

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 2022 AT 5 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on October 18, 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; Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Manager; Donald Warn, Finance Director; John Hudson, Budget Director; Jennifer Harrison, Agriculture & Land Resources Director; Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director; Rafael Baptista, Strategy & Innovation Director; Keith Miller, Tax Assessor; Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Services Director; Tim Love, Intergovernmental Relations; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice Chair Edwards motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, add **Environmental Focus Area Update to County Manger's Report** and the remainder of the agenda. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- Approval of September 27, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of September 27, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes - Closed Session
- Approval of October 4, 2022 Briefing Meeting Minutes
- Approval of October 4, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) Advisory Committee Waiver
- Budget Amendment for State Library Fiscal Recovery Funds
  - Ordinance

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mignon Durham, Susan Van Ness, Mike Kennedy, and Bill Grunwald expressed their concerns and disapproval for the Pinnars Cove (rezoning) new project.

Cassandra Wells asked the Board to consider a cost-of-living adjustment for some Asheville City Schools employees.

Jessica Coffield and a few other residents expressed their support for and provide information about Asheville Sister Cities.

## **GOOD NEWS**

- **"I Voted" Sticker Contest**

Neggy Fox, Election Services, presented a certificate of recognition to the finalists and congratulated 10-year-old, Polly Crutchfield for creating the winning sticker.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- **Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation**

Vice Chair Edwards read and presented the proclamation. Paulina Mendez, Justice Services, and April Burgess-Johnson, Helpmate Executive Director, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board.

## **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- **Environmental Focus Area Update**

Jeremiah LeRoy, Sustainability, and Jennifer Harrison, Agriculture and Land Resources, provided an updated on the Environmental & Energy Stewardship aspect of the Strategic Plan. The creation of the Environmental & Energy Stewardship subcommittee has assisted in establishing priorities and goals. The major focus areas are preserving designated land and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

- **Hurricane Ian Storm Preparedness**

Angie Ledford and Fletch Tove, Emergency Services, informed the Board on the lessons learned from Tropical Storm Fred in order to prepare for Hurricane Ian. Many procedures are now in place for the County to better respond to weather-related emergencies.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Ad Hoc Reappraisal Committee Recommendations Action Plan**

Keith Miller, Tax Assessor, presented an overview of the Assessment Department's Action Plan to implement the Ad Hoc Reappraisal Committee recommendations. The Tax Assessment staff reviewed and analyzed each recommendation and developed next steps, costs, and a timeline for implementation. The Board addressed their concerns and questions that they had after listening to the presentation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Budget Amendment for Justice Services Grant Awards and Update**

John Hudson, Budget Director, explained the budget amendment and Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Services Director, provided details of the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant and Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative Grant.

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

Commissioner Sloan moved to accept the two grants and approve the two grant-funded positions. Commissioner Whitesides seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Newman moved to appoint, by general consensus of receiving the most votes, **Patricia Killion** to the **Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee**.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- *November 1 @ 3 p.m. - Commissioners' Briefing at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*
- *November 1 @ 5 p.m. - Commissioners' Regular Meeting at 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville.*

Commissioner Sloan moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Beach-Ferrara seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

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LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS