

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 15, 2022 AT 5 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 15, 2022, 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, Vice Chair  
Robert Pressley, Commissioner  
Parker Sloan, Commissioner  
Terri Wells, Commissioner  
Al Whitesides, Commissioner

Staff present: Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Donald Warn, Finance Director; Sheriff Quentin Miller; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Sloan motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Pressley seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of March 1, 2022 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of March 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Awarding a Service Firearm to a Retiring Deputy of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department - Kelli Tinsley
- Approval of Pre-Construction Services Contract with James R. Vannoy Construction for A-B Tech Deferred Maintenance Projects
- Budget Amendment for Adult Protective Services (APS) Essential Services Fund
  - Ordinance
- Budget Amendment for Reappraisal Reserve Fund Contracted Services
  - Ordinance

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kathy Stillwell, Brandi Norton, Gabrielle Price, Caroline Minicozzi, and Chrysse Everhart expressed issues with the construction of the Dollar General on Rowland Road.

Don Yelton stated the importance of the National Forest Service and suggested that local forest should be managed for profit.

Terry Scholl and Anna Alsobrook stated that litter is an issue and asked for a ban on single-use plastics and bags.

Darlene Azarmi informed the Board that the Women's Commission would like to present a resolution against discrimination of women and the wage gap.

Phyliss Roberson stated that development is affecting the local traffic and quality of life.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- **Buncombe County Ag Awareness Day Proclamation**

Commissioner Wells read and presented the proclamation. Jackie Gillespie, Buncombe County Women of Farm Bureau, accepted the proclamation and expressed her gratitude.

- **Women's History Month Proclamation**

Vice Chair Edwards read and presented the proclamation. Rachel Edens, Chief Equity & Human Rights Officer, accepted the proclamation and expressed her gratitude.

- **Fiscal Year End 2021 Audit Presentation**

Chris Kessler, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, explained the findings and results of the audit services. The services included financial statements and federal compliance. The Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) extended single audit deadlines as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic-related issues. The findings for the past four years are as follows: 19 in 2018, 3 in 2019, 1 in 2020, and none in 2021.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- **Local Fiscal Recovery Fund - Economic Development for Mountain Community Capital Fund**

Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations, explained the purpose of the hearing is to authorize \$1,250,000 in economic development appropriations. This appropriation is for \$1,250,000 to Mountain BizWorks for the Mountain Community Capital Fund (MCCF). This project is intended to create and retain jobs in response to substantial negative economic impacts from the pandemic. The funds will be reinvested after an organization repays the borrowed capital.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 6:16 p.m.

Don Yelton asked for the target of success and a summary report.

The hearing was closed at 6:18 p.m.

Commissioner Whitesides moved to approve the resolution authorizing the \$1,250,000 economic development appropriation for the project as proposed as presented. Vice Chair Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Resolution Authorizing Execution of Objection to the Revised Nantahala and Pisgah Forest Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Record of Decision**

Chairman Newman explained the resolution and provided background from the previous meeting of the area residents expressing their objection to the National Forest Service proposed logging plan that included segments of the Nantahala and Pisgah Forest. Some Commissioners expressed their views of the project after hearing additional information of the plan from the National Forest Service.

Commissioner Sloan moved to approve the resolution authorizing the execution of Objection to the Revised Nantahala and Pisgah Forest Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Record of Decision by the Chair, or his designee. Vice Chair Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Affordable Housing Subcommittee Goals**

Chairman Newman presented and explained the recent goals and objectives for consideration.

### **Goals**

1. Increase the supply of Affordable Housing for rent
2. Increase the supply of Affordable Housing for homeownership, especially for BIPOC households
3. Preserve the supply of Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH)
4. Support activities that achieve functional zero Homelessness
5. Support activities that encourage the use of all vouchers

### **Objectives**

Buncombe County will impact 2,800-3,150 affordable housing units by 2030.

- 1,500-1,850 rental units for households at < 80% AMI
  - average at < 60% AMI across all households
  - 1200-1480 units should leverage the LIHTC program (will leverage an estimated \$100 - \$120 million in tax credit equity to Buncombe Co.)
  - 200 units for <30% AMI
- 400 ownership units for households at < 80% AMI
- 500 repair units for households at < 80% AMI
- 400 ownership or rental units for households at > 80% to < 120% AMI

Vice Chair Edwards moved to approve the Affordable Housing Subcommittee goals and objectives. Commissioner Sloan seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Newman moved to reappoint **Amanda Edwards** to the **Asheville Buncombe Regional Sports Commission**. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Asheville's Community Reparations Commission**

Chairman Newman moved to appoint, by general consensus of receiving the most votes, **Dee Williams** (Criminal Justice), **Christopher Gordon** (Education), **Raynetta Waters** (Economic Development), **Shantelle Simpson** (Healthcare), **Kelsey Simmons** (Housing), **Dwayne Richardson** (alternate), and **Stephanie Lee** (alternate) to the **Asheville's Community Reparations Commission**.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

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

Commissioner Whitesides moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS