

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

Greensboro, North Carolina  
June 4, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on June 4, 2020 at 5:30PM, at the Bur-Mil Clubhouse, 5834 Bur-Mil Club Road, Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT:	Chairman Jeff Phillips, presiding; Vice Chairman Alan Perdue; Commissioners Alan Branson, Carolyn Q. Coleman (via simultaneous communication), Hank Henning, Justin Conrad, Kay Cashion, Melvin "Skip" Alston and J. Carlvena Foster (via simultaneous communication at 6:30PM).
ABSENT:	None.
ALSO PRESENT:	County Manager Marty Lawing; County Attorney Mark Payne; Deputy County Manager Clarence Grier; Clerk to Board Robin Keller; Ariane Webb, Deputy Clerk to Board; Jessica Wolf, Deputy Clerk to Board; Worley Smith, Communications Manager; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; Doug Logan; Guilford County Juvenile Detention Director; Robert Shelly, Veterans Services Director; Harley Will, Finance Director; Alex Smith, Budget Director; Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director; Don Campbell, Emergency Management Division Director; other members of staff and media. Virtual participation was made available to the general public.

**I. INVOCATION**

Ben Chavis, Tax Director, offered the invocation.

Commissioner Melvin "Skip" Alston led those present in a moment of silent prayer for 8 minutes and 46 seconds in remembrance of Mr. George Floyd. He spoke to the significance of this length of time and encouraged the Board to remember the acts committed against Mr. Floyd.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Jeff Phillips led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Phillips welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 5:35PM.

#### **IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

There were no Speakers from the Floor.

#### **V. PRESENTATIONS**

##### **A. 2020-265 PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF WOMEN'S VETERANS DAY**

Adopt proclamation in observance of Women's Veterans Day on June 12, 2020.

Commissioner Hank Henning read the proclamation and recognized the efforts of the county's Veterans Services department.

Robert Shelly, Veterans Services Director, shared his experiences serving alongside women during his twenty (20) years of military experience.

Tracy Lundy, Veterans Services, shared her military service and discussed her current role in the department.

Commissioner Henning presented Ms. Lundy with a commemorative coin honoring her military service and as a representative of women veterans.

#### **VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Phillips questioned if the Board would like any items pulled from the consent agenda.

Commissioner Kay Cashion requested item A.1. pulled from the consent agenda for further consideration.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Justin Conrad, and seconded by Commissioner Alan Branson, to adopt the consent agenda.**

**VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0**

**AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Hank Henning, Justin Conrad, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Kay Cashion**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: J. Carlvena Foster**

## **A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

### **Item pulled for Further Consideration**

1. **2020-254 DOLLEY MADISON WOMAN'S CLUB FY 2020-21 DONATION TO JUVENILE DETENTION - \$325**

*Approve an increase of \$325 in Other Revenues and increase the Juvenile Detention Center (Court Alternatives) FY 2020-21 budget by the same amount to reflect donated funds from the Dolley Madison Woman's Club of Greensboro, NC.*

2. **2020-261 UNAUTHORIZED SUBSTANCE TAX PURCHASE (ROOK Tactical Vehicle)**

Approve an increase of \$210,500 in Federal/State Revenue (\$106,000 Federal Forfeiture Funds; \$104,500 Unauthorized Substance Tax) and \$69,500 in Appropriated Fund Balance (Unauthorized Substance Tax Funds), increase the FY 2019-20 Law Enforcement budget by \$280,000, and approve the purchase of a ROOK Tactical vehicle, trailer and accessories with these funds, plus previously budgeted Unauthorized Substance Tax funds.

3. **2020-264 UPDATED HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT AGREEMENT AND FUNDING FOR FY 2019-20 (REVISION #2)**

Approve the updated FY 2019-20 Home and Community Care Block Grant funding plan; approve a \$4,450 increase in Federal/State revenues, increase the FY 2019-20 Health & Human Services – Social Services Division budget by \$85,323, and decrease the FY 2019-20 Transportation-Human Services budget by \$80,873 to reflect adjusted federal/state HCCBG funding; and authorize staff to make and approve any necessary adjustments to agency service contracts to reflect the updated funding plan.

## **B. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. **2020-260 APPROVE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE WRITE-OFF FOR SYSTEM CONVERSION AND COMPLAINECE WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

Approve the write-off of overdue accounts consistent with county policy and generally accepted accounting principals in the amounts up to \$16,130.00 (Emergency Services), \$3,025.00 (Sheriff's Office), \$120,000.00 (Public Health – Environmental Health), \$33,867.12 (Public Health – Water Quality), \$98,666.05 (Planning and Development), \$37,208.63 (Human Resources) for a total of up to \$308,896.80.

2. 2020-258 GREENSBORO/GUILFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR FY 2020-21

Approve the Greensboro/Guilford County Tourism Development Authority's (the Authority) budget ordinance for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Total budgeted Authority General Fund expenditures are \$5,976,100.

**GREENSBORO/GUILFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**The Budget Ordinance  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

An ordinance making appropriations for the operation of the Greensboro/Guilford County Tourism Development Authority for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

Be it ordained by the Greensboro/Guilford County Tourism Development Authority Board this the 9th day of June, 2020.

That for the Operation of the Authority for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, the following amounts appropriated for the General Fund:

Convention/Tourism Promotion (Operations)	\$ 5,106,100
Specific Events	170,000
Capital Improvements	<u>700,000</u>
Total General Fund	\$ 5,976,100

The above appropriations are hereby funded by the following revenue estimates:

Occupancy Tax-County	\$ 3,342,000
Occupancy Tax-City	830,000
Interest	33,000
Miscellaneous	40,500
Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>1,730,600</u>
Total General Fund	\$ 5,976,100

That the President/CEO is authorized to make expenditures from the contingency appropriation in the General Fund for items not specifically provided for elsewhere in this ordinance. Any such expenditure shall be reported to the Greensboro/Guilford County Tourism Development Authority Board at its next regular meeting and subsequently to the Guilford County Board of Commissioners at its next regular meeting.

Appropriations herein above authorized and made shall have the amounts of the outstanding purchase orders and unearned portion of contracts at June 30, 2020 added to each appropriation as it applies in order to properly account for the payment against the fiscal year in which it is paid.

This Ordinance is effective upon adoption.

3. 2020-256 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the following sets of minutes:  
05/07/2020 Regular Meeting

**ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION**

A.1. 2020-254 DOLLEY MADISON WOMAN'S CLUB FY 2020-21 DONATION TO JUVENILE DETENTION - \$325

Approve an increase of \$325 in Other Revenues and increase the Juvenile Detention Center (Court Alternatives) FY 2020-21 budget by the same amount to reflect donated funds from the Dolley Madison Woman's Club of Greensboro, NC.

Commissioner Cashion reviewed the history of the item and the Dolley Madison Woman's Club support of the Guilford County Juvenile Detention Center over the years.

**Motion made by Commissioner Kay Cashion, and seconded by Vice Chairman Alan Perdue, to approve an increase of \$325 in Other Revenues and increase the Juvenile Detention Center (Court Alternatives) FY 2020-21 budget by the same amount to reflect donated funds from the Dolley Madison Woman's Club of Greensboro, NC.**

**VOTE:** **Motion carried 8 - 0**

**AYES:** **Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Hank Henning, Justin Conrad, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Kay Cashion**

**NOES:** **None**

**ABSENT:** **J. Carlvena Foster**

**VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

A. 2020-253 HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON COUNTY MANAGER'S PROPOSED FY 2020-21 BUDGET

Hold public hearing on the County Manager's proposed FY 2020-21 budget. Each speaker will have two (2) minutes to address the proposed budget. The public hearing will remain open until all registered speakers have had the opportunity to speak.

Chairman Phillips opened the floor for public input on the County Manager's FY 2020-21 recommended budget and reviewed the virtual public hearing requirements.

1. Dr. Edward Fort expressed his support for the budget and spoke to the needs of children attending Guilford County public schools. He discussed the importance of address GCS facility issues and the potential long-term impact of the Board's decisions upon children and the local economy.
2. Dorothy Darr, with Southwest Renewal Foundation of High Point, thanked the Board for its support of their projects, which has allowed them to raise substantial grant and private funding towards a revitalized business park in the southwest corridor of High Point.
3. Rebecca Clark, with Piedmont Triad Film Commission, thanked each of the Commissioners for their support and spoke to the commission's economic impact within the arts community. She provided an update on film projects within Guilford County and shared that she hosted a scouting event in the area for a television series seeking a historic farm community as a primary production site.

There being no other speakers, the public hearing was closed. Any written comments submitted by the public will be archived.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. 2020-263 APPROVE INTER LOCAL AGREEMENT AND APPROPRIATION OF MENTAL HEALTH/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS INTERVENTION FUNDS TO THE CITY OF GREENSBORO**

Approve Inter Local Agreement, in substantial form, with the City of Greensboro in the amount of \$240,000 for Mental Health and Behavioral Health Crisis Intervention Services.

County Manager Marty Lawing introduced the item and noted the funds were set aside during the adoption of the FY 2019-20 budget. He shared the City of Greensboro entered into contract for these services in late March 2020 at a total cost of \$483,000 and staff recommend funding 50% of the contract and approval of the interlocal agreement.

**Motion made by Commissioner Melvin "Skip" Alston, and seconded by Commissioner Kay Cashion, to approve Inter Local Agreement, in substantial form, with the City of Greensboro in the amount of \$240,000 for Mental Health and Behavioral Health Crisis Intervention Services.**

**VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0**

**AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Hank Henning, Justin Conrad, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Kay Cashion**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: J. Carlvena Foster**

B. 2020-259 MAKE CERTAIN FINDINGS, INTRODUCE BOND ORDER, AND SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR SCHOOL BOND REFERENDUM

Approve Resolutions (1) making certain required findings, (2) introducing a bond order authorizing \$300,000,000 general obligation bonds for school facilities, and (3) calling a public hearing on the bond order to be held at the meeting on June 18, 2020.

Harley Will, Finance Director, reviewed the item and stated the county has received approval and acceptance of our notice to apply for bonds from the Local Government Commission (LGC). He discussed the need to approve the three (3) resolutions referenced in the item and confirmed staff will file a statement of debt and statement of interest with the Clerk to Board.

**Motion made by Vice Chairman Alan Perdue, and seconded by Commissioner Justin Conrad, to approve resolutions (1) making certain required findings, (2) introducing a bond order authorizing \$300,000,000 general obligation bonds for school facilities, and (3) calling a public hearing on the bond order to be held at the meeting on June 18, 2020.**

**VOTE:** **Motion carried 8 - 0**  
**AYES:** **Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Hank Henning, Justin Conrad, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Kay Cashion**  
**NOES:** **None**  
**ABSENT** **J. Carlvena Foster**

**RESOLUTION MAKING REQUIRED FINDINGS**

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Guilford hereby makes the following factual findings:

1. Description of the projects: Bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$300,000,000 are proposed to be issued for school facilities.
2. Facts regarding necessity of proposed projects: The proposed projects are necessary and expedient because present facilities are inadequate to meet the needs in the community.
3. Facts supporting the amount of bonds proposed: The amount of bonds proposed is adequate and not excessive for the proposed purposes based on present estimates.

4. Past debt management policies: The County has in the past always appropriated funds in accordance with North Carolina law during each fiscal year in an amount sufficient to retire all principal and interest on indebtedness.

5. Past budgetary and fiscal management policies: The County has always adopted its budget in a timely manner in accordance with North Carolina statutory requirements and has obtained an unqualified opinion from a certified public accountant in connection with each annual audit.

6. Retirement of Debt: Any increase in the County's property tax rate resulting from issuance of the proposed bonds is not excessive.

### **RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE BOND ORDER**

### **BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$300,000,000 SCHOOL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF GUILFORD**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Guilford deems it advisable to make the improvements hereinafter described; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has caused to be filed with the Secretary of the Local Government Commission of North Carolina an application for Commission approval of the bonds hereinafter described as required by The Local Government Finance Act, and the Secretary of the Commission has notified the Board that the application has been filed and accepted for submission to the Commission;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** by the Board as follows:

The Board determines that it is necessary to provide school facilities, including the acquisition and construction of new school facilities, the improvements and expansion of existing

school facilities and the acquisition and installation of furnishings and equipment and the acquisition of interests in real property required therefor, and to pay capital costs of such improvements.

To raise the money required to pay capital costs of providing the improvements described above, in addition to any funds which may be made available for that purpose from any other sources, bonds of the County are hereby authorized and shall be issued pursuant to The Local Government Finance Act. The maximum aggregate principal amount of bonds authorized by this bond order shall be **\$300,000,000**.

Taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on those bonds when due shall be annually levied and collected.

A sworn statement of the County's debt has been filed with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and is open to public inspection.

This bond order shall take effect when approved by the voters of the County at a referendum.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC HEARING ON BOND ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, the bond order entitled "BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$300,000,000 SCHOOL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF GUILFORD" has been introduced at the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Guilford held on June 4, 2020, and the Board desires to provide for a public hearing thereon and the submission of a statement of debt in connection therewith as required by The Local Government Finance Act;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board as follows:

The public hearing upon that bond order shall be held at the 301 West Market Street (Old Courthouse), Second Floor, Greensboro, North Carolina, at a meeting that starts at 5:30 P.M. on June 18, 2020.

The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners is hereby directed to cause a copy of the bond order to be published with the notice of public hearing in the form and in the manner prescribed by law no fewer than six days prior to the public hearing.

The Finance Director is hereby directed to file with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners prior to publication of the bond order with the notice of such public hearing, a statement setting forth the debt incurred or to be incurred, the appraised value of property subject to taxation by the County and the net debt of the County.

The Finance Director is hereby further directed to file with the Clerk to the Board at this meeting an estimate of the total amount of interest that will be paid on the proposed bonds over the expected term of the bonds, if issued.

## **IX.      HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE**

Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director, provided an update regarding the COVID-19 cases in Guilford County. She reported a culminative count of 1,498 positive cases, with 75 individuals lost and 700 recovering from the virus. Dr. Vann noted a trend of 75 new cases daily and spoke to fluctuations in hospitalizations resulting from congregate living cases; however, the number of recoveries remains steady.

Dr. Vann discussed the efforts of Public Health staff to increase community testing and reviewed the most current testing schedule and local partnerships develop to increase the number of testing sites.

The Board thanked Dr. Vann and her team for their efforts.

**X. APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**A. 2020-247 EXCEPTION REAPPOINTMENT TO A BOARD & COMMISSION**

Approve the following exception reappointment to a board and commission:

**Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

Reappoint The Honorable Tabatha P. Holliday to 3<sup>rd</sup> term as District Court Judge Appointee (April 26, 2020 – April 25, 2022)

**Motion made by Vice Chairman Alan Perdue, and seconded by Commissioner Hank Henning, to approve the following exception reappointment to a board and commission:**

**Guilford County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

Reappoint The Honorable Tabatha P. Holliday to 3<sup>rd</sup> term as District Court Judge Appointee (April 26, 2020 – April 25, 2022)

**VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0**

**AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Perdue, Alan Branson, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Hank Henning, Justin Conrad, Melvin "Skip" Alston, Kay Cashion**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: J. Carlvena Foster**

**XI. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Marty Lawing provided an update on the county's Small Business Grant Application program. He reviewed the program launch and noted a decision was made to extend eligibility to those businesses who received funding from the Paycheck Protection Program and other federal grant programs.

Lawing shared that he approved twenty-five (25) applications today and discussed the process.

Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman requested Lawing provide an outline of the application process.

Lawing clarified the program and discussed the eligibility questions.

Don Campbell, Emergency Management Division Director, discussed the program launch and associated challenges.

Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster joined the meeting via simultaneous communication at 6:30PM.

Commissioner Coleman questioned the number of employee volunteers involved in application review that were minorities.

Clerk to Board Robin Keller reviewed the demographic composition of the volunteers and provided an overview of the volunteer training.

Commissioner Alston expressed concerns with penalizing applicants and requested a report outlining the businesses approved for grant program funding.

Campbell provided an overview of the application process.

Commissioner Foster echoed Commissioner Alston's concerns regarding penalizing applicants and spoke to the challenges associated with the program launch. She referenced the learning curve experienced by applicants and staff and spoke to the need to remain flexible during this process.

Chairman Phillips questioned if some of the program funding could be used towards advertisements and spoke to the need for additional communication to drive more attention towards the program.

Commissioner Alston thanked staff for their follow-up and noted all involved in the process are learning and working to improve the program for the sake of the business community.

## **XII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Branson offered his condolences to the family of George Floyd and spoke to the unfamiliar nature of current times resulting from the pandemic and protests, and encouraged all to pray for peace.

Commissioner Alston echoed his condolences to the family of George Floyd and questioned if there would be an opportunity for the Board to have a frank discussion with the Sheriff's department regarding use of force policies.

County Attorney Mark Payne stated these policies fall under the purview of the Sheriff's office, but noted the Sheriff has begun an internal review of these processes. He shared that the execution of these policies lies within the Sheriff's office, and therefore falls under the Sheriff's authority.

Commissioner Alston expressed his interest in working with Sheriff to address concerns.

Commissioner Coleman echoed condolences for the Floyd family and spoke in support of peaceful protests. She expressed her appreciation for the recent advocacy of young people regarding this issue.

Commissioner Foster thanked the Board for its earlier moment of silence in remembrance of George Floyd. She apologized for her absence during the beginning of the meeting and spoke

against the egregious actions that led to Floyd's death. Foster discussed racism within our society and urged citizens against participating in the violence and looting that has occurred during certain peaceful protests. She spoke against senseless acts of violence against African-Americans and applauded community leaders who are speaking against racial injustice. Foster extended prayers to the Floyd family and commended the Board for its pledge of intolerance towards racism.

Commissioner Conrad expressed his condolences for the family and children of George Floyd. He shared his planned absence of this meeting to attend his daughter's high school graduation was canceled when the ceremony was postponed due to the COVID-19 in favor of a drive-through event. Conrad congratulated all graduates in the historic class of 2020.

Commissioner Cashion echoed the comments of Commissioner Foster and spoke to the need to increase communication amongst each other. She discussed a recent conversation with a citizen regarding meaningful conversations on the subject of race and thanked Commissioner Alston for initiating the moment of silence.

Vice Chairman Perdue thanked Commissioner Foster for her comments and shared the message of the protests should not be lost due to the actions of a few. He spoke to the efforts and roles of public safety employees in providing law and order, and noted the importance of equity and ethics in the process. Perdue expressed his hope that those participating in protests do so with good intentions and that the entire community could join together in these times.

Chairman Phillips recognized that, while all members of the Board may not agree on all topics, they have clear hearts on many issues. He spoke to the Board's unity and agreement that the family of George Floyd has suffered unnecessarily as a result of acts committed against him. Phillips noted the importance of treating others with dignity and care, regardless of the color of their skin, their appearance or origin.

## **XII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 7:45PM.

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Jeffrey M. Phillips, Chairman

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Robin B. Keller  
Clerk to Board