

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2020 AT 5 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED:** That the Board of Commissioners met in special session on March 24, 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 (via phone)  
Joe Belcher, Commissioner  
Amanda Edwards, Commissioner  
Anthony Penland, Commissioner  
Robert Pressley, Vice Chair  
Al Whitesides, Commissioner (via phone)

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; Drew Reisinger, Register of Deeds; Taylor Jones, Emergency Services Director; Tim Love, Business Officer; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Stacey Woody; Deputy Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

Staff present: Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Stacey Woody; Deputy Clerk to the Board

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

- **One Buncombe Fund and Setting a Public Hearing**

Tim Love, Business Officer, explained that the One Buncombe Fund is a response to the COVID-19 crisis where our local governments, business community, and other stakeholders are coming together to create a single point of donations to help individuals and businesses impacted by COVID-19. The funds will be managed by a seven-person board, which will include members of the banking, local government, and business community.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the establishment of the \$200,000 fund and authorization for a public hearing for the One Buncombe Fund during the regular meeting on April 7, 2020. Vice Chair Pressley seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Electronic Meetings for Board of Commissioners due to COVID-19**

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, no public attendance will be permitted at meetings until further notice. The Board of Commissioners may hold official meetings by use of conference telephone or other electronic means. Members of the Board present, either in person or by any electronic means, shall be counted for purposes of a quorum. Access will be provided for members of the public to view the meeting and to provide public comment.

Jerry Rice asked for clarification of the electronic meeting details and stated that the public should have access.

Chairman Newman moved to approve the recommendation to conduct electronic meetings with the public comment session not to exceed one hour. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Resolution Closing Register of Deeds**

Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney, stated that the resolution was being presented for retroactive approval because the closing went into effect prior to the meeting. The resolution will ratify and affirm the closing of the Buncombe County Register of Deeds Office for business on Monday, March 23, 2020 and Tuesday, Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Commissioner Belcher moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

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LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS