

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

Greensboro, North Carolina  
January 20, 2022

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on January 20, 2022 at 5:30PM, via virtual communication.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Melvin “Skip” Alston, presiding; Vice Chair J. Carlvena Foster; Commissioners Carly Cooke, Alan Perdue, Carolyn Q. Coleman, James Upchurch, Kay Cashion, and Mary Beth Murphy. All participated via virtual communication.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Justin Conrad.

**ALSO PRESENT:** County Manager Michael Halford; Interim County Attorney Matthew Mason; Clerk to Board Robin Keller; Assistant County Manager Erris Dunston; Assistant County Manager Jason Jones; Assistant County Manager Victor Isler; Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director; Derrick Bennett, Finance Director; Sharon Barlow, DHHS-DSS Division Director; J. Leslie Bell, Planning & Development Director; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; members of staff and the media. All participated via virtual communication. Virtual participation instructions were provided to the public and media.

**I. INVOCATION**

Due to the virtual meeting format, no invocation was offered.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Due to the virtual meeting format, the Pledge of Allegiance was not recited.

**III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Melvin “Skip” Alston welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 5:32PM.

**IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

Chairman Alston opened the floor for speakers.

1. Bronni VanDerwerker expressed her dissatisfaction with the Board of Health mask mandate.
2. Chrissy Smith shared her concerns with the County Commissioners' recent pay increase and expressed her dissatisfaction with the Board of Health mask mandate.
3. Kathy Kirkpatrick thanked the commissioners for reinstating the Board of Health mask mandate. She expressed concerns with Commissioner Upchurch's recent political decisions.
4. Nicole Quick thanked the commissioners for reinstating the Board of Health mask mandate and prioritizing the health and safety of our citizens. She expressed her concerns with Commissioner Upchurch's recent political decisions.

## **V. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Alston questioned if any commissioners had items they would like pulled from the consent agenda.

Commissioner Kay Cashion requested consent agenda item A.3. pulled for further consideration.

**Motion was made by Vice J. Carlvena Foster, and seconded by Commissioner Kay Cashion, to adopt the consent agenda.**

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

### **A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

1. 2022-115 DHHS - DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES PANDEMIC LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIEAP)

Approve an increase in Federal/State funds by \$3,953,274 and increase the FY 2021-22 Health and Human Services (Social Services) budget by the same amount to reflect additional funding authorization for the DHHS-Division of Social Services for Pandemic LIEAP program during FY 2021-22.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Pandemic LIEAP funding authorization 12.21.2021](#)

[DCDL\\_Pandemic LIEAP 12.21.2021](#)

2. 2022-116 DHHS - DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIEAP)

Approve an increase in Federal/State funds by \$537,546 and increase the FY 2021-22 Health and Human Services (Social Services) budget by the same amount to reflect additional funding authorization for the DHHS-Division of Social Services for Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) program during FY 2021-22.

[Legislation Text](#)

[LIHEAP & CIP Admin 2022 \(1\)](#)

[LIEAP SFY 2021-22\\_0](#)

***Removed from Consent Agenda***

3. **2022-121 APPROVE RECEIPT OF DONATIONS TO GUILFORD COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

***Approve receipt of an anonymous donation in the amount of \$14,696.89, and an additional donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the General Fund, Miscellaneous Revenues, and increase the FY 2021-22 Animal Shelter budget by the same amount.***

[Legislation Text](#)

**B. CONTRACTS**

1. 2022-118 REQUEST A REFUND OF EXCISE TAX FOR LAW FIRM CAROLINAS

Approve the refund of \$1,405.00 to Law Firm Carolinas for payment of excise tax per N.C. Gen. Stat. 105-228.37.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Deed BK 8500 PG 1806](#)

[Law Firm Carolina Request](#)

[NCgS 105-228.37](#)

[Affidavit of Correction](#)

2. 2022-124 AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF FLEET VEHICLES

Approve the purchase of nineteen (19) vehicles from North Carolina State Contract 070A, in substantial form, in the amount of \$475,106.

[Legislation Text](#)

[2022 No bid justification Capital Ford \(002\).pdf](#)

[2022 No Justification Performance Ford \(002\).pdf](#)

[Copy of Vehicle quotes for purchase.pdf](#)

**C. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. 2022-119 TAX COLLECTION AND BEVERAGE LICENSE REPORTS FOR MONTH ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Accept and approve the tax collection report and beverage licenses issued for month ending December 31, 2021.

[Legislation Text](#)

[401C All Guilford 12-31-2021.pdf](#)

[Bev 12-31-2021 Detail.pdf](#)

2. 2022-120 PROPERTY TAX REBATES AND RELEASES FOR MONTH ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR 2019-2020 PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS

Accept and approve property tax rebates and releases for the month ending December 31, 2021 and approve associated Budget Amendment to increase \$429,157 in Appropriated Fund Balance and increase the FY 2021-2022 Tax budget by the same amount towards payment of 2019-2020 property tax refunds

[Legislation Text](#)

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

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

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

**A. 3. 2022-121 APPROVE RECEIPT OF DONATIONS TO GUILFORD COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

*Approve receipt of an anonymous donation in the amount of \$14,696.89, and an additional donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the General Fund, Miscellaneous Revenues, and increase the FY 2021-22 Animal Shelter budget by the same amount.*

[Legislation Text](#)

Commissioner Cashion shared her excitement regarding the anonymous donations and noted it is an indication of the citizens' appreciation regarding the new Animal Shelter facility. She requested follow-up regarding a recent citizen inquiry and asked staff to provide an update on the new shelter. Cashion also questioned the status of her request to develop a county foundation that could receive these types of gifts on behalf of the Animal Shelter and Family Justice Center.

Chairman Alston requested this update included during the Board's next regular meeting.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Kay Cashion, and seconded by Vice Chair J. Carlvena Foster, to approve receipt of an anonymous donation in the amount of \$14,696.89, and an additional donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the General Fund, Miscellaneous Revenues, and increase the FY 2021-22 Animal Shelter budget by the same amount.**

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

## VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. 2022-104 PUBLIC HEARING - UDO TEXT AMENDMENT CASE #21-10-GCPL-09184 TO AMEND ARTICLE 9.3 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION TO AMEND THE NO-FILL IN FLOODPLAIN PROVISION TO ALLOW FILL FOR RESTORATION OF NATURAL FLOODPLAIN FUNCTIONS AND RELATED CLARIFICATIONS & FORMATTING REVISIONS

Hold a public hearing and adopt Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Text Amendment Case #21-10-GCPL-09184 (as presented/attached herein) that amends Article 9.3 Flood Damage Prevention which changes the no-fill provision to allow fill in the floodplain for restoration of natural floodplain functions and related clarifications and formatting revisions.

### Legislation Text

[TA-21-10-GCPL-09184 STAFF REPORT - Floodplain No-fill Provision](#)

[TA-21-10-GCPL-09184 BCC LEGAL NOTICE - Floodplain No-fill Provision](#)

J. Leslie Bell, Planning & Development Director, introduced the item and review the recommended text amendment changes.

Chairman Alston introduced the public hearing and opened the floor for proponents. There being no proponents, he opened the floor for opponents to the item. There being none, Chairman Alston closed the public hearing.

**Motion was made by Vice Chair J. Carlvena Foster, and seconded by Commissioner Carly Cooke, to hold a public hearing and adopt Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Text Amendment Case #21-10-GCPL-09184 (as presented/attached herein) that amends Article 9.3 Flood Damage Prevention which changes the no-fill provision to allow fill in the floodplain for restoration of natural floodplain functions and related clarifications and formatting revisions.**

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

B. 2022-112 HOLD PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECODIFICATION OF GUILFORD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Approve consolidation of the Guilford County Unified Development Ordinance back into Chapter 15, replacing existing language of Chapter 15 Article II section 15-56 of the County's General Code of Ordinances; and authorize staff to proceed with recodification of the section.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Proposed DRAFT Recodification](#)

Clerk to Board Robin Keller introduced the item and Bell offered a visual demonstration of the new County Ordinance website, implemented by enCode Plus. He discussed the statutory requirements fulfilled by the new site and demonstrated its improved functionality and interactive capabilities.

Chairman Alston introduced the public hearing and opened the floor for proponents. There being no proponents, he opened the floor for opponents to the item. There being none, Chairman Alston closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Alan Perdue thanked staff for identifying a new County Ordinance tool that is easily searchable with links to other resources.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Alan Perdue, and seconded by Commissioner Kay Cashion, to approve consolidation of the Guilford County Unified Development Ordinance back into Chapter 15, replacing existing language of Chapter 15 Article II section 15-56 of the County's General Code of Ordinances; and authorize staff to proceed with recodification of the section.**

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

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. 2022-114 MAKE CERTAIN FINDINGS, INTRODUCE BOND ORDER, AND SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR TWO-THIRDS GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PROJECT

Approve Resolutions (1) making certain required findings, (2) introducing a bond order authorizing \$31,200,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for public buildings, including without limitation administrative buildings, law enforcement administrative buildings, parking facilities, and courthouse facilities and including the acquisition and construction of new public buildings, (3) introducing a bond order authorizing \$4,300,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for law enforcement facilities, including without limitation, detention facilities, (4) introducing a bond order authorizing \$2,000,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for parking facilities, (5) introducing a bond order authorizing \$1,500,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for public health facilities, including without limitation, alcohol and drug addiction treatment facilities, (6) introducing a bond order authorizing \$2,000,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for parks and recreation facilities, and (7) calling a public hearing on the bond order to be held at the meeting on February 3, 2021.

#### [Legislation Text](#)

#### [Resolution Introduction Bond Orders - Guilford 2022A GO Bonds \(2\\_3\)](#)

#### [Notices of Public Hearings - Guilford 2021 2\\_3 GO Bonds](#)

#### [Finance Officer Estimate of Interest - Guilford 2022A GO Bonds \(2\\_3\)](#)

#### [Debt Statement - Guilford 2022A GO Bonds \(2\\_3\)](#)

Derrick Bennett, Finance Director, introduced the bond order and requested the Board scheduled a public hearing to be held during its regular meeting on February 3, 2022.

Commissioner Cashion noted that this item only introduces the bond orders and requests the Board schedule a public hearing. She questioned if the bond orders restrict the County to use the allocations for the specific purpose listed, or if there is flexibility.

Bennett confirmed the order restricts the amount allocated to the projects, but the County is allowed to reallocate funds if project expenses come in below cost.

Commissioner Cashion questioned what would happen to funding if the Board chose not to complete all projects.

Bennett noted that with the rise in construction costs, bond council is aware that all listed projects may not be completed.

Commissioner Carly Cooke requested staff share the list of approved projects included in these bond orders.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman, and seconded by Vice Chair J. Carlvena Foster, to approve Resolutions (1) making certain required findings, (2) introducing a bond order authorizing \$31,200,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for public buildings, including without limitation administrative buildings, law enforcement administrative buildings, parking facilities, and courthouse facilities and including the acquisition and construction of new public buildings, (3) introducing a bond order authorizing \$4,300,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for law enforcement facilities, including without limitation, detention facilities, (4) introducing a bond order authorizing \$2,000,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for parking facilities, (5) introducing a bond order authorizing \$1,500,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for public health facilities, including without limitation, alcohol and drug addiction treatment facilities, (6) introducing a bond order authorizing \$2,000,000 "two-thirds" general obligation bonds for parks and recreation facilities, and (7) calling a public hearing on the bond order to be held at the meeting on February 3, 2021.**

**VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0**

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

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Justin Conrad**

B. 2022-129 RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT FOR FY 2020-2021

Receive report from April Adams of Cherry Bekaert, LLP for results of FY 2020-2021 annual audit.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Guilford 2021 Audit Board Presentation](#)

April Adams with Cherry Bekaert, LLP introduced the FY 2020-21 annual audit report and reviewed the role of the external auditor. She shared standards established for the financial audit and discussed the levels of internal controls assessed.

Adams provided an overview of the significant audit areas: capital assets, cash and equivalents, payroll and related liabilities, accounts payable and expenditures, receivables and revenue, debt and long-term obligations. Additionally, she shared single audit results for Medicaid, Maternal and Child Health Services Block grants, Child Support Enforcement, CARES Act, State In-Home Services, Child Protective Services (State), DSS Crosscutting and Public School Building Capital Fund programs.

Adams reported that all opinions were unmodified, or were considered “clean” opinions and noted this is the highest level of assurance that the firm can provide regarding the County’s financial statements and administration of federal funding.

Adams shared a significant finding related to the Maternal and Child Health Services Block grant single program audit related to inconsistent overview of cases, resulting from COVID. She noted that a nonmaterial noncompliance finding was identified during the Medicaid single program audit related to verification of eligibility. Adams confirmed these findings could easily be corrected prior to the next year’s audit.

Adams stated the Local Government Commission (LGC) amended its administrative code requiring the auditor to notify the Board of any performance indicators of concern. She noted the only indicator is that Guilford County’s audit was submitted five (5) months after the deadline. Adams shared state regulations provide a four (4) month grace period and require the Board to submit a letter indicating it will do submit the audit by the deadline next year within sixty (60) days from date of this presentation.

Commissioner Cashion thanked Ms. Adams for the presentation and spoke to the role of the county Internal Audit department in working with county departments to identify issues that should be addressed and collaborate with Cherry Bekaert, LLP to produce a clean audit.

Chairman Alston recognized Commissioner Cashion as the chair of the Audit Committee and thanked her for ensuring all reports are received timely.

Chairman Alston introduced the addendum to the agenda for Board consideration and by unanimous consent the Board adopted the addendum.

C. 2022-140 DHHS-DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE - ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING

Appropriate additional funding allocations from US Department of Treasury and State of North Carolina to administer the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Programs; amend the Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (Federal) grant project ordinance to reflect the additional Federal funding and establish an Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (State) grant project ordinance in the Community Development & Recovery Fund to be funded with the additional State funding in the amounts described in this item to reflect the 2nd part of Federal and State ERA funding allocations; and delegate to the County Manager the authority to execute any necessary agreements on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

Approve maximum allowable administrative costs to be designated for staffing, marketing, program support and initiatives in the following amounts:

\$516,486 for Federal ERA 2

\$811,544 for State ERA 2

\$1,328,030 Total

[Legislation Text](#)

Sharon Barlow, DHHS-DSS Division Director, introduced the agenda item and total amounts in federal and state funding designated towards the Emergency Rental & Utility Assistance (ERUA) program. She shared this agenda item requests the Board receive the additional funding allocations from the state and federal government.

Barlow provided an update of the county's ERUA program and they have provided an average of \$3,700 to each of the 3,900 applicants, to date. She noted over 10,000 applications have been received requesting over \$24.4 million in assistance. Barlow confirmed they are processing applications as quickly as possible and noted they have hired additional staff and offered overtime to ensure those who have applied with pending evictions are addressed.

Barlow stated staff review court dockets daily and partner with Legal Aid to assist those who are in the midst of the eviction process. She shared the department has spent its initial funding allocation and this request will allow them to continue providing assistance to those in need. Barlow discussed the launch of the new application software, Neighborly, and its impact upon the ERUA application.

Commissioner Cashion questioned the percentage of applicants assisted by the program that were able to avoid eviction.

Barlow stated she would share the exact data with the Board, but noted they have only had a few landlords unwilling to work with the department to avoid evictions.

Commissioner Cashion clarified her request to include the number of program applicants whose evictions could not be stopped.

Commissioner Mary Beth Murphy thanked Barlow and staff for their responsiveness to any requests for assistance and inquiries.

Commissioner Cooke echoed Commissioner Murphy's comments and expressed her sincere appreciation for the efforts of county staff working in these programs. She questioned the status of the applications that had not been approved.

Barlow shared these remaining applications may be pending review by staff, pending verifications, denied or withdrawn. She noted DSS staff have partnered with Finance and IT to keep the program running successfully.

Vice Chair J. Carlvena Foster echoed the previous comments and thanked staff for their efforts and responsiveness. She questioned if the bulk of applications were received from Greensboro or High Point residents.

Barlow stated she would provide exact data regarding the location of applicants by zip code to the Board.

Chairman Alston thanked staff for their efforts to serve those in need, despite staffing shortages.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Mary Beth Murphy, and seconded by Commissioner Carly Cooke, to appropriate additional funding allocations from US Department of Treasury and State of North Carolina to administer the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Programs; amend the Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (Federal) grant project ordinance to reflect the additional Federal funding and establish an Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (State) grant project ordinance in the Community Development & Recovery Fund to be funded with the additional State funding in the amounts described in this item to reflect the 2nd part of Federal and State ERA funding allocations; and delegate to the County Manager the authority to execute any necessary agreements on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.**

**Approve maximum allowable administrative costs to be designated for staffing, marketing, program support and initiatives in the following amounts:**

**\$516,486 for Federal ERA 2**

**\$811,544 for State ERA 2**

**\$1,328,030 Total**

**VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0**

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

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Justin Conrad**

Chairman Alston recognized Mr. James Adams as a Speaker from the Floor and allowed him to offer comments.

Mr. James Adams thanked the Board for an opportunity to speak and expressed his concerns regarding Commissioner Upchurch's recent political decisions.

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

### **A. 2022-123 DHHS - PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION: ANNUAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE**

Receive the Annual Communicable Disease Report

#### Legislation Text

#### Selected Reportable Communicable Diseases Data Brief 2021 final

Dr. Iulia Vann, DHHS-Public Health Division Director introduced the item and spoke to the accreditation requirement to annually update the Board, in its role as the Guilford County Board of Health, on local communicable disease incidents and trends.

Dr. Vann noted that rates of water and food-borne communicable diseases have decreased due to a decrease in interactions amongst people, and reductions in eating out and travel. She reported that decreased trends in hepatitis and sexually transmitted communicable diseases may be influenced by disruptions in healthcare, resulting in individuals not prioritizing testing and preventative screenings for these types of illnesses. Dr. Vann cautioned that the 2020 data may be under-reported due to the impact of COVID-19 and its disruption to our healthcare system.

Dr. Vann reviewed data on airborne viruses like tuberculosis and haemophilus influenzae, along with vector-borne viruses like lyme disease and malaria, and noted that many of the COVID-19 mitigation efforts have aided in decreasing the spread of these types of communicable diseases.

Dr. Vann provided an update on the county's COVID-19 metrics and shared approximately 63% of the population aged 5 years and older is now fully vaccinated. She stated the current COVID-19 positivity rate is 28.4%, with a single day positivity rate of 30.6%, and noted that staff have observed the highest numbers of completed COVID tests during this surge in the pandemic. Dr. Vann confirmed the positivity rates for the last week remain between 25-30% with hospitalizations at 265 admissions.

Dr. Vann shared the department has receive 24 complaints since the Board of Health reinstated the mask mandate. She stated all complaints have been addressed by enforcement officers with visits and educational discussions, and noted they have visited an over forty (40) additional business to remain proactive and offer continued assistance to the community.

Commissioner James Upchurch questioned which mask citizens should wear and the effectiveness of the different types of masks.

Dr. Vann reviewed the different types of masks and their effectiveness against virus transmission. She recommended using a medical-grade mask in environments where there is a higher risk of transmission.

Commissioner Upchurch questioned the availability of the masks that provide higher levels of protection.

Dr. Vann shared the department has received 103,000 N95 masks and are working with community partners on a plan to distribute these to the public.

Vice Chair Foster thanked Dr. Vann and her team for their efforts in supporting the community and keeping the Board informed.

The Board thanked the Public Health team, and all internal partners, for their efforts to keep these projects moving.

## **IX. COMMISSIONER LIAISON UPDATES**

Commissioner Cooke requested an update from County Manager Michael Halford regarding ARPA funding, short-term relief efforts and the county's readiness to begin receiving applications from small businesses for assistance.

Halford provided an update regarding new staffing and final ARPA rules released by the federal government that will allow the County to begin implementing this process. He provided updates on the solicitation process and the potential parameters related to spending these funds.

Halford shared the state has an active application that is open for small businesses and noted the City of Greensboro may implement a short-term relief option in March, which could impact the timing of the county's efforts.

Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman provided an update on the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Board and discussed an incident at the last meeting related to a personnel matter. She requested the Board consider offering a resolution supporting PART members in their efforts to add items to its board meeting agendas.

Chairman Alston recommended Commissioner Coleman consult with the County Attorney and submit a proposed resolution to the Board for consideration during the next regular meeting on February 3, 2022.

Commissioner Murphy provided an update on the Parks and Recreation Commission and noted the Guilford County Parks department is partnering with Piedmont Discovery to host a yearlong scavenger hunt through the county's parks. She offered an update on Bryan Park North and shared Guilford County will work with the City of Greensboro to create a plan for park development, and will seek input from the Board and community stakeholder groups within the upcoming months.

Commissioner Cashion provided an update on the recent state Senate bill addressing commissioners serving on non-profit boards, and noted that she has officially resigned from her role as an ArtsGreensboro board member to ensure no conflict and to remain in compliance with the new law. She discussed the recent Continuum of Care (CoC) board meeting and the group's efforts to work with the courts system to avoid evictions and find housing for those in need.

Vice Chair Foster provided an update on the High Point Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and noted the High Point City Council adopted a downtown incentive policy and modified existing policies, per the group's recommendations.

#### **X. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER / COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Halford thanked the Board for moving forward on the 2/3rds general obligation bonds to address county capital needs. He shared that when the public hearing is held, and if bond orders are adopted during the Board's next regular meeting, the credit rating process will begin for these bonds, along with the initial sale of \$120 million of the \$300 million school bonds, with an estimated closing date of April 2022.

Halford recognized the Facilities and Parks department staff and their efforts in clearing parking lots and walkways during Winter Storm Izzy, despite significant staffing shortages.

#### **XI. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Vice Chair Foster shared the rescheduled Martin Luther King Day Parade has been cancelled due to recent incidents of inclement weather.

Commissioner Cashion thanked J. Leslie Bell and Planning & Development staff for their extraordinary service in managing a customer complaint received from City of Greensboro Councilwoman Marikay Abuzuaiter.

Chairman Alston thanked County staff and recognized their efforts in the midst of short-staffing and other challenges.

#### **XII. HOLD CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTING WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY.**

No items requiring a closed session were presented to the Board for consideration.

**XIII. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent of the Board at 7:28PM.

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Melvin "Skip" Alston  
Chairman

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Robin Keller  
Clerk to Board