Chairman requested a moment of silence for the more than 90,000 lives lost and their families due to COVID-19, doctors, nurses, first responders, and essential workers for their efforts during this public health crisis.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Pressley motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of May 5, 2020 Pre-Meeting Minutes
- Approval of May 5, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Display
 - Resolution
- Resolution Appointing Review Officers
 - Resolution
- Resolution Granting Easement to Duke Energy Progress
 - Resolution
 - Easement
 - Exhibit A
- Budget Amendment for Bureau of Justice Assistance Coronavirus Grant
 - Ordinance

NEW BUSINESS

- **Revised Investment Policy**

Don Warn, Finance Director, stated that current policy has not been updated since 1996 and was in need of some changes and to match NC statute. The policy is part of the safety to protect public funds. Changes include extending the maximum maturity from two years to five years, adding limits to the investment holdings to ensure diversification of investment type, adding language on prohibited investments and adding a glossary of terms.

Commissioner Belcher moved to adopt the policy as presented. Commissioner Penland seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Mountain Mobility Operating Contract**

Matt Cable, Planning Manager, detailed the process of entering into a new contract with Mountain Mobility. The requests for proposals, scope of services, contract improvements, pay rate increase, and technology upgrades were explained to the Board.

Commissioner Penland moved approval for the County Manager to enter into a service contract with RATP Dev USA, Inc. for Mountain Mobility Operations. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Justice Services RFP**

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Resource Coordinator; and Diana Sierra, Family Justice Coordinator; partnered to present the PowerPoint for the RFP. The proposal will affect four service areas: Justice Resource Center; Jail Re-entry Services; Treatment Courts; and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Services that will include eleven new positions (9 regular and 2 grant-funded) with no impact to the budget.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to approve the eleven additional positions and authorize the County Manager to negotiate and enter into contracts. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Coronavirus Relief Fund**

After conversation initiated by Commissioner Penland with the other Board members about his conflict of interest, due to fire districts receiving federal relief funds, Attorney Heather Hockaday provided guidance for recusal. Chairman Newman moved to recuse Commissioner Penland from discussion and voting on this agenda item. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director, explained the fund was established under the federal CARES Act and will be shared with other municipalities and fire districts.

Commissioner Belcher moved approval of disbursement to municipalities and fire districts as sub-grantees, utilizing the proposed allocation methodology as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- **Budget Amendment for FY2020 LOBS and Refunding – Payments to Escrow Agent**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Penland seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Capital Projects Fund - Project Closures**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

Vice Chair Pressley moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Belcher moved to reappoint **Brandon Hensley** to the **Agricultural Advisory Board for Farmland Preservation**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *May 21 @ 1 p.m. - Commissioners' Budget Work Session at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *June 2 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Pre-Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *June 2 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Vice Chair Pressley moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.