

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2021 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on November 16, 2021, 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
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner
Robert Pressley, Commissioner
Parker Sloan, Commissioner
Terri Wells, Commissioner
Al Whitesides, Vice Chair

Staff present: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director; Sheriff Quentin Miller; Stoney Blevins, Health & Human Services Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Bob Haynes, Permits & Inspections Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of November 2, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of November 2, 2021 Briefing Minutes
- Approval of November 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Display
 - Resolution
- Budget Amendment for Just Appraised Tax Assessment Software
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for Fund 327 Sheriff Grants/Contributions
 - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for Virtual Inspections Expenses
 - Ordinance

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals spoke against a low-barrier shelter being developed at existing Ramada Inn location:

Judith Kaufman	Nick Parshall	Hak Yong Kim	Denise Knapp
Barber Melton	Chris Hancock	Joe Rayfield	Joanne Whiteside
Sybil Grouix	Steve Carter	Chris Nevant	Cory Wilharm
Kim Hreha	Doug Horne	Donna Early	Maggie Charleton
Tony Morris	Lee Matthews	Frank Marshall	Kim Gugger

Don Yelton stated that the people in attendance vote and expressed his views on homelessness.

Rondell Lance expressed his opinions and views about individuals who are bias against law enforcement.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Native American Heritage Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara presented and read the proclamation.

- **Adoption Awareness Month Proclamation**

Commissioner Edwards presented and read the proclamation.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Avril Pinder, County Manager, provided an update on the Ferry Road project's neighborhood engagement.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Budget Amendment for Homeowner Grant Program – Additional Funding Request**

Phillip Hardin, Social Services, updated the Board on the Homeowner Grant Program and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

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

- **Budget Amendment for Intergovernmental Agreement/911 Consolidation City of Asheville**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment. Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager, explained the details of the consolidation that included the agreement terms.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement regarding 911 services between Buncombe County and the City of Asheville. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

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

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to approve the resolution to waive 12-month probationary period for property interest in job and required up to 4.5% increase for transferred staff that have been with the City twelve (12) or more months. Vice Chair Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Collaborative Mobile Medication Assisted Treatment Team – Dogwood Health Grant**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Wells moved to accept the grant, approve the positions, and approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Budget Amendment for Behavioral Health Planning Grant**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

Commissioner Edwards moved to accept the grant, and approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Recovery Fund Awards**

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director, re-examined the background, process, eligibility, next steps, and other funding opportunities before proposing the consideration of the additional funding awards. Commissioners announced the first round of awards on August 31, 2021 totaling \$11,309,495.

Vice Chair Whitesides moved to approve the next round of Recovery Funding awards in the amount of \$11,035,004. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to appoint **Tara McCracken** to the **Mountain Area Workforce Development Board**. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Chairman Newman moved to appoint, by general consensus of receiving the most votes, **Ray Hemachandra** to the **Strategic Partnership Grants Committee**.

Chairman Newman moved to appoint **Don Warn, John Hudson**, and reappoint **Michael Frue, John Lyda**, and **Christopher Bradford** to the **Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority**. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *December 7 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *December 7 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *December 9 @ 12 p.m. - Commissioners' Budget Retreat at A-B Tech, 9 Genevieve Circle, Asheville, NC 28801.*

Vice Chair Whitesides moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.