

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GUILFORD COUNTY**

Greensboro, North Carolina
June 2, 2022

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on June 2, 2022 at 5:30PM, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Melvin "Skip" Alston, presiding; Vice Chair J. Carlvena Foster; Commissioners Alan Perdue, Justin Conrad, Frankie T. Jones, Jr., Kay Cashion, Carly Cooke, Mary Beth Murphy, and James Upchurch.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michael Halford; Matthew Mason, Interim County Attorney; Erris Dunston, Assistant County Manager; Jason Jones, Assistant County Manager; Victor Isler, Assistant County Manager; Clerk to Board Robin Keller; Jessica Wolf, Deputy Clerk to Board; Ariane Webb, Deputy Clerk to Board; Worley Smith, Communications Manager; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director; Sharon Barlow, Social Services Division Director; Toy Beeninga, Budget Director; additional members of staff and members of the public and media.

Chairman Alston introduced Ms. Tracie Lundy, a US Army veteran, who would lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. INVOCATION

Commissioner Alan Perdue offered the invocation

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Lundy led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alston called the meeting to order at 5:35PM

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

1. Nicole Lindahl spoke to the Bicentennial Greenway and her support of community space. She noted hazards in need of repair and the need for signage along the greenway. She thanked the County Parks staff for reacting quickly on several items. Lindahl spoke to the \$100,000 annual maintenance support allocation for the Parks Department. She is in support of asking for \$2 million of ARPA funding for Bicentennial Greenway repair.

2. Ken Orms spoke against the sales tax ballot referendum and spoke to the school bond.

There being no further speakers, Chairman Alston closed this portion of the meeting.

V. PRESENTATIONS

COMMENTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIR

Vice Chairman Foster read a unity statement prepared by Guilford County's leaders against gun violence.

Commissioner Foster recognized the impacts of the aftermath of yet another senseless and tragic school shooting in our nation.

She spoke to the efforts of our community leaders to work together to keep our children and our community safe. Foster spoke to the County, the Cities, the Schools, Law Enforcement Officials efforts to work together on safety planning, information sharing, quality mental health services and support in an effort to intervene and prevent gun violence.

Foster shared crisis hotline numbers, crime stoppers numbers and mobile crisis team numbers for residents.

C. 2022-320 RESOLUTION DECLARING GUN VIOLENCE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Adopt a resolution declaring gun violence a public health crisis in Guilford County.

Legislation Text

Commissioner Cooke invited several community partners to come forward. She noted the responsibility leaders have and their role in helping solve this problem.

Commissioner Cooke read the resolution into the minutes.

Public Health Director Dr. Iulia Vann accepted the resolution and thanked the Board. She stated firearm violence is a public health issue and requires partnerships to be successful in addressing in our community.

Dr. James Wyatt, Chief Medical Officer at Moses Cone Hospital, thanked the Board for their efforts. He hoped that we continue the momentum to work together to resolve these issues.

Chairman Alston thanked Vice Chairman Foster and Commissioner Cooke. He also thanked our community leaders for coming out this evening in support of such an important issue.

A. 2022-314 PROCLAIM JUNE 12, 2022 AS NATIONAL WOMEN VETERANS DAY
IN GUILFORD COUNTY

Proclaim June 12, 2022 as National Women Veterans Day in Guilford County.

[Legislation Text](#)

Vice Chairman Foster read the Proclamation.

Representatives from the Combat Female Veterans Families United received the proclamation.

Vice Chairman Foster recognized the founder and executive director, Sandra Robinson Wilson, and thanked her and the organization members for their work.

Commissioner Cashion thanked those who stood in recognition of their service.

B. 2022-321 PROCLAIM JUNE 2022 AS POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER
MONTH IN GUILFORD COUNTY

Proclaim June 2022 as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Month in Guilford County.

[Legislation Text](#)

Commissioner Jones invited Veteran Services Director Robert Shelly and Behavioral Health Services Director Debra Mack to receive the proclamation.

Commissioner Jones read the proclamation into the minutes.

Debra Mack thanked the Board for the recognition and for their work to help to remove the stigma around mental illness.

Robert Shelly thanked the Board for bringing awareness to this topic.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Justin Conrad and seconded by J. Carlvena Foster to adopt the consent agenda.

Foster left the meeting at 6:22PM

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, Alan Perdue, Justin Conrad, Frankie T. Jones, Jr., Kay Cashion, Carly Cooke, Mary Beth Murphy, James Upchurch
NOES: None
ABSENT: J. Carlvena Foster

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. 2022-307 FUNDS FROM HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE

Approve receipt of cost recovery funds for a Hazardous Materials response on September 13, 2021 in the amount of \$35,614; approve an increase in Other Revenues by \$35,614 and increase the FY 2021-22 Emergency Services budget by the same amount and approve the disbursement to Summerfield Fire and Stokesdale Fire Districts.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Payment Breakdown Stokesdale](#)

[Stokesdale packet](#)

2. 2022-311 REALIGNMENT OF FY 2021-22 JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL (JCPC) FUNDING

Approve the attached revision to the Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) funding plan for FY 2021-22, approve an increase of \$74,344 in Federal/State Revenue and increase the FY 2021-22 Coordinated Services budget by the same amount to reflect receipt of funds from NC DPS and budget revisions for fourteen (14) JCPC programs.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Guilford County Updated Funding Plan \(5-2-22\)](#)

[Act Together Crisis Care updated BR 4-13-22](#)

[ASAP Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program Updated 4-13-22](#)

[BR.2021-2022.Guilford County.CS-R](#)

[Changing Faces Interpersonal Skill Building update 4-22-22](#)

[Changing Faces Mentoring update 4-22-22 - Copy](#)

[Changing Faces Vocational Skills update 4-22-22](#)

[Comprehensive Clinical Assessment updated 4-12-22](#)

[Guliford County Teen Court 04-08-22](#)

[JCPC Adminstration 4-8-22](#)

[Junior-Senior Life Skills updated 4-12-22](#)

[Mell-Burton updated 4-13-22](#)

[Operation Homework 4-28-22](#)

[Outpatient Counseling Update 4-13-22](#)

[Project Learn 4-8-22](#)

[Psychological Testing 4-9-22](#)

3. 2022-323 BUDGET AMENDMENT REPORT FOR BUDGET AMENDMENTS PROCESSED UNDER THE AUTHORITY GRANTED TO THE COUNTY MANAGER IN THE FY 2021-22 BUDGET ORDINANCE

Receive Budget Amendment report for budget amendments processed under the authority granted to the County Manager in the FY 2021-22 Budget Ordinance.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Budget Amends Report 2022-05-11.pdf](#)

B. CONTRACTS

1. 2022-315 PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES

Approve the purchase of twenty-five (25) in-car radios from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$166,326, thirty-five (35) in-car camera systems from GovDirect in the

amount of \$174,725, and equipment installation from Dana Safety Supply in the amount of \$294,860.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Motorola Solutions](#)

[GovDirect](#)

[Dana Safety](#)

[Motorola Quote](#)

[GovDirect Quote](#)

[Dana Safety Quote 1](#)

[Dana Safety Quote 2](#)

[Dana Safety Quote 3](#)

[Dana Safety Quote 4](#)

[BOCC 12-09-2021](#)

[Signed-LAW No Bid-Dana Safety Supply Quotes](#)

[Signed-LAW No Bid-GovDirect](#)

[Signed-LAW No Bid-Motorola Quote](#)

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. 2022-312 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Review and approve the following sets of draft meeting minutes:

04/21/2022 Work Session

[Legislation Text](#)

[dmxws04.21.22.pdf](#)

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

A. 2022-287 PUBLIC HEARING - FINANCING OF HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS NOT TO EXCEED \$700,000,000 IN HOSPITAL REVENUE BONDS FOR THE MOSES H. CONE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, AND ITS AFFILIATES, TO BE ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY OF WISCONSIN

Hold a public hearing on the proposed issuance of not to exceed \$700,000,000 in health care system revenue and revenue refunding bonds to be issued by the Public Finance Authority of Wisconsin for the following purposes: (1) finance and refinance the hospital and other health care facilities described herein (collectively, the "Projects"), (2) finance the interest on the Bonds and (3) pay certain fees and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bond. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board is requested to adopt the attached resolution (also listed above) which finds:

That the \$700,000,000 in health care system revenue and revenue refunding bonds do not constitute a debt of the County; nor require a tax levy or pledge of the faith and credit of the County; nor will the Bonds affect the County's debt ratios or legal debt limit; and

That the County has made no financial analysis of the Bonds or projects financed; and

Approves, solely for the purpose of meeting the requirements of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code and in accordance with Section 66.0304(11)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Authority's issuance of health care system revenue and revenue refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$700,000,000 and the financing and refinancing of the projects located in the county for the benefit of The Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital and its affiliates.

Legislation Text

Foster returned to meeting

Ryan Blackledge with Cone Health introduced the agenda item. He noted that these bonds are not backed or issued by Guilford County and holds no financial liability to the county.

Chairman Alston reviewed the public hearing requirements and opened the floor for the public hearing.

There being no proponents, Chairman Alston opened the floor for opponents. There being none, Chairman Alston closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Alan Perdue and seconded by Frankie T. Jones, Jr. to hold a public hearing on the proposed issuance of not to exceed \$700,000,000 in health care system

revenue and revenue refunding bonds to be issued by the Public Finance Authority of Wisconsin for the following purposes: (1) finance and refinance the hospital and other health care facilities described herein (collectively, the "Projects"), (2) finance the interest on the Bonds and (3) pay certain fees and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bond. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board is requested to adopt the attached resolution (also listed above) which finds:

That the \$700,000,000 in health care system revenue and revenue refunding bonds do not constitute a debt of the County; nor require a tax levy or pledge of the faith and credit of the County; nor will the Bonds affect the County's debt ratios or legal debt limit; and

That the County has made no financial analysis of the Bonds or projects financed; and

Approves, solely for the purpose of meeting the requirements of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code and in accordance with Section 66.0304(11)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Authority's issuance of health care system revenue and revenue refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$700,000,000 and the financing and refinancing of the projects located in the county for the benefit of The Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital and its affiliates.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0

AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, Alan Perdue, Justin Conrad, Frankie T. Jones, Jr., Kay Cashion, Carly Cooke, Mary Beth Murphy, James Upchurch

NOES: None

Commissioner Upchurch asked for clarification on the process.

Blackledge explained process in detail.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING

A. 2022-319 HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON COUNTY MANAGER'S FY 2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET

Hold a public hearing on the County Manager's FY 2022-23 proposed budget. Each speaker will have two (2) minutes to address the proposed budget and the public hearing will remain open until each speaker has had the opportunity to speak.

Legislation Text

Notice of Public Hearing 2022-23 Proposed Budget_FINAL.pdf

Chairman Alston reviewed the rules of procedure and opened the public hearing on the County Manager's FY 2022-23 proposed budget.

Chairman Alston opened the floor for the public hearing.

1. Ken Orms spoke against county leadership and against property tax rates. He urged the board to reduce the tax rate and spoke against the county's \$15 an hour minimum wage.
2. Kari Thatcher spoke in support of a rate neutral tax increase and spoke in support of additional county staff.
3. Tessa Pendley spoke in support of a fully funded budget for county schools and our community. She spoke in support of a rate neutral plan and the reinvestment into our community. She spoke to the will of the community and the overwhelming support of the school bond. She shared that we are a community willing to invest in itself.
4. Laura Way, President of Arts Greensboro, thanked the board for the budget under consideration. She noted that the budget is thoughtful and supports the arts community.
5. Kenya Donaldson noted that we need revenue to run our community. She spoke to the difficult decisions faced before the board. She noted that we cannot fund livable wages without the revenue and that we cannot fund our detention centers without the revenue. She spoke in support of the proposed budget.
6. David Hammond shares that he supports the presented budget. He noted that politicians will attack these goals and he shared that as a retiree on a fixed budget, he supports the proposed budget and rate neutral plan.
7. Ronta Johnson spoke to the extremely short staffing levels in the detention center. He spoke to the mandatory overtime hours and the amount of units that go unmanned. He asked the board for help. He asked for help recruiting, financial incentives, and noted the incentive offered was a smack in the face to those working.
8. Jermaine Smith spoke to the County salaries that are comparable to smaller counties and not reflective to the size of Guilford county. He spoke to need for longevity and increased benefits for employees.
9. John Jamerson asked the board to invest funds in the Sheriff's Office and invest in those officers that work in the detention center. He asked the board to relook at the incentives for all employees who are working, not just new hires. He spoke in support of bringing back longevity pay, and retiree health insurance. He asked that the COVID leave still be available as officers are still getting sick and their families are still being exposed.
10. Malcolm Driver spoke to the inadequate support and benefits to County detention officers. Spoke to the need of the County's support to increase wages to attract quality candidates.
11. Terrance Crenshaw shared that the employees of the Detention center are begging the leadership for help. These are dangerous positions with 40 inmates to 1 officer. This is no longer a safe working environment, for the employees and for the inmates. He urged to board to expand benefits.

12. Jess St. Louis voted for the SMART bond spoke for quality public education and public infrastructure. Also spoke in support of the Manager's proposed budget as it supports our education system.

13. Sheriff Rogers spoke in support of the detention officers and their request for additional pay incentives and benefit packages.

There being no other speakers, Chairman Alston closed the public hearing.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2022-258 AMEND GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2022 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

Amend the Guilford County Board of Commissioners annual meeting calendar to reschedule the July 21, 2022 regular meeting to July 14, 2022 and direct the Clerk to Board to publish all required notices of the date change.

Legislation Text

2022 BOC Regular Meeting Calendar Amended.pdf

Clerk to Board Robin Keller spoke to the item and asked the Board if they would consider moving the July 21 meeting to July 14 due to a scheduling conflict.

Motion was made by Carly Cooke and seconded by James Upchurch to amend the Guilford County Board of Commissioners annual meeting calendar to reschedule the July 21, 2022 regular meeting to July 14, 2022 and direct the Clerk to Board to publish all required notices of the date change.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0

AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, Alan Perdue, Justin Conrad, Frankie T. Jones, Jr., Kay Cashion, Carly Cooke, Mary Beth Murphy, James Upchurch

NOES: None

X. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE

A. 2022-313 DHHS- PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION STATE OF THE COUNTY'S HEALTH UPDATE

Receive DHHS - Public Health Division State of the County's Health Update.

Legislation Text

[2021 State of the County](#)

Dr. Iulia Vann provided an update on the County's current COVID numbers. She noted a decrease in testing being reported to us. Roughly 800 tests are being reported with a 17% positivity rate; however, given the low levels of tests being reported due to home testing kits, the positivity rate is no longer a reliable indicator of true representation of the community's positivity rate.

Dr. Vann gave an update on the State of the County Report. She discussed maternal and child health, behavioral health and opioid misuse, and morbidity and mortality changes in Guilford County.

Dr. Vann highlighted the differences in the leading causes in death and the impacts of COVID on morbidity and mortality. She also spoke to sexually transmitted diseases in Guilford County and how those numbers have been impacted by COVID.

Dr. Vann spoke to emerging issues in the County and discussed COVID related initiatives and efforts.

Commissioner Conrad spoke to the leading cause of death in Guilford County and stated the leading cause of death, cancer, and second leading cause of death, heart disease, are flipped when looking nationwide. Commissioner Conrad requested more information about cancer in our community in the future.

Commissioner Upchurch spoke to the Medicaid expansion bill and medical marijuana bill that have passed in the state senate, have staff been working with the legislature on that topic?

Dr. Vann noted that we are being updated on the Medicaid expansion bill, but we have not received a lot of details on what the role of our local public health department will be.

Vice Chairman Foster spoke to the new primary care health clinic that opened right before the pandemic.

Commissioner Cashion asked Dr. Vann to discuss services we offer for mothers and families dealing with addiction.

Commissioner Jones asked for clarification on leading causes of death statistics.

XI. APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

ITEM REMOVED FROM APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AD COMMISSIONS

A. 2022-243 REAPPOINTMENT TO GUILFORD COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL (JCPC)

Consider and approve the following reappointment:

Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
Reappoint Tiffany M. Oliva to 2nd term in Citizen position (July 16, 2022 - July 15, 2024)

[Legislation Text](#)

[TOliva_Reapp_04.17.22.pdf](#)

[TOliva_Resume_04.17.22.pdf](#)

Chairman Alston noted the Appointments item will be pulled and considered at the next meeting in July.

XII. COMMISSIONER LIAISON UPDATES

Commissioner Cashion provided an update on the JCPC as they completed their end of year budget adjustments. She noted that Catherine Johnson just returned from the National Family Justice Center conference where she was a featured speaker.

Commissioner Conrad congratulated Richard Beard on being named the new president of the Greensboro Sports Foundation.

Commissioner Cooke noted some of the work being done at the PTRC.

XIII. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER / COUNTY ATTORNEY

Halford noted that Guilford County, along with the YWCA of High Point, was awarded a national association achievement award this year for the VAX connects program to help increase access to populations in our community that had access barriers.

Halford noted that the county received approval as a formal apprenticeship site in computer support, cyber security, building maintenance repair for electricians, and aspiring HVAC members. We have a lot of careers in Guilford County and look forward to supporting those efforts.

XIV. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Perdue congratulated recent graduates. He questioned the status of the opening of our community pools.

Eris Dunston, Assistant County Manager, shared that they have hired about 48 lifeguards and pool managers and will start phasing in their operations as soon as this weekend. We are still working out kinks at individual pool sites and we have a tentative schedule to hopefully be back into full operations by June 11. We will be finalizing our operating hours but tentatively we are looking to be open Monday- Friday 11AM-4PM, Saturdays 11AM-5PM, and Sundays 12PM-5PM.

Commissioner Perdue asked where the best place for pool schedule information.

Dunston stated on our website.

Commissioner Jones echoed Commissioner Perdue's comments on Graduation. He recognized campus Greensboro who started this week with a focus on attracting and keeping talent here. Vice Chairman Foster thanked the Combat Female Veterans Families United for the certificates provided to the Board. Congratulations to Tammy Nagem for being named the new president of the High Point Market Authority.

Commissioner Upchurch shared that he will be doing a ride along with County EMS next week.

Commissioner Murphy echoed congratulations to all of the graduates in our community.

Commissioner Cashion shared that she plans to attend three graduations this weekend and is very excited. She discussed the Justice and Public Safety Committee that met last week and they will present at the NaCo Annual conference in July.

Chairman Alston congratulated all of the graduates in our community.

XV. HOLD CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTING WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY, PERSONNEL MATTER, AND DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE REALESTATE MATTER

Motion was made by James Upchurch and seconded by Justin Conrad to hold closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 for the purpose of consulting with the county attorney, discuss a personnel matter, discussion of a possible real estate matter.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0

AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, Alan Perdue, Justin Conrad,
Frankie T. Jones, Jr., Kay Cashion, Carly Cooke, Mary Beth Murphy,
James Upchurch

NOES: None

The Board recessed the meeting and entered into closed session at 7:26PM.

The Board reconvened the meeting from closed into open session at 8:13PM.

XVI. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:13PM.

Melvin "Skip" Alston
Chairman

Robin Keller
Clerk to Board