

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on September 6, 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: Avril Pinder, County Manager; Sybil Tate, Assistant County Manager; Donald Warn, Finance Director; John Hudson, Budget Director; Sharon Burke, Human Resources Director; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Nathan Pennington, Planning Director; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Brandon Freeman, Staff Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of August 16, 2022 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of August 16, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of August 16, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Approving Pyrotechnic Experts for Firework Display
 - Resolution
- Resolution Awarding a Service Firearm to a Retiring Deputy of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department - Roger Pressley
- Tax Collection Report
- Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Buncombe County Government & Buncombe County Board of Elections
 - Memorandum of Understanding
- Approval of Director of Elections Compensation
 - More Information
- Resolution Approving Interlocal Agreements for the Homeowner Grant Program
 - Resolution
 - Asheville Agreement
 - Woodfin Agreement
- Resolution of Support for a Regional Action Planning Grant Application Through the Safe Streets for All Program
 - Resolution

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Schlotz, Jules Blumenthal, Adrienne Miceli, and Karli Schwartz expresses their issues with parking downtown.

Don Yelton stated that parking downtown was needed, issues with the lack of a moment of silence/prayers, and his knowledge septic systems.

Cate Ryba expressed issues with the lack of property tax claw backs and inequalities with property tax assessments.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Labor Day & Worker Appreciation Week Proclamation**

Vice Chair Edwards read and presented the proclamation. Jen Hampton, Asheville Food & Beverage United, accepted the proclamation, expressed thanks, and explained some of the issues with parking in downtown Asheville.

- **Early Childhood Education & Development Committee**

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director; introduced members of the committee that explained some activities to contribute to the kindergarten readiness goal. The members provided information related to funding strategies, performance results, community indicators, and the impact of COVID.

NEW BUSINESS

- **CY2023 Insurance Benefit Changes**

Larry Reece, USI Senior Vice President, provided a plan financial performance update, calendar year 2023 forecast, and options for plan programs design. A plan comparison of the current and upcoming years was detailed, with an explanation of a High Deductible Health Plan option.

Commissioner Wells moved to approve the plan and changes as presented that include adding a Qualified High Deductible Health Plan option. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Resolution Designating Official Banking Depositories**

Don Warn, Finance Director, stated that the County needed to update the list of official depositories for the usage of several banks to transact business. North Carolina General Statute (NCGS) requires the Finance Officer to receive and deposit all monies in one or more official depositories approved by the Board of Commissioners.

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

- **Budget Amendment for Reissuance of CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program**

John Hudson, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

- **Budget Amendment for FY2022 Budget Carryforwards**

John Hudson, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment.

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to reappoint **Katherine Morosani, Gabe Quesinberry, Wesley Greene, and Tim Henderson** to the **County Board of Adjustment**. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to reappoint **Greg Zornes** to the **Home & Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee**. Vice Chair Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *September 20 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *September 20 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Sloan moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to hear legal matters and NCGS 143-318.11(a) (5) hear real property negotiation matters with no possible action anticipated following the closed session. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

The Board heard the update and had discussion regarding the matters. No action was taken.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to go back into open session. Commissioner Wells seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Beach-Ferrara moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sloan seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.