

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

Greensboro, North Carolina
December 16, 2021

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on December 16, 2021 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 James Upchurch, Mary Beth Murphy, Carly Cooke, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman (in at 5:56PM), Justin Conrad, and Alan Perdue.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michael Halford; County Attorney Mark Payne; Assistant County Manager Jason Jones; Assistant County Manager Erris Dunston; Assistant County Manager Victor Isler; Clerk to Board Robin Keller; Deputy Clerk to Board Ariane Webb; Deputy Clerk to Board Jessica Wolf; Worley Smith, Communications Manager; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; J. Leslie Bell, Planning & Development Director; Jim Albright, Emergency Services Director; Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director; Captain Doug Burroughs, Security Director; additional members of staff and members of the public and media.

Chairman Alston introduced Ms. Kathleen Talley, a US Navy veteran, who would lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. INVOCATION

Board Chaplain Ben Chavis offered the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alston welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 5:33PM.

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no speakers from the floor.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Justin Conrad and seconded by Kay Cashion to adopt the consent agenda.

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

A. CONTRACTS

1. 2021-466 DHHS - CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC) PROGRAM UPDATE AND CONTRACT WITH PARTNERS ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Approve a contract with Partners Ending Homelessness, in substantial form, in the amount up to \$34,589.50 to be effective January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022.
Approve an increase in Federal/State Revenue in the amount of \$34,599 and increase the FY 2021-22 appropriation to Health & Human Services (Social Services) budget by the same amount to reflect anticipated revenues received through Housing and Urban Development for Continuum of Care planning activities.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Partners Ending Homelessness HUD agreement FY22](#)

2. 2021-475 DHHS-PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION: COVID-19 EMERGENCY HOUSING CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH GLOBAL MANAGEMENT

Approve an amendment, in substantial form, to the price only contract with Global Management Corporation in the amount of \$143,649 with an effective date of January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022 for emergency housing services. Funding for contract approved from previously awarded and adopted COVID-19 funds, for an estimated total of \$594,349 during the current Fiscal Year.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Public Health Global Management Corporation 90002066](#)

3. 2021-479 UNITED HEALTHCARE (UHC) STOP LOSS COVERAGE FOR 2022 PLAN YEAR

Authorize staff to enter into a price only contract with United Healthcare (UHC) for stop loss coverage for the 2022 plan year in the amount of \$69.20 per member per month to be effective January 1, 2022 for a term of one (1) year at an annual cost not expected to exceed \$2,288,582, with an optional one year renewal with same or better rate cap.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Guilford County Stop Loss Renewal 2022 12-02-2021 \(003\) cc](#)

4. 2021-482 APPROVE CONTRACT WITH UNITED HEALTHCARE - HEALTH INSURANCE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Approve contract, in substantial form, with United Healthcare to provide health insurance administrative services for the self-funded medical plan at the current rate of \$31.19 per covered member per month with no plan changes.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Guilford County ASA Amend FRAT Other 1.1.2022 to SAE 12.8.2021](#)

5. 2021-342 MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN FOR 2022

Authorize staff to renew contract with United Healthcare to provide Medicare-eligible qualified retirees with the current Medicare Advantage plan, with no plan changes. Approve a rate of \$231.80 with the County contribution remaining the same at a maximum of \$203.12 per retiree.

[Legislation Text](#)

[2022 Guilford Medicare Advantage Renewal Summary rvsd.pdf](#)

B. MISCELLANEOUS

1. 2021-472 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 2021-12-16](#)

2. 2021-473 TAX COLLECTION AND BEVERAGE LICENSE REPORTS FOR MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2021

Accept and approve the tax collection report and beverage licenses issued for month ending November 30, 2021.

[Legislation Text](#)

[401C All Guilford 11-30-2021.pdf](#)

[Bev 11-30-2021 Detail.pdf](#)

3. 2021-474 PROPERTY TAX REBATES AND RELEASES FOR MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2021

Accept and approve property tax rebates and releases for the month ending November 30, 2021.

[Legislation Text](#)

[November 2021 Rebates and Releases.pdf](#)

[November 2021 NCVTS Pending Refund Report.pdf](#)

4. 2021-480 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Review and approve the following sets of draft meeting minutes:

11/18/2021 Work Session
11/18/2021 Regular Meeting
12/02/2021 Work Session

[Legislation Text](#)

[dmxws11.18.21.pdf](#)

[dm111821.pdf](#)

[dmxws12.02.21.pdf](#)

[VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS](#)

- A. 2021-478 PUBLIC HEARING ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT TO PIEDMONT TRIAD AIRPORT AUTHORITY (PTAA)

Pursuant to N.C.G.S 158-7.1, conduct a public hearing and approve an economic development incentive grant to Piedmont Triad Airport Authority (PTAA) in the amount of \$2 million to support infrastructure costs related to economic development. Upon approval, direct staff to take all necessary actions to execute the incentive grant agreement and appropriate General Fund, fund balance, in the amount of \$2 million to the Economic Development & Assistance budget.

Legislation Text

Brent Christensen, CEO of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, shared that this is a great opportunity for our area. He reiterated the request is for infrastructure improvements at the airport property. He noted that over the past 10 years we have invested \$100 million of state, federal, and airport funds in that area and have increased jobs from 4,500 to 8,600.

Chairman Alston opened the floor for proponents.

There being none, he opened the floor for opponents.

There being no opponents, Chairman Alston closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Alan Perdue and seconded by Kay Cashion to conduct a public hearing and approve an economic development incentive grant to Piedmont Triad Airport Authority (PTAA) in the amount of \$2 million to support infrastructure costs related to economic development. Upon approval, direct staff to take all necessary actions to execute the incentive grant agreement and appropriate General Fund, fund balance, in the amount of \$2 million to the Economic Development & Assistance budget.

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

Chairman Alston thanked Mr. Baker with the Airport Authority for coming to the meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2022-100 LAW ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Approve an amendment to Law Enforcement Administration Building Project Ordinance increasing project expenditures by \$13,116,500 to a total of \$15,000,000 to

be funded with \$2,764,037 in 2017 Bond Proceeds and \$10,352,463 in 2019 Bond Proceeds.

[Legislation Text](#)

[LE Admin Building Renovation - Amend 20-12-17](#)

[LE Admin Building Renovation - Amend 21-12-16](#)

Eric Hilton, Facilities Director, shared that this agenda item is to consolidate funding to get the project moving. The \$15 million will allow us to move ahead with phase 1 demolition package and allow us to purchase long lead items, such as steel and other materials.

Vice Chairman Foster clarified that this would finalize the design phase. She questioned if the Sheriff is supportive of this item.

Hilton stated that the Sheriff has some concerns with the size of the project and questioned the ability to expand in the future.

Vice Chairman Foster asked if the Sheriff has any plans to present his recommendation to expand.

Hilton shared that he is not aware of any plan to present his request to the board.

Commissioner Upchurch asked if there is an updated time table for how long this is going to take.

Hilton stated that this is about a 26-month construction project, starting early next year with the phase 1 demolition project and relocation of services. He noted that they hope to be finished by late 2024.

Vice Chairman Foster moved to delay action on this item until our next meeting in January in order to hear back from the Sheriff, seconded by James Upchurch.

Hilton clarified that the motion tonight is to move the funding and the final funding mechanism will be through the bond funds. The final funding and scope can be evaluated at that point.

Vice Chairman Foster shared that she would withdraw the initial motion; Commissioner Upchurch accepted withdrawal.

County Manager Michael Halford noted that we would place this on a work session in January to discuss this in greater detail.

Commissioner Upchurch stated he hopes we can have a work session in January to get some of the questions about this item answered.

Motion was made by J. Carlvena Foster and seconded by James Upchurch to approve an amendment to Law Enforcement Administration Building Project Ordinance increasing project expenditures by \$13,116,500 to a total of \$15,000,000 to be funded with \$2,764,037 in 2017 Bond Proceeds and \$10,352,463 in 2019 Bond Proceeds.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0

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

NOES: None

VIII. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS Public Health Division Director, provided an update on the cases of COVID-19. She noted that cases are going down since the Thanksgiving surge. She noted that we have a 14-day positivity rate average of 8.1% and a one-day rate of 5.5%. She noted that hospitalizations are still fairly high at 70 individuals. Dr. Vann discussed vaccination rates in the county. She encouraged anyone planning on having gatherings or traveling to be tested prior to gathering. She noted that masking indoors is recommended during periods of high transmission.

Commissioner Justin Conrad noted that late this afternoon the CDC halted the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. He questioned how that would impact our citizens.

Dr. Vann shared that we will be putting out a press release tomorrow for those contraindications for those who have a vascular condition and should not take the Johnson and Johnson shot. We don't believe it will impact our ability to vaccinate individuals, but certain individuals we will have to keep in mind.

Chairman Alston questioned if there are any calls for alarm given our 14-day community spread rate.

Commissioner Coleman in at 5:56PM.

Dr. Vann noted that we are most concerned about our pediatric population. She noted we must closely monitor that population and emphasized the research studies and the information being shared around the benefits of masks in schools.

Dr. Vann noted that we are looking at a downward trend and cases and hospitalizations are going down. We do expect another surge after the Christmas holidays. She noted we are starting to see cases of flu and have received notification on the first flu associated death.

Dr. Vann noted that we have not received any confirmation of the Omicron variant yet in Guilford County. She spoke to the effectiveness of the vaccine with the new variant. She shared that early laboratory studies note that the current vaccines may not be effective with this new variant.

A. 2021-455 DHHS-PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION: APPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY GUIDELINES

Approve DHHS-Public Health Division Agency Guidelines.

Dr. Vann shared that every year, in order to be in line with our accreditation process, we are bringing these guidelines for review for accreditation. She provided a summation of the updates, such as agency name changes, additional protocols for COVID-19, and spelling edits.

Dr. Vann noted to the most impactful changes and the clarification of the adjudication process for the Rules for the Board of Health. She noted the addition of using Everbridge to send automatic notifications for active shooter situations. She stated that they will be adding protocols for expired medications and how to utilize the sliding fee scale to eligible patients who are a part of our clinical programs. She noted new language added by statute for the type of tests to be used in sexual assault screenings. She briefly discussed some of the other changes that are for review.

Motion was made by Mary Beth Murphy and seconded by J. Carlvena Foster to approve DHHS-Public Health Division Agency Guidelines.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0

AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, James Upchurch, Mary Beth Murphy, Carly Cooke, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue

NOES: None

B. 2021-437 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UPDATES

Receive Updates on Health and Human Services Matters.

Sharon Barlow, Deputy Social Services Director, shared that staff have provided a dashboard in regard to the low-income energy assistance program.

The Board thanked Ms. Barlow for providing the data.

Barlow spoke to two community partners that we have worked with to provide for Christmas wishes for our foster children and adult wards. She noted that they partnered with A&T University and were able to provide gifts for all of our foster children. UNCG hosted a Toys for Joy, which provided hundreds of gifts for foster children and wards as well as other families in need of support this holiday season.

Commissioner Coleman questioned the Rental and Utilities Assistance Program, and if everyone will be served by the Christmas holiday.

Barlow noted that we will have some pending applications after Christmas but are still working with our rapid response teams to help those facing eviction.

IX. APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

A. 2021-469 APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENT TO VARIOUS BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Consider and approve the following appointments and reappointment to the following boards & commissions:

Fire District Commission - Oak Ridge

Reappoint E. Trent Allen to 3rd term (January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023)

Fire District Commission - Rankin

Appoint Steve Zimmerman to 1st term (January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023)

Reappoint Joe Smith to 2nd term (March 5, 2022 - March 4, 2024)

High Point Convention & Visitors Bureau / Visit HP

Appoint Mark Connell to 1st term as Large Hotel representative (December 16, 2021 - December 15, 2023)

[Legislation Text](#)

[EAllen Reapp 12.08.21](#)

[SZimmerman App 11.28.21.pdf](#)

[JSmith Reapp 12.04.21.pdf](#)

[MConnell App 12.07.21](#)

[MConnell Resume 12.07.21](#)

Motion was made by Kay Cashion and seconded by Carolyn Q. Coleman to consider and approve the following appointments and reappointment to the following boards & commissions:

Fire District Commission - Oak Ridge

Reappoint E. Trent Allen to 3rd term (January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023)

Fire District Commission - Rankin

Appoint Steve Zimmerman to 1st term (January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023)

Reappoint Joe Smith to 2nd term (March 5, 2022 - March 4, 2024)

High Point Convention & Visitors Bureau / Visit HP

Appoint Mark Connell to 1st term as Large Hotel representative (December 16, 2021 - December 15, 2023)

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, James Upchurch, Mary Beth Murphy, Carly Cooke, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue
NOES: None

B. 2021-481 EXCEPTION REAPPOINTMENT TO THE GUILFORD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Approve the following exception reappointment to the Guilford County Agricultural Commission:

Guilford County Agricultural Commission
Reappoint Edwin G. Apple to 4th term in Non-Farm Member/District 4 position
(November 2, 2021 - November 1, 2024)

[Legislation Text](#)

[EApple Reapp 11.30.21.pdf](#)

[EApple Term Exempt 08.10.21.pdf](#)

Motion was made by Alan Perdue and seconded by Justin Conrad to approve the following exception reappointment to the Guilford County Agricultural Commission:

Guilford County Agricultural Commission
Reappoint Edwin G. Apple to 4th term in Non-Farm Member/District 4 position (November 2, 2021 - November 1, 2024)

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, James Upchurch, Mary Beth Murphy, Carly Cooke, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue
NOES: None

X. COMMISSIONER LIAISON UPDATES

Commissioner Cooke shared that a month or two ago, the board approved a letter of support for the Piedmont Triad regional challenge for a build back better grant. There were 529 applications received and 60 finalists chosen, with the PTRC as one of them. They were awarded \$5,000 to continue their application as they move on to the March deadline. If they are successful, they could bring up to \$100 million of economic development dollars to our region.

Commissioner Cashion noted that the JCPC board opened bids for program funding consideration. She noted the deadline of January 31st. She shared that extra funds have been added by the General Assembly for those groups that are helping groups with prevention and intervention of gang involvement. Commissioner Cashion shared that the Behavioral Health Board met last week and noted that Commissioner Perdue will serve as Chair of that Board for the next year.

XI. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER / COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Manager Halford wished the Board and our teams a happy holiday season. He reminded residents that we are still taking feedback from the community through the end of December and there is a virtual online town hall event residents can join and complete an online survey.

XII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Upchurch thanked county employees for all of their hard work he thanked his fellow commissioners for all of their work over the last year and wished them a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Murphy echoed those sentiments and thanked staff for their hard work and wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Cooke echoed the same sentiments and thanked staff and wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Cashion shared that the state association board met last week at a called meeting to discuss the \$10 million set aside at the state association to help the arts community. She shared that they voted to set up a sperate foundation to help the counties to spend the funds within the boundaries of the grants.

Commissioner Cashion noted the NACO public steering committee met since the last board update. She noted that the 100 Counties prepared committee met at the NC Emergency Management office last week and are working hand in hand with the state to help support communities in training programs during states of emergencies and catastrophic events.

Commissioner Perdue extended holiday sentiments to the staff. He lifted-up our public safety workers who work through the holiday season.

Commissioner Conrad shared holiday sentiments. He congratulated Dudley High School Panthers in winning the state championship. He noted that we have had two schools win high school football championships back to back.

Commissioner Coleman shared she would love to invite the Dudley football team to our next meeting. She thanked the staff for all of the great work they have done this past year. She shared

we are excited about next year as we approach 2022 and thanked the citizens, that despite the challenges from COVID-19.

Vice Chairman Foster shared that she had an opportunity to fellowship with the Sheriff and his employees at a luncheon that was fully funded by Love and Faith Christian center. She thanked them for their support of the Sherriff's Office. She noted her attendance of the Northwood Elementary school, which was built in 1956, and thanked the Chairman for arranging the school tours and supporting the news to cover these.

Vice Chairman Foster shared her attendance today of a press conference of the City of High Point's award of over \$9 million, attendees included Congresswoman Cathy Manning and Congressman Tedd Budd. It was a great celebration. She thanked staff and wished Guilford County citizens a merry Christmas.

Chairman Alston wished the staff a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

XIII. HOLD CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (a) (3) and (6) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTING WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AND TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER

Motion was made by Carly Cooke and seconded by J. Carlvena Foster to hold closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (a) (3) and (6) for the purpose of consulting with the county attorney and to discuss a personnel matter

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, James Upchurch, Mary Beth Murphy, Carly Cooke, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue
NOES: None

The Board entered into closed session at 6:28PM.

The Board reconvened from closed session into open session at 6:40PM.

Motion was made by J. Carlvena Foster and seconded by Mary Beth Murphy to move to appoint Matt Mason, our Chief Deputy County Attorney, as Interim County Attorney effective upon the retirement of Mr. Payne January 1, 2022. At that time Mr. Mason will also receive a 10% pay increase; as is customary for interim Board appointments.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: Melvin "Skip" Alston, J. Carlvena Foster, James Upchurch, Mary Beth Murphy, Carly Cooke, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue
NOES: None

Chairman Alston recognized County Attorney Mark Payne for his years of service with the State of North Carolina and Guilford County.

County Attorney Mark Payne shared that it has been his honor and privilege to serve as County Attorney for the past 12 years. He shared that he leaves an office full of some of the best attorneys in the state. He shared that one of the things he likes about his job is learning just how hard everyone else's job is.

Payne thanked the board

XIV. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:49PM.

Melvin "Skip" Alston
Chairman

Robin Keller
Clerk to Board