

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 AT 5 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on September 15, 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; Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships 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 Sheriff Deputy Ryan Hendrix, Henderson County, who was killed in the line of duty.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Penland motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and remove **Discussion of Parental Leave Policy** from **New Business**. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of September 1, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of September 1, 2020 Briefing Minutes
- Approval of September 1, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Awarding a Service Firearm to a Retiring Deputy of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department
  - Alisa Peterson
  - Jerry Burrell
- Resolution of Authority to Enter Into a Joint Jurisdiction Agreement for AB Tech Campus Police
  - Resolution
  - Agreement Amendment
  - More Information

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- **Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus**

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director, and Heather Holsey, Strategic Partnerships Business Officer, explained that the grants of up to \$900,000 are available to local governments to prepare, prevent, or respond to the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The County must provide a citizen participation plan and this is the first of two public hearings that are required.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:25 p.m.

The hearing was closed at 5:26 p.m.

Commissioner Beach Ferrara moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Avril Pinder, County Manager, informed the Board that staff was monitoring and preparing for Hurricane Sally.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Resolution Approving the Issuance of the 2020C Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBs) for County Solar Projects**

Don Warn, Finance Director, explained that this was the next step in the financing process for the countywide solar projects. Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Suspend Rural General Public Fares October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021**

Matt Cable, Planning Manager, explained that the CARES Act increased the availability of federal transit grant funds and at the state level the ROAP (Rural Operating Assistance Program) has been defunded for FY21. The grant funds will assist public riders by offsetting the reduce fare revenues.

Commissioner Edwards moved to amend the fee schedule to temporarily suspend the Rural General Public Fares for the period of October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Resolution Adopting Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Standards**

Jeremiah LeRoy, Sustainability, explained that formal policy will require new construction and major renovation projects to follow the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) guidelines to increase building efficiency and environmental quality.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Non-Congregate Sheltering (NCS) Model**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

- **Budget Amendment for FY2020 to FY2021 Budget Carry Forward Request - General Fund**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

- **Establish Capital Project Ordinance for Broadband Projects**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

- **Budget Amendment for FY2020 to FY2021 Budget Carry Forward Request (Transportation, Sheriff Forfeitures & Solid Waste Funds)**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendments.

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

- ~~**Discussion of Parental Leave Policy**~~ (moved to Briefing)

## BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Belcher moved to appoint **Amy Lenell** (pharmacist) and **Elizabeth Lima** (psychologist) to the **Health & Human Services Board**. Commissioner Penland seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to appoint **Kelsey Simmons** (at-large) to the **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *October 6 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *October 6 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Belcher moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Pressley seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

  
LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS