

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

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in special session on November 5, 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; Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Chairman requested a moment of silence for the 9.6 million people infected, lives lost and families affected by COVID-19.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Whitesides motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Belcher seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of October 20, 2020 Briefing Minutes
- Approval of October 20, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Tax Collection Report
- Donation Policy
 - Policy
- Budget Amendment for Soil Conservation - Guthrie Project (Final Portion)
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for Bulletproof Vest Partnership Award - Sheriff
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for FY2021 Conservation Easements
 - Ordinance
 - More Information

NEW BUSINESS

- **Request to Waive Occupancy Tax Penalties Incurred Due to COVID-19 – for the Sales Months of February through August 2020, Due March through September 2020**

Jennifer Pike, Tax Collector, outlined the occupancy tax penalty waiver request by the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority. As of October 21, 2020, 67 establishments have incurred penalties in the amount of \$105,717, for sales months February 2020 through August 2020. Penalty amounts for 29 establishments are not yet known, due to sales reporting yet to be submitted for sales months February 2020 through August 2020.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the request to waive Occupancy Tax Penalties Incurred Due to COVID-19. Commissioner Penland seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Jail & Prison Re-entry Grant**

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 Debt Issuance for Solar Project**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

- **Budget Amendment for School Capital Fund Commission Recommended School Year 2022 Projects**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Belcher moved to appoint **Philip Cooper** (substance abuse professional), **Jean Terauchi** (community position), **Oleymis Saco** (business position), **Jorge Redmond** (district attorney's office position) and **Gabriel Ordiway** (youth position) to the **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**. Commissioner Penland seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to appoint **Tara McCracken** to the **Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *November 17 @ 12 p.m. - Commissioners' Special Meeting (Board interviews) at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *November 17 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *November 17 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *November 19 @ 4:30 p.m. - Commissioners' Special Meeting (attend Vance Monument Task Force virtual meeting).*

Commissioner Whitesides moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS