

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2021 AT 5 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in special session on January 12, 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 (virtual)
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; Stoney Blevins, Health and Human Services Director; Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director; Fletcher Tove, Preparedness & Security Officer; Tim Love, Business Officer; Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board; Michael Frue, Senior Staff Attorney; Heather Hockaday, Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

• **COVID-19 Update Presentation with FAQs**

Stacie Saunders, Public Health Director; and Fletcher Tove, Preparedness & Security Officer provided information on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic data and trends, vaccine prioritization rollout, and metric data (4 categories coded red). The vaccination rollout will move through five phases and currently all appointments are booked for Phases 1a & 1b. They addressed the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to inform the board and community.

• **One Buncombe, COVID-19 Rapid Relief Fund**

Tim Love, Business Officer and Phillip Hardin, Health and Human Services, explained that the One COVID-19 Rapid Relief Fund was created in April 2020 and the Community banded together to raised nearly \$1.4M for Buncombe, individuals and small businesses. The pandemic has continued to stress the Community and the need to assist individuals and small businesses is critical. The Board will determine the need for the additional funding for the individual direct assistance programs at a required public hearing.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.


LAMAR JOYNER, CLERK
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


BROWNIE NEWMAN, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS