

Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2020

Due to the State of North Carolina's Declaration of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and per NCGS § 166A-19.24, the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners conducted a remote meeting using the WebEx application.

CALL TO ORDER - 6 PM - REMOTE MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, convened in Formal Session on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 6:02 p.m. with Chair Dunlap presiding.

Present: Chair George Dunlap
Commissioner Patricia "Pat" Cotham
Commissioner Trevor M. Fuller
Commissioner Susan Harden
Commissioner Mark Jerrell
Commissioner Vilma D. Leake
Commissioner Elaine Powell
Commissioner Susan Rodriguez-McDowell

Absent until Noted: Commissioner Ella B. Scarborough

INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT

The following agenda items were identified by Commissioners to be removed from the Consent agenda for clarity, comment, public awareness, and/or to be voted upon separately:

- 20-6212: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6223: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6230: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6235: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6238: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6239: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6241: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6242: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6249: by Commissioner Leake
- 20-6253: by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

20-6269: Joint Proclamation - Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day

Chair Dunlap read the proclamation.

A motion was made by Chairman Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, and carried unanimously to adopt a joint proclamation declaring July 26, 2020 as American with Disabilities Act Awareness Day in Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

20-6217: Public Appearance

There were no speakers that addressed the Board.

APPOINTMENTS

20-6263: Nominations/Appointments - COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Task Force

Chair Dunlap said the Board needed to clarify the County Manager's role on the Task Force.

Dena Diorio, County Manager, said she wanted to serve as staff to the Task Force, not as a member, if the Board would consider that.

Chair Dunlap said the issue with that was we had 23 members in the case that there was a tie, which was why the Manager was one of the 23.

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake and seconded by Commissioner Jerrell to accept the recommendation of designating the County Manager to serve as staff for the COVID-19 Task Force and to have 23 members to the committee.

A vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YES: Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, Leake, Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell

NO: Commissioner Dunlap

The Board considered appointing twenty-three (23) members to the COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Task Force.

The Board received 89 applications for consideration. The Board of County

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Commissioners submitted written nominations to the Clerk on June 26, 2020.

The results of the nominations are as follows:

- Victoria Avramovic, 5 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, and Powell
- Deanna Baumgardner, 2 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap and Powell
- Yvette Bessent, 4 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Harden, Jerrell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Linda Bohling, 1 nomination by Commissioner Scarborough
- Kristi Booker, 2 nominations by Commissioners Fuller and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Gregory Boulanger, 3 nominations by Commissioners Fuller, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Brenda Campbell, 2 nominations by Commissioners Leake and Scarborough
- Tracie Campbell, 3 nominations by Commissioners Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Monique Cartwright, 1 nomination by Commissioners Scarborough
- Emily Chambers Sharpe, 3 nominations by Commissioners Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Jasmine Chaney, 4 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Marcie Chong, 3 nominations by Commissioners Harden, Jerrell, and Scarborough
- Bobby Cobb, 2 nominations by Commissioners Cotham and Powell
- Kimberley Cole, 1 nomination by Commissioners Rodriguez-McDowell
- Nathaniel Coley, 1 nomination by Commissioners Fuller
- Carrie Cook, 5 nominations by Commissioners Cotham Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Keith Cradle, 5 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Dena Diorio, 4 nominations by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap Jerrell, and Powell
- Reverend Sarah L. Ellis, 3 nominations by Commissioners Cotham, Jerrell, and Scarborough
- Cathleen Gallagher, 1 nomination by Commissioner Scarborough
- Constance Green-Johnson, 1 nomination by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell
- Charles Grouse, 1 nomination by Commissioner Powell
- Tonya Hamilton, 1 nomination by Commissioner Fuller
- Jordan Holt, 2 nominations by Commissioners Jerrell and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Jacob House, 1 nomination by Commissioner Harden
- Tara Hunter-McCoy, 1 nomination by Commissioner Powell
- Carlenia Ivory, 4 nominations by Commissioners Harlow, Jerrell, Leake, and Scarborough
- Mohammed Jibriel, 7 nominations by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Haden, Jerrell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Blanchard Kevin Kendrick, 3 nominations by Commissioners Harden, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell

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- Chanell Ketchmore, 1 nomination by Commissioners Fuller and Powell
- Stacy King-Chaney, 1 nomination by Commissioner Powell
- Nancy Kuzniar, 1 nomination by Commissioner Scarborough
- Elena Lenis-Zuluaga, 3 nomination by Dunlap, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Dennis Lewis, 1 nomination by Commissioner Scarborough
- Gabriel Mathless, 3 nomination by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, and Harden
- Bernadette Joy Maulion, 4 nomination by Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, and Jerrell
- Lora McDowell, 1 nomination by Commissioner Dunlap
- Jessica Montana, 6 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Harlow, Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Rodney Moore, 1 nomination by Commissioner Jerrell
- Maria (Gina) Navarrete, 5 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, and Rodriguez- McDowell, and Scarborough
- Carrie Nelson, 1 nomination by Commissioner Powell
- Paresh Patel, 3 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, and Scarborough
- Nicole Peterson, 2 nominations by Commissioners Fuller and Powell
- Mitzi Porter, 5 nominations by Cotham, Dunlap, Harden, Leake, and Powell
- Kaitlin Powers, 1 nomination by Commissioner Dunlap
- Mitzi Porter, 5 nominations by Cotham, Dunlap, Harden, Leake, and Powell
- Harold Rice, Jr., 4 nominations by Commissioners Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, and Powell
- Rachelle Salo, 1 nomination by Commissioner Harden
- Sierra Saumenig, 2 nominations by Commissioners Fuller and Powell
- Jessica Schorr Saxe, 4 nominations by Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, Jerrell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Kenneth Schorr, 3 nominations by Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, and Harden
- Sam Smith, Jr., 3 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Harden, and Jerrell
- Dr. Cheryl Spellman, 3 nominations by Commissioners Harden, Powell, and Scarborough
- Samuel Spencer IV, 2 nominations by Commissioners Cotham and Powell
- Sheila Spitz, 2 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap and Harden
- Elizabeth Star-Winer, 3 nominations by Commissioners Fuller, Harden, and Scarborough
- Sarah Stevens, 2 nominations by Commissioners Powell and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Vinod Thomas, 2 nominations by Commissioners Cotham and Scarborough
- Yvette Townsend-Ingram, 3 nominations by Commissioners Jerrell, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Salma Villarreal, 5 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Harden, Jerrell, and Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Martha Viser, 1 nomination by Commissioner Dunlap
- Kiana Washington, 1 nomination by Commissioner Jerrell
- Marcenia Waters, 1 nomination by Commissioner Jerrell
- Brandi Williams, 1 nomination by Commissioner Jerrell

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- Jennifer Williams, 1 nomination by Commissioner Dunlap
- Dietrick Williams, 6 nominations by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Jerrell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough
- Dr. Jerome Williams, Jr., 7 nominations by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, Leake, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake and seconded by Commissioner Harden to appoint all nominees who have four or more nominations.

No vote was taken on the main motion due to a vote on a subsequent substitute motion.

Commissioner Scarborough joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Commissioner Powell stated she was comfortable appointing those with five or more nominations, but not four nominations.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Fuller and seconded by Commissioner Powell to appoint all nominees who have five or more nominations.

A vote was taken on the substitute motion and recorded as follows:

YES: Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, Leake, Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

NO: Commissioners Dunlap, Harden, and Jerrell

Victoria Avramovic, Carrie Cook, Keith Cradle, Mohammed Jibriel, Jessica Montana, Maria (Gina) Navarrete, Mitzi Porter, Salma Villarreal, Dietrick Williams, Dr. Jerome Williams, Jr. were appointed to the COVID-19 Task Force.

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake and seconded by Commissioner Scarborough to appoint all nominees with at least four nominations.

A vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YES: Commissioners Dunlap, Harden, Jerrell, Leake, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

NO: Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, and Powell

Yvette Bessent, Jasmine Chaney, Carlenia Ivory, Blanchard Kevin Kendrick, Bernadette Joy Maulion, Harold Rice, Jr., and Jessica Schorr Saxe were appointed to the COVID-19 Task Force.

Nominations were conducted for the final six positions on the Task Force and recorded as follows:

- Evelyn Billingslea, nominated by Commissioner Leake
- Gregory Boulanger, nominated by Commissioner Fuller
- Brenda Campbell, nominated by Commissioner Leake

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- Reverend Sarah L. Ellis, nominated by Commissioner Cotham
- Charles Grouse, nominated by Commissioner Powell
- Gabriel Mathless, nominated by Commissioner Fuller
- Rodney Moore, nominated by Commissioner Jerrell
- Rachelle Salo, nominated by Commissioner Harden
- Sam Smith, Jr., nominated by Commissioner Jerrell
- Dr. Cheryl Spellman, nominated by Commissioner Harden
- Elizabeth Star-Winer, nominated by Commissioners Fuller and Harden
- Sarah Stevens, nominated by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell
- Marcenia Waters, nominated by Commissioner Jerrell

A motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and carried unanimously to close the nominations.

Commissioners advocated for their nominees.

A vote was taken on the last round of nominees for six appointments and recorded as follows:

- Evelyne Billinglsea, 1 vote by Commissioner Leake
- Gregory Boulanger, 5 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Brenda Campbell, 4 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, Jerrell, and Leake
- Reverend Sarah L. Ellis, 2 votes by Commissioners Cotham and Jerrell
- Charles Grouse, 5 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Jerrell, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Gabriel Mathless, 3 votes by Commissioner Dunlap, Fuller, and Harden
- Rodney Moore, 1 vote by Commissioner Jerrell
- Rachelle Salo, 3 votes by Commissioner Harden, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Sam Smith, Jr., 4 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, and Jerrell
- Dr. Cheryl Spellman, 5 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, Harden, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Elizabeth Star-Winer votes by Commissioners 3, Dunlap, Fuller, and Harden
- Sarah Stevens, 4 votes by Commissioners Harden, Leake, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Marcenia Waters, 5 votes by Commissioners Dunlap, Harden, Jerrell, Powell, and Rodriguez-McDowell

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake and seconded by Commissioner Scarborough to appoint all nominees with at least five votes.

No vote was taken on the main motion due to a vote on a subsequent substitute motion.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Fuller and seconded by Commissioner

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Harden to appoint those nominees with at least five votes and then vote on the following four nominees for the final two appointments: Brenda Campbell, Sarah Stevens, Elizabeth Star-Winer, and Sam Smith.

A vote was taken on the substitute motion and recorded as follows:

YES: Commissioners Fuller, Harden, Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

NO: Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Jerrell, and Leake

Greg Boulanger, Charles Grouse, Dr. Cheryl Spellman, and Marcenia Water were appointed.

A vote was taken on the final two appointments and recorded as follows:

- Brenda Campbell, 5 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Jerrell, Leake, and Powell
- Sam Smith, Jr., 5 votes by Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Jerrell, Leake, and Scarborough
- Elizabeth Star-Winer, 4 votes by Commissioners Cotham, Fuller, Harden, and Rodriguez-McDowell
- Sarah Stevens, 4 votes by Commissioners Harden, Powell, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

Brenda Campbell and Sam Smith, Jr. were appointed.

Appointment of Co-Chairs and Alternate Members

The Board must consider appointing two co-chairs from the appointed membership.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough and seconded by Commissioner Harden for the COVID-19 Task Force to select the chair and co-chair.

Commissioner Fuller stated the resolution said the Board of County Commissioners were to appoint chair and co-chair.

Commissioner Jerrell said he thought the appointment of the co-chairs should be the Board's responsibility. He said the other point he wanted to raise was having alternates on the Task Force. He said it is possible that there will be members that will not be able to serve through the entire process and either the Board could appoint alternates or would have to make new appointments, but that could potentially put a cog in the wheel in terms of decision-making. He said he would like to have more discussion about potentially having alternates ready on deck in case we lose members.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Fuller that the Board of County Commissioners appoint the chair and co-chair of the COVID-19 Task Force by the time of the Board's next meeting.

Without a second, the motion was not considered.

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Commissioner Harden was concerned about waiting until August 5, 2020, which was the date of the next future meeting. She asked what their options were.

Chair Dunlap said they could think about it, and he could set up a time for them to send their vote for chair and co-chair through the Clerk, and the person who received the most votes for chair and co-chair would chair the COVID-19 Task Force.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell suggested an ad hoc committee be created to choose a chair and co-chair.

Chair Dunlap stated he would be willing to appoint an ad hoc committee of four that would bring a recommendation of Chair and Co-Chair back to the body for a vote at the August 5, 2020 meeting.

Commissioner Scarborough withdrew her motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jerrell, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to appoint an ad hoc committee to bring back recommendations for two co-chairs for the Board to consider at the August 5, 2020 meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jerrell, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and carried unanimously to appoint Elizabeth Star-Winer and Sarah Stevens as alternate members of the COVID-19 Task Force.

Elizabeth Star-Winer and Sarah Stevens were appointed as alternate members.

The following candidates were appointed to the COVID-19 Task Force:

1. Victoria Avramovic
2. Yvette Bessent
3. Gregory Boulanger
4. Brenda Campbell
5. Jasmine Chaney
6. Carrie Cook
7. Keith Cradle
8. Charles Grouse
9. Carlenia Ivory
10. Mohammed Jibriel
11. Blanchard Kevin Kendrick
12. Bernadette Joy Maulion
13. Jessica Montana
14. Maria (Gina) Navarrete
15. Mitzi Porter
16. Harold Rice, Jr.
17. Jessica Schorr Saxe
18. Sam Smith, Jr.
19. Cheryl Spellman
20. Elizabeth Star Winer (Alternate)

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21. Sarah Stevens (Alternate)
22. Salma Villarreal
23. Marcenia Waters
24. Dietrick Williams
25. Dr. Jerome Williams, Jr.

The two co-chairs will be selected at the August 5, 2020 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - 6:30 PM

20-6226: Continued Public Hearing for Closing a Portion of Right-of-Way for Lahaina Lane and Ogden Lane

The public hearing was opened on February 18, 2020 and the Board of County Commissioners heard public comments and continued the public hearing until March 4, 2020. On March 4, 2020, Mattamy Carolina Corporation requested that the hearing be continued so they could work out an arrangement with the roads that may satisfy the Board. The Board voted to continue the public hearing to June 16, 2020. On June 16, 2020, the Board voted to continue the public hearing to July 7, 2020 so the developer could complete the construction of the roads.

Crystal Goode, Land Use Environment Services Agency, notified the Board that concerns regarding emergency-vehicle access had been addressed.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Fuller, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and approve the Order of Closing for the portion of Lahaina Lane and Ogden Lane public right-of-way.

Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 49 Document #16.

20-6236: Public Hearing for Closing the Right-of-Way for Mallaranny Road

A motion was made by Commissioner Fuller, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and carried unanimously to open the public hearing.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Commissioner Fuller, seconded by Commissioner Leake, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and approve the Order of Closing the Right-of-Way for Mallaranny Road.

Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 49 Document #17.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS – NONE

MANAGER'S REPORT

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20-6256: BOCC FY2020 Budget Priorities Update

Adrian Cox, Acting Budget Director, provided a presentation with a status update on the Board's FY2020 Budget Priorities. He noted all of the financial books had not yet closed for the year, but that any additional spending of the information he would present here would be minimal. He provided a summary of the spending for the FY2020 budget priorities, including highlights for each priority and investments made for FY2021. He said there was \$65 million in investments made for the year in the five Board priorities. He said for the priority to Reduce Racial Disparities, \$5.7 million/93% of the \$6 million investment had been utilized. For Early Childhood Education, \$11.27 million/53% had been utilized for 2020; of the \$15.18 million investment for affordable housing, \$12.45/82% had been used. He \$6.8 million investment to support mental health had been fully utilized and for Parks and Greenways, \$14.3 million/90% of the funding was utilized. He said of the \$65 million in new investments, \$50.4 million/78% was utilized in the form of actual expenses or ongoing commitments.

Mr. Cox went over some highlights for reducing racial disparities. He stated for FY2020, the adopted budget included \$6 million for the priority, including investments in literacy, workforce development, census preparation, health disparities, MWSBE, and establishing a revolving loan fund. He said \$2.25 million was spent during FY2020, and the County set up \$3.32 million in commitments, including the small-business, revolving-loan fund that would be spent over the next five years, for a total of \$5.6 million. He said funding of \$440,000 was primarily due to cost that came in under the original estimates of the MWSBE study and some activities that could not be provided due to COVID-19 closures. He said all but one of the six positions had been hired.

Mr. Cox stated that for next year they established a small business revolving loan fund for \$3.25 million; the fund was intended to provide loans to help startup businesses with a goal of 12 loans for year. He said the programs was in operation for three months prior to the onset of Covid-19, and during that three-month period, two loans were issues for a total of \$59,000, and the funding would continue to be utilized over the next five years. He said over the past year they also purchased a mobile library, which had been designed and was now under construction, and the position for that activity had been filled. He said the adopted budget included \$400,000 for census outreach through marketing materials and advertising to approve the response rate. He said at the time of the report, the County's response rate was 60.7%, compared to their response rate for the State that was 57.7%.

Mr. Cox said in FY2020 the Board funded an MWSBE program assessment for \$250,000, and data assessment for the study was complete, and the contractor was currently analyzing the information to complete the study this summer. He said the total cost of the work was estimated to be \$400,000, with the portion that was funded in 2019. He said that actually cost was \$350,000, because the consultant costs were lower than expected. He said the Sheriff's Office was able to fill two of the three Community Engagement Team positions, and the team was now working in the community. He said the Health

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Department has spent all of the \$105,000 allocated to create HIV and STI awareness campaigns through multiple media outlets. He said last year the budget also included \$100,000 for the Prep Program, and as of May, the Health Department had screened 312 patients, and nine individuals tested positive for HIV and had been offered treatment. He said there had been no new infections for individuals who participated in the program. He said the County had also added \$97,000 for immunizations, and all of the funding had been utilized, and the Health Department had provided 3,200 Hepatitis A vaccinations.

Mr. Cox said for early childhood education, \$21 million had been made in new investments for FY2020, \$14 million to reduce childcare subsidy waitlist and \$7.1 million for Meck Pre-K; \$11.3 million was spent in the last year, and \$9.8 million was unspent due to additional state funding for waitlist reduction and closures due to COVID-19. He said this reflected a one-time incident of underspending, which he did not anticipate would occur in FY2021 and beyond. He said for the child-care subsidy wait list, approximately \$6.9 million of the \$14 million would remain unspent due to an increase in state funding and closed facilities due to COVID-19. He said that funds were used to serve 1,400 children. He said \$7 million in the funding for Meck Pre-K was used to add 36 additional classrooms, bringing the total to 69 last year. He said that \$3 million remained unspent, and funding was also included in 200 to bring on a Management Coordinator to assist with the program in this position was filled in January.

Mr. Cox said for affordable housing, the Board included \$15 million last year through services, home repair, shelters, and the rental-subsidy program. He said the County spend \$2.3 million of the fund; however, \$10.16 million remained in future commitments, largely in the form of multi-year contracts within the rental subsidy fund. He said it resulted in a total of \$12.45 million of funding that was utilized. He said that \$2.7 million remained unspent, with a \$2.5 million balance available in the rental-subsidy fund, as well as some eviction-prevention services that were not needed when evictions were paused during COVID-19. He said this year, the County established a rental-subsidy fund with \$11 million and of the amount, \$8.5 million had been committed for rental subsidy programs, with Meck Hall, Link Housing, Lake Arbor, and Away Home. He said the Board received an update on the funding in the May budget discussions. He said since March when contracts were finalized, \$200,000 had been spent and it was expected to accelerate in the upcoming years as the programs operated over multiple years. He said in 2020, the County also began the critical home repair program and partnership with Habitat for Humanity and was able to rehabilitate 39 homes. He said they would receive an update on the program June 23, 2020. He said 500,000 was funded for Legal Aid of the Carolinas to provide legal support and help people avoid eviction. He said from July up until March, when evictions were paused in North Carolina, 509 individuals were served through the program, utilizing \$305,000 of the funding.

Mr. Cox stated that Charlotte's Center for Legal Advocacy was funded at \$170,000 from July through March, and the initiative provided services to 229 individuals, and \$155,000 was utilized. He said for parks and greenways, the Board made a \$15.9 million investment for the priority for FY2020, which brought Park and Recreation to pre-recession funding levels, which included operating the funding to accelerate greenway projects, additional

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maintenance and operating for new facilities. He said the of the \$15.9 million, \$10.7 million was spent and an additional \$4 million was committed for ongoing projects for a total of \$14.3 million of the investment utilized last year. He said 33 of the 63 positions had been hired, and \$1.6 million of unspent fund as well as the delays in hiring were due to the impact of COVID-19 on park operations and delays in opening new facilities. He said that \$4.5 million of deferred maintenance was provided to make upgrades to park facilities, and the funds were fully utilized. He said \$3.9 million was also provided for capital reserve projects for Park and Recreation. He said the funding had been allocated to 19 different projects, and \$1 million had been spent to date; however, some projects were on pause due to COVID-19.

Mr. Cox said that the goal for project completion for capital reserve projects was 18 months, and the funds would be fully utilized as the projects are completed. He stated that \$2 million was also included in the 2020 operating budget for park land, adding to the funding for land acquisition that was included in the County's CIP. He said the total of \$16.9 million, \$14.1 million had been committed to acquire 347 acres. He stated the balance of the funding would be used the secure additional land. He said \$325,000 was invested to complete a park master plan; significant progress had been made on the plan, and the third phase of the plan was currently under way. He said the final plan was expected to be completed in early 2021. He said six positions were included in the 2020 budget to accelerate greenway expansion, and five of those six positions had been filled and preliminary design, site analysis, and surveying had begun on 11 new projects.

Mr. Cox stated the Board for Mental Health was the final Board priority, and \$6.8 million was included for investments in mental health support; all other funding for the priority had been utilized. He said that 58 positions, including 55 CMS employees had been hired. He said that \$5.8 million was provided to CMS to fund support positions, and CMS reported that all of the locally funded support positions had been filled. He said the 2020 budget also included funding for two social workers to conduct mental health screening and both had already been hired. He said they were temporarily assigned to the COVID-19 Social Work Response Team. He said a behavioral health coordinator was also hired within the foster care program.

Mr. Cox said that additional funding was included in 2020 for therapeutic foster care, and 96% of the total foster care budget was spent a year in. He said 340,000 included for foster care expense related to raise the age of legislation took effect in December. He said that it had been utilized to provide therapeutic foster care for female teens with juvenile justice involvement, and the County also received 350,000 to provide a matching grant to provide services to raise the age of male youth. He highlighted the \$50,000 to fund supportive housing bed for recovery court clients; they had been maintained at 90% occupancy, and all funds had been expended. He said the total investment for the Board 2021 budget priorities was \$29.6 million in new investments and that they would provide updated during the upcoming year.

Ms. Diorio responded to Commissioners' comments and questions.

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Commissioner Jerrell asked how they could support some of the businesses which were not eligible for support from the other programs hit by COVID-19.

Ms. Diorio said she believed there could be an opportunity to use some of their CARES money for grants to small businesses in the ETJ to complement what the City was doing.

Commissioner Fuller requested Board think about what they wanted to accomplish by the end of the year. He asked the Board to allocate some of the dollars to specific marketing for the programs so that the programs would not go unspent.

Commissioner Harden asked if the remaining Parks and Greenways dollars in the capital reserve would stay unencumbered in order to do the projects.

Mr. Cox responded yes, that the dollars would; the projects are multi-year projects with an 18-month completion target.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said she was concerned with the eviction avalanche that was coming and suggested the idea of some sort of rental stabilization effort.

Ms. Diorio responded that the County had dedicated some of their federal dollars from CARES funding to rent and mortgage assistance, and the City had put a significant portion of their money towards rental and mortgage assistance as well. She stated the County had also allocated dollars to the non-profits in the northern and southern parts of the County and they still have about \$7 million in federal dollars yet to be allocated.

The presentation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

20-6255: COVID-19 Response Update

Update on the COVID-19 Response

Gibbie Harris, Public Health Director, provided an update on the COVID-19 response. She stated the County's amount of positive COVID-19 cases continued to go up and that started June 22nd. She said the numbers would start to look a little different; they had updated the data using a new reporting function that was now available from the State Communicable Disease Management System. She said that information had not been available to the County up until this point and what that meant was that every case that was put into the system reported to the State would now be the data the County would report. She said what that would do is ensure case counts were not artificially impacted by delays due to other reporting systems or emotions in data reported by laboratories. She said that started as of June 22nd, which was about the time the numbers started to climb up.

Ms. Harris stated that as of the 5th, they had 12,452 lab-confirmed cases. She said characteristics of the cases were unchanged with three in four cases being adults. She said there was still a higher percentage in the Hispanic community. The data was still

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a bit of a challenge for them due to the systems they were required to use; currently, about 40% of the cases had no assigned race or ethnicity, so when the County would report race or ethnicity, she was a bit concerned about the value of the data. She said they were talking to the State about it. She said it was being reported into the State systems from the testing sites and labs; the State had been requiring them for several weeks to require the race and ethnicity in reporting. She stated they were still finding significant gaps in the data. She said when the County calls people through the case-investigation process, what they were finding was that individuals were not necessarily forthcoming with that information.

Ms. Harris said in terms of where the majority of the cases were, things really had not changed much. She said as of the 5th, they have had 156 deaths in Mecklenburg County and the numbers continue to be fairly small per day. The hospitals have an increased understanding of treatment options. She said about 59% of all deaths were from individuals who had come from long-term care facilities, and they had 19 deaths between the ages of 40 and 59. She said that number continued to go up. She said in terms of the percent positive, they had seen a slight increase over the last seven days, up to 11.6%, and the number continued to climb but not rapidly at this point. She said they were testing about 3,200 people a day in Mecklenburg County through the hospital systems and CVS Pharmacy, which was 184,000 tests that had been completed in Mecklenburg today. She said the State continued to encourage increasing testing, and they continued working on that with their partners and the State. She said the latest recommendation they had for them was that they test 12.5% of the population in 30 days, and they were on track to do that, and it did not include the testing they did the weekend before last. She said the challenge they had with continuing the increased testing was that they were overloading their laboratory systems. She said the turn-around time on tests results was around six to seven days, which did not help them nor give the information needed to contact trace and case investigate those individuals in a timely fashion to make any difference. She said they were working with the State to try to find other options for laboratory testing and also to work with the labs to increase their capacity. She said they were looking at other options for laboratory testing and also working with labs to increase their capacity.

Ms. Harris said their daily hospital census was up to about 165 people a day in Mecklenburg County, which was an average over the last seven days of an increase of over 144 last week. She said it had been a steady climb since the middle of May in the County. She said they had a testing event at Valarie C. Woodard and tested on Saturday and Sunday, June 28th and 29th. She said they provided drive-thru testing and had four lanes of testing for drive thru and one walk-up site. She said it was available to anyone without cost, and the work was supported by the Health Department staff and Emergency Management Staff, as well as volunteers from 13 faith-based organizations. She said in those two days, they tested 2,211 individuals in the community. She mentioned the churches and volunteer organizations were instrumental in helping them get through the two days, allowing them to give people breaks. She said 85% of those tested were less than 60-years old. She said the race and ethnicity breakdown was evenly split and 75% were Mecklenburg County residents;

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nine percent came from surrounding North Carolina counties, and five percent came from South Carolina. She said half of the tested individuals had no insurance. She said of those tested, 323 came back as COVID-19 positive, which was a 14.6% positivity rate. She said that was much higher than they had expected. She said 70% of them were less than 40-years old. She said half of them were Hispanic, and 75% were county residents. She said seven percent were from surrounding North Carolina counties, and six percent were non-residents. She Said of those who tested positive, 75% had no insurance.

Ms. Harris stated they were currently having visits from three groups coming from the federal agencies that were onsite with the Health Department, and they have had two public health service officers with them for the last week and a half, and they had been doing work alongside staff doing case investigations and contact tracing, as well as doing some analysis of the data and helping in any way they could. She said they would have a visit from a CDC team who was going to do a field-based contact tracing assessment for the County. She said they were interested in seeing how things were working at the local level and were going to be working with them to think through how they might streamline and improve the process, considering the numbers they were seeing in some communities. She said the third group was called CRAFT, the COVID Response Assessment Field Team, and there is a group coming with a representative from FEMA. She said they were interested in looking at the work they were doing on the ground and the County would end up with a report that would go up to the Presidents COVID-19 Task Force.

Ms. Harris gave a reminder that the child-care sites and school settings that were considered as clusters were now included in the list that was provided twice a week, and the State also provides that list as well, so that information would be out there. She said there had been some question about hospital-bed capacity, and the hospitals were running at about an 80% capacity. She said there were acute-care beds as well as their ICU beds, and there were individuals with COVID-19 on ventilators but that what they were seeing was that there was about 400 ventilators available at this time. She said their capacity was currently holding and were continuing to adjust their admissions based on the needs they were seeing in the community. She said in terms of contact tracing, they had had questions from the media and others about what kind of data they could provide on that. She said they had reporting limitations because of the states system they were being requested to use. She said there was some data that was just not available from that system, and there were some things that could not be queried, so they were continuing to work with the State to improve access to the data. She said since early June, they had more than 5,200 individuals with household contact reported. She said that 25% of those they did not receive any contact information for. She said in many cases, they received a first name or nothing, no telephone number or addressed. She said they attempted calling 100% of those that they did have information on within 24 hours. She said for those who did not answer the phone, they were called at least three times. She said that they reached about 85% of those individuals.

Ms. Harris stated that the Mecklenburg County Health Department did not currently

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recommend that employees routinely require negative tests before returning to work. She said they were getting a lot of requests around that, and the CDC had clear symptoms and time-based criteria to clear an individual from isolation, which was what they were doing with those individuals, and per their request, they could provide a letter to their employer if necessary. She said there were currently limitations in testing capacity. She said some of the sites would not test people for that purpose and they were trying to maximize their ability to identify new infections and prevent further spread of the available testing. She said there were some concerns about closing the hotline on July 4th. She said that hotline was usually open on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and they usually average 8.9 calls per weekend day. She said on the 4th, they had three calls that were voicemails and that there were four options on the hotline. She said one option was for individuals with symptoms, which would be referred immediately to one of the hospital systems. She said that would happen whether the hotline was up or not. She said the second was for clinicians, and that would go directly to the communicable disease on-call number. She said that was a 24/7 capability to all clinicians. She said the third was the general public, and that was where those three calls came in. She said the fourth was the media, which would be referred to Public Information. Ms. Harris reminded everyone of what needed to be done in the community to try to slow the spread of the infection.

Commissioner Leake remarked that the true information was in the facts disseminated and that it was a fact. She said to not listen to Washington D.C., because they were saying the wrong thing coming from the U.S. President.

Commissioner Jerrell requested that Ms. Harris provided information on how they needed to move and act as a community. He said he believed that her, as a Public Health Director, felt it was time for her to put her thumb on the scale to put the community on notice with where they were and really let the community understand where they were heading if the trends continued in the direction it was going in. He said the way he analyzed it was that if the trends continued, as they had no signs of it getting any better, they would be headed back to a lock down. He said he believed it was really important that the community heard the seriousness of this, for them to leverage her expertise, as she was not an elected official, where no one could question an agenda. He believed at this point that it was very critical. He requested she spoke towards the point of no return in terms of community spread, where they would start seeing the double of the cases if they stayed on the trendline.

Ms. Harris stated that unfortunately she was watching what was happening in other communities and how quickly things could change, and it concerned her greatly. She said she did not think the community was taking things as seriously as she would like them to. She said there were many doing what she was asking but many who were not. She said the testing they did the weekend before last gave them an indication, due to the large number of positives which came from the 40 and under, that there were a lot of individuals in the community who were putting themselves at risk and others at risk. She said that one thing which concerned her was more and more evidence that was coming up about the long-term impact of the COVID-19 infection. She said there was

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real concerns about what it meant for that generation as they became infected. She said she thought there was reason for concern and that they had to step up as a community to really get it under control before they started looking like a Houston or San Antonio.

Commissioner Harden stated that on May 1st, the hospitalizations were around 50 and that around June 1st they were around 100, and now they were around 180. She asked what the hospitalizations would look like at the first of August.

Ms. Harris stated that at this rate, it would continue to climb unless something in the community changed but that she did not see that happening. She said there were a lot of projections out there about how many people were actually infected in the communities, and it was anywhere from 10% to 25% more than the individuals who had been tested. She said unfortunately testing was not the answer, and it just gets them answers. She said if people were not going to respond to being told they need to isolate or quarantine, and they were not even answering the phone, then they were limited with what they could do to make sure they were not continuing to be in the community infecting others. She said they had challenges on their hands with the numbers they were seeing and the direction the numbers were going in. She said she was very pleased the CDC and FEMA and others had chosen Mecklenburg County to come to. She said that some folks were hoping they wouldn't show up for them but that they see it as an opportunity for them to learn from them and to provide them with information on what it was really like on the ground and what some of the challenges were to see what they could do to help them respond in this environment.

Commissioner Harden agreed that it was great news that the CDC was coming and spoke about her concern about so many people testing positive without health insurance.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell agreed with Commissioner Harden and raised questions around the refugee community.

Ms. Harris responded that they were working with a number of different communities and were seeing some numbers in the Bhutanese and Nepalese community and that they found some people who were willing to help with translation.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked if the County was relying on Non-Profits to reach the refugees and to do the translations out of their own funding or if the County was financially assisting.

Ms. Harris said she believed they had the opportunity to do that and would look into it.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked why there could only be one person in libraries and ABC stores but more in other places.

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Ms. Harris responded the ABC stores were state owned and developed their own protocols. She said she believed that businesses were allowed to develop their own protocols. She said for libraries it was a decision the library system made.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

Commissioner Fuller said they were in trouble in this country. He said if you look at how America had approached the pandemic versus all of Europe and pretty much the rest of the World, we were failing on just about every, single measure in dealing with the pandemic. He felt they were the frog in the boiling water and soon we would burn up if we didn't make changes. He said just in the two days of testing you knew they were in trouble. He said they couldn't just keep receiving the reports but that they had to do something more dramatic and that he thought about what would have happened if they did not have a governor in North Carolina who understood the threat and did not open the State too quickly and to look at what was happening in the other states that had opened. He said it was because people had been making it a political issue. He said because the issue was politicized people were dying. He said there was a president who was a literal menace to American life, because people follow what he says and due to that, people were dying faster in the United States than anywhere else in the World, and we were supposed to be the leaders. He said we were supposed to be the wealthiest, most prosperous, most powerful nation in the World, and it was as if the US had no health-care system and structure to deal with a pandemic like this. He mentioned that there may be another pandemic getting started. He asked if they were prepared to close the County down again, from a public-health perspective.

Ms. Harris responded from a public-health perspective, if they got to the point where they needed to do that, she was prepared to make the recommendation but did not have the power to do it.

Commissioner Fuller said he did not think they could keep looking at the data and watching the hospitalization dates continue to climb and just sit there to receive the information but that they needed to do something. He wanted Ms. Harris to help them figure out what it was they needed to do and at what point would things have gone too far.

Ms. Diorio responded that they had calls with the hospital systems three days a weeks and had been talking to them about capacity and surge and when they needed to be concerned. She said what they had told them every time was that even though the hospitalizations were increasing, they had learned so much more about how to treat the virus that they were able to bring people in and were not as sick as they were in the beginning, wouldn't vent them as quickly as they use to, had more drugs available that worked, and were able to manage and send people home quicker than they could before. She said their plan was to make sure the health-care system would not get overrun and that was what they continued to have the conversation about was how close they were to getting the hospital systems overran and that they continued to tell them they had the capacity to manage it. She said until they heard something otherwise,

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all they could do was encourage people to wear a mask, wait 6 feet in line, and wash your hands. She said that was the strategy they would doing at this point and they were working with the State who continued to give guidance on testing and contact tracing, which they continued to follow. She said they were not in a position currently to say they would shut the County down again.

Chair Dunlap said he was at a point now to where he felt they were at a loss when they finished these updates. He said he listened to national reports as well and it seemed they had, in some ways, missed the boat on a number of issues. He said originally, they were telling people it was minorities catching it and people other than minorities did not seem concerned. He said they then said it was seniors catching it, and people other than seniors were not concerned. He said they were now finding out anyone was susceptible to COVID-19, so the young people who thought they were invisible were now catching it. He said one report said 70% of the people who had it were under 40. He said they could not afford to shut down the community as they had before, and they did not have the resources to go back to start funding businesses again and doing some of the other things they did to get to that point. He agreed with Commissioner Fuller that Ms. Harris had a power that elected officials did not have, because she did not politicize it but just told what the facts were and based on the facts, he hoped the Board would act responsibly. He said when things were at a point where they could no longer look the other way, he hoped she would tell them, with hopes of the Board asking responsibly so that they did not make the same mistakes that a lot of other communities had made. He promoted hand washing, mask wearing, and social distancing. He brought up hearing that the virus could linger in the air.

Ms. Harris responded that there were some scientists which believed it could be an aerosolized virus, not just a droplet virus. She said that the difference was that droplets were heavy, so they did not move as far or stay in the area as long. She said aerosolized were smaller particles which could go further than the six feet they had been talking about and could hang in the area longer, which would make them potentially more infectious but that there was also a question about whether the aerosolation was enough to really cause an infection. She said there were still a lot of questions about the virus and that was one of them. She said there was a request by a good number of researchers to the WHO to ask them to declare it as aerosolized, and they have not done that yet. She said it reemphasized the need for them to wear the mask to protect each other.

Chair Dunlap asked what was being done differently now that they knew the population they had once targeted was different than the population that was currently getting the virus.

Ms. Harris stated that with the marketing that was developed through the business round table there was a good bit of information there specifically for several different populations, as well as for the younger populations. She said that hopefully that message would start resignation more with them since it was in their language and from people they trusted.

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Commissioners made comments.

Commissioner Jerrell stated there was a narrative around people thinking that if they get COVID-19 once, they could not get it again. He asked if there was a reoccurrence seen of people who have had the virus twice.

Ms. Harris stated they were able to look in the system when they have new cases and the determination would be if it was lingering from the first infection or was it a new infection. She said they were not seeing that at this point, but that did not mean it would not happen. She said they were understanding that it was very likely a possibility and that if you thought about it you could even get the flu twice in the same season.

Commissioner Harden asked if the 14-day quarantine was still recommended if you had been exposed.

Ms. Harris responded yes.

Commissioner Harden asked if a student tested positive for COVID-19, if the teacher would need to miss school as well.

Ms. Harris responded that although children are typically carriers with other viruses, in this case, children did not seem to be the carriers, and they were hoping that would help but that at the same time, the masking and social distancing would be critical in a school setting if they were to keep the virus from spreading rapidly in that setting. Commissioners made comments.

Commissioner Scarborough recommended elected officials having a conference with pastors.

Chair Dunlap stated that he had been having conversations with the school board chair about the opening of school and have talked about a number of issues. He stated he would report to them about those a little later. He said one thing he was able to do was to put her in touch with the City, which had money to insure they had internet access throughout the City, as it would be instrumental in terms of insuring children had access for virtual school.

The presentation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Update on the Coronavirus Relief Fund Spend Plan

Michael Bryant, Assistant County Manager, presented a status update on the Coronavirus Relief Fund Spend Plan. He said Mecklenburg County received \$39.2 million of the \$2.5 trillion passed by Congress and signed into law March 27, 2020. He said the funding plan included \$24 million of illegible costs incurred as of June 16, 200 and projected costs through December 30, 2020. He said the plan included a

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recommendation of how to invest the remaining \$15.2 million in four, broad categories. He said the Board directed the Manager to begin planning the \$8.1 million of initiatives that were categorized as immediate investments.

Mr. Bryant stated that of the \$8.1 million in immediate investments, \$1 million would support, arguably, the most vulnerable population, senior citizens. He said a \$500,000 contractual agreement with Bio-One would support the sanitization of over 1,200 senior homes to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. He said South Minster would receive \$250,000 to partner with a minimum of 10 community partners that would offer mental-health support to seniors and caregivers; training for professionals to improve social engagement with seniors; technology solutions so that seniors may gain access to public information; and services and counseling, in addition to coordinating wellness activities. He said also, \$130,000 would support the purchase of two trucks for additional home delivery of meals by the DSS Senior Nutrition Program and \$120,000 for the support of PPE for seniors specifically. He said that \$300,000 would increase the number of meals provided to seniors throughout the County to support the service expansion, DSS would spend \$125,000 to provide \$1,000 additional home delivered meals each week to 200 new clients. He said the remaining \$175,000 would support a contract with the Charlotte Community Services' Association and Universal International Successful Aging of the Carolinas to serve nearly \$30,000 additional hot meals to seniors. He said it was worth noting that the Universal International Successful Aging of the Carolinas would target the Asian-American senior population. He said that \$1,000,000 was earmarked for food security, and Loaves and Fishes would receive \$500,000 to purchase \$1.2 million pounds of food to serve an additional \$50,000 households, and Second Harvest would also receive \$500,000 to purchase equipment.

Mr. Bryant stated the funding plan included a \$1.5 million investment for general assistance, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership would receive \$1,000,000 to expand its rental-assistance program to the towns and incorporated areas of the County to serve an additional 1,000 households. He said also, Social Serve would receive \$500,000 to provide rental assistance, hotel-stay extensions, utility payments, and onboard additional staff to support additional households.

Mr. Bryant said that free masks were now available thanks to the County's public-private partnership with Atrium Health, the Charlotte Executive Leadership Council, and other contributing organizations. He said distribution of 2 million masks began on June 3, and 1 million of the mask were donated by Mecklenburg County and the federal government. He said an additional 1 million mask were provided by Atrium Health and the businesses affiliated with the Charlotte Executive Leadership Council. He said the Board also appropriated \$1 million from the Corona Virus Relief Fund for additional face coverings, which the funding remained available to purchase more personal protection equipment as needed. He said it was important they promoted the investments to all of the residents as well as other initiatives underway in response to COVID-19. He said \$500,000 was set aside to design a communication plan to heighten awareness and engage the community, and the County's Public Information department had created a

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plan that was in tandem with other efforts, such as the current business roundtable marketing strategy.

Mr. Bryant said it was imperative the message was consistent and in alignment with existing marketing campaigns. He said the plan included boots on the ground and community-outreach efforts that would include door hangers, mailings, and posters. He said the plan leverages the social media platform and consisted of targeted outreach for specific audiences. He said that interlocal and contracts totaling \$2.8 million were ready to be executed with the Towns and Ada Jenkin's, Pineville Neighbors Place, Servant's Heart, and Matthews Help Center. He said that through those partnerships, residents throughout the entire county would receive assistance with expenses, such as their mortgage, rent, and utilities, and the Towns would receive fundings to purchase PPE, cleaning supplies, and reimbursement of COVID-19-related expenses occurred and projected through the end of the year.

Mr. Bryant said that since the last board meeting on June 16, the Manager, with support of staff had completed a review of every proposal received and they asked their selves how the investment clearly responded to COVID-19. He said they had to be 100% confident that the proposal was in alignment with the guidance, otherwise, the County was stuck with the bill. He said that every investment listed in the presentation had been properly vetted and ready to be fully executed. He stated for next steps that the Manager requested the Board to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of an interlocal agreement between the County and the Towns for the CARES Act Funding, and that immediately upon the execution of the interlocal agreement and contracts, staff would begin tracking the status of the investments provided to the community partners. He said that the County staff had developed a robust reporting and tracking mechanism for the Corona Virus Relief Fund. He spoke about reporting. He said continue to plan investments that require additional time \$7 million digital divide; housing assistance; senior programs & assisted living facilities; mental health support; workforce development; and working families.

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Cotham, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing execution of an Interlocal Agreement between Mecklenburg County to include the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill, and Pineville for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act funding. The presentation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 49 Document #20.

The presentation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

20-6271: COVID-19 Response - Face Covering Requirement

Ms. Diorio said Executive Order 147 incorporated requiring face coverings in Mecklenburg County, specifically to County facilities, County buildings, County parks,

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City buildings, as they and the Town of Mathews had decided to sign on to the proclamation. She said when the Governor announced Executive Order 147 requiring face coverings, he did not require them in the facilities ran by local government in the State, despite strongly encouraging it. She said the County wanted the Board to take action to require it.

Commissioner Powell asked how it would be enforced.

Tyrone Wade, County Attorney responded that the enforcement was always the challenge and basically there were limited exceptions, and the enforcement mechanism was that if someone wanted into a county property not wearing a mask and there was not an exception that was applicable, staff would try their best to handle it; there would be some alternative ways to deal with it or the person would be deemed to be a trespasser on county property.

Commissioner Powell asked if their enforcement would match the Governor's enforcement.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions, and Mr. Wade responded.

Chair Dunlap read the amendment.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell stated she was disappointed in the Towns who did not join the proclamation.

Commissioner Cotham asked if it was correct that a face covering only needed to be worn, under this order, if unable to socially distance.

Mr. Wade said that was correct, if they were unable to socially distance, they must wear a face covering.

Commissioner Fuller asked if it was correct that County property, despite being located in a municipality, would be covered by this order, whether or not the Towns agreed.

Mr. Wade said that was correct, because it would be County-owned property.

Commissioner Fuller asked how the decision for the Towns not to sign on to the proclamation get filtered through.

Ms. Diorio responded that she believed each Town Manager went and talked to their respective Mayor and Town Attorneys, and she believed they felt they could manage it administratively and did not need to actually do anything formally.

Commissioner Fuller stated he hoped they would reconsider, because he believed it was important that face masks were mandated.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fuller, seconded by Commissioner Jerrell, and carried unanimously to amend the Joint Proclamation of State of Emergency to Adopt

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Provisions of Executive Order 147 to Incorporate Requiring Face Coverings in Mecklenburg County.

Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 49 Document #41.

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS – NONE

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS – NONE

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS & REQUESTS

20-6229: Selection of NCACC Annual Conference Voting Delegate

Commissioners Cotham and Rodriguez-McDowell nominated Chair Dunlap to serve as the Board's voting delegate for the 2020 North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) 113th Annual Conference to be held by virtual platform on Thursday, August 6, 2020.

Chair Dunlap conducted a roll call vote. The vote was recorded as unanimous.

No alternate delegate was nominated or appointed.

Mr. Dunlap will serve as the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners' voting delegate.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Chair Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Fuller, and carried unanimously, to approve the following Consent items:

20-6210: Budget Amendment-LUESA Auction Revenue

(A) Amend the FY2021 Budget Ordinance to appropriate \$37,621.14 of General Fund (0001) balance received from the May 9, 2020 vehicle auction to the Land Use and Environmental Services Agency (LUESA) and (B) appropriate \$9,529.16 of Solid Waste Management Capital Reserve Fund (8901) balance received from the May 9, 2020 vehicle auction to the Solid Waste Capital Equipment Program.

20-6216: Minutes

Approve the following Meeting Minutes: March 24, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, April

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14, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, April 28, 2020 Special Meeting, April 28, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, May 1, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

20-6228: Sole Source Purchase - Sheriff's Office ChemImage Mail Screener

(A) Approve the purchase of the ChemImage Mail Screener without competitive bidding, as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129(e)(6); and (B) approve a contract with ChemImage for the purchase of the VeroVision Mail Screener from additional federal revenue approved by the Board June 2, 2020 (File ID 20-6147). (C) rescind action taken on June 2, 2020 (Agenda Item 20-6147) which approved a carry-forward and appropriation to FY 2021 of \$125,000 to purchase a Mail Screener; and instead, and (D) amend the 2020-2021 Annual Budget Ordinance for the General Fund (0001) to allow the carry-forward of unspent funds from 2019-2020 Annual Budget Ordinance for the Sheriff's Office which remain available at June 30, 2020 up to \$125,000 to purchase a mail screener.

Note: Sole sourcing is necessary because there is only one supply source. The ChemImage VeroVision Mail Screener is the only product on the market designed to detect illegal concealed chemical compounds and cutting agents contained inside of postal mail. VeroVision Mail Screener is a sole source product, manufactured, sold and distributed exclusively by ChemImage Corporation. Due to the lack of availability of other like products the VeroVision Mail Screener, ChemImage has created a portfolio of intellectual property that includes patents, trademarks and proprietary software.

20-6233: Storm Water Program - Hazard Mitigation Catawba River Floodplain Acquisition

(A) Accept the Offer of Sale of Real Estate from Rebecca Angeles, owner of property located at 11837 Riverhaven Drive, Charlotte, NC (tax parcel 031-211-15), for \$349,792, (B) accept the Offer of Sale of Real Estate from Sam Miller and Billie Hartis-Miller, owners of property located at 10615 Beagle Club Road, Charlotte, NC (tax parcel 031-152-18), for \$174,373.93 and (C) authorize the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police and Fire Departments to use the structures for training exercises.

Note: Since late 1999, Mecklenburg County has used storm water fee revenue to acquire flood prone property. Buyouts reduce the risk to life and property during floods, while also enhancing the natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain. During large rain events portions of the floodplain will become inundated. This natural flooding lowers the overall creek levels, slows erosive water, filters pollutants, and can reduce damage if people and property are not located in harm's way. Mecklenburg County uses the land as open space, for expanding greenways, constructing wetlands, etc.

The Riverhaven Drive and Beagle Club Road parcels were substantially damaged in the June 9-10, 2019 flood event. Their purchase will be funded under the Quick Buy program from the Storm Water Capital Reserve allocation approved at the July 2, 2019 BOCC

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20-6237: Grant Award - Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CCFWR) Project Award

(A) Approve submission of grant application to United States Department of Agriculture, USDA-NRCS-NHQ-CCFWR-20-NOFO0001018, for the expansion of food waste composting programs and the use of compost in schools and community gardens for grant funding up to \$50,000 and (B) if awarded, recognize, receive and appropriate amount awarded to the Solid Waste Grant Fund (G701) for the duration of the grant.

Note: If awarded this grant opportunity, funding would be used to accomplish the following: develop a new "Prep Area" food waste composting programs for schools, diverting food scraps from the kitchen food preparation areas only; expand the number of schools currently participating in the current food waste pilot for CMS and CPCC by 10-15 additional locations, doubling the amount of food waste diverted from landfills; develop instructional videos, educational materials and signage for all locations; supply compost to community gardens for soil quality improvement and water retention; and purchase compost applicators to apply the food waste composted by the institutions to school grounds, creating a full circle opportunity of food waste recovery to compost use.

20-6240: Tax Refunds

(A) Approve refunds in the amount of \$5,537.66 for registered motor vehicles as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor and (B) approve refunds in the amount of \$53.87 as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor.

Note: This Board action is necessary to approve registered motor vehicle refunds resulting from clerical errors, value changes, and appeals processed in the new statewide vehicle tax system.

A list of the taxpayer recipients is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

20-6244: Lease Amendments - Charlotte East

Authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute amendments to the lease agreement between the County and CE Office, LLC for leased office space at the Charlotte East Office Complex housing several Health and Human Services Departments to allow the County to assume janitorial responsibilities and thereby reduce the County's base rent rate.

20-6245: Lease Amendment - City of Charlotte

Authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute a lease amendment with the City of Charlotte at the County's LUESA facility (2145 Suttle Ave, Charlotte, NC - Tax Parcel

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067-014-08) to increase the space the City is leasing by +/- 65 square feet.

20-6246: Easements Donation - Long Creek Greenway and Stream Restoration Project

Accept donation of a permanent greenway access easement (+/- .203 acres) and a permanent stormwater easement (+/- .087 acres) on Tax Parcel 025-113-13 from SCG Perimeter Woods, L.P. for access and ongoing greenway and storm water maintenance from SCG Perimeter Woods, L.P.

20-6264: Permanent Greenway and Stormwater Easements - Long Creek Greenway and Stream Restoration Project

Accept donation of a permanent greenway access easement (+/- .203 acres) and a permanent stormwater easement (+/- .087 acres) on Tax Parcel 025-113-13 from SCG Perimeter Woods, L.P. for access and ongoing greenway and storm water maintenance from SCG Perimeter Woods, L.P.

THIS CONCLUDED ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT.

20-6212: Revised Junk and Abandoned Vehicles Ordinance

Commissioner Cotham stated she would not support the item, as she had personally witnessed people losing their cars by the City not following all of the rules.

Commissioner Leake asked if the ordinance was talking about abandoned cars or cars which were parked illegally.

Chair Dunlap stated the ordinance spoke of abandoned or junked motor vehicles and that was a violation of the ordinance.

Mr. Wade clarified that the ordinance was for vehicles being those which did not currently have a license plate and was not being used for business or personal use.

Chair Dunlap conducted a roll call vote to adopt a revised Junk and Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance.

A vote was taken on the motion and recorded as followed:

YES: Commissioners Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, Leake, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

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NO: Commissioners Cotham and Powell

A motion was made by Commissioner Fuller and seconded by Commissioner Leake, to reconsider the Revised Junk and Abandoned Vehicles Ordinance.

A vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YES: Commissioners Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Harden, Jerrell, Leake, Rodriguez-McDowell, and Scarborough

NO: Commissioner Powell

A unanimous vote is required for adoption. Since there was not a unanimous vote on the first reading of this ordinance, the ordinance must be brought back to the next meeting for a second reading where it may be adopted by majority vote.

Note: The Junk and Abandoned Vehicles Ordinance has not been revised since approved in January 1997. Since this time services and verbiage has changed. This proposed revision aligns the Ordinance with Code Enforcement current standards for junk and abandoned vehicles. This change also aligns with our City of Charlotte partnership, better defines the type of vehicles and process enhancements notification to customers to better navigate the information within the ordinance.

20-6223: Budget Amendment - Criminal Justice Services, JCPC Level II Dispositional Alternatives Program (Revenue Increase)

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to recognize, receive, and appropriate \$64,732 of state funds from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS), Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice to the General Grants Fund (G001) for the duration of the grant period.

Note: NCDPS and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) has awarded Level II funding for the Youth Development Initiatives (YDI) Vocational and Career Development Academy program. The sponsoring agency is Youth Development Initiatives (YDI), which will be providing services to youth and families in Mecklenburg County through the program. The program will engage approximately 32 Level II juvenile clients, referred by juvenile court, in a 25-week vocational job training program that nurtures real world job readiness and individualized career planning skills. The agreement is entered into by and between NCDPS, Mecklenburg County, JCPC, and YDI.

20-6230: Capital Reserve Expenditure - Harry L. Jones Sr., Golf Course (Park and Recreation)

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough,

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and carried unanimously to appropriate \$150,000 in available fund balance from the Public Golf Courses Consolidated Capital Reserve Fund (9002) for infrastructure repair.

20-6235: Grant Application: FY2021 FTA 5307 Urban Transportation Grant – DSS

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to affirm the application to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Federal 5307 Urban Transportation Grant for the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services for Fiscal Year 2020 through 2021 in the General Fund (0001) for up to the amount of \$1,277,407.

20-6238: Affirm Grant Award - North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to (A) affirm the acceptance of two grant awards from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS), Division of Public Health (DPH) Nutrition Services Branch in the amount of \$226,092 and (B) amend the FY 2020-2021 annual budget ordinance to recognize, receive and appropriate funds for the amount awarded to the General Fund (0001).

20-6239: Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Huntersville

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to (A) adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the amended Interlocal Agreement for the funding of Upper Torrence Tributary #1 Stream Restoration and (B) receive and appropriate an additional \$1,900,000 from the Town of Huntersville for its share of this joint construction project.

Resolution recorded in full in Ordinance Book 49 Document #18.

20-6241: DSS - Cloth Face Covering Donation

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to recognize and receive a donation of cloth face coverings from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services.

20-6242: Grant Application for Health Promotion/Disease Prevention

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to (A) approve submission of a grant application to the Area Agency on Aging for Health Promotion/Disease Prevention (HPDP) grant up to \$3,500 and will be used to continue providing nationally recognized evidenced based HPDP classes at all three MCPR Senior Centers, some MCPR Recreation Centers and other locations in the community and (B) if awarded, recognize, receive and appropriate the

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award amount to the General Grants Fund (G001) within Park and Recreation Department for the duration of the grant.

20-6249: Subcontractor Pre-qualifications Construction Manager at Risk for Northeast - Community Resource Center

A motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to authorize the Subcontractor Prequalification procedure provided by Vannoy/McFarland for the Northeast Community Resource Center project.

20-6253: Transfer of Property - Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department

A motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to approve the transfer of Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department assets, including vehicles, apparatus and equipment to the Town of Mint Hill.

NOTE: Effective 23:59 hours on June 30, 2020, the Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department will no longer provide fire services to the fire district. Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department has requested the approval to transfer its assets, including vehicles, apparatus and equipment to the Town of Mint Hill, which upon approval of this transfer will assume the duties of fire protection for the entire district, including the existing extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

Agreement recorded in full in Ordinance Book 49, Document #19.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

20-6262: Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked for a short video to be played, which was about an art piece by Richard Hunt in an homage to Bearden's work.

Commissioner Powell spoke about the video.

Commissioner Leake stated she was with a grieving heart, because of the Beatties Ford Road shootout which happened two weeks ago. She said the public was asking her when they would get a report and how the report would be presented to the body having lost five people. She said the other part to this was what was the procedure for closing streets and who was permitted to even have that program, the event that was held for two days, Saturday and Sunday night that created the havoc for the community on the west side of town? She said she was hoping the public was listening tonight and if not, they would listen tomorrow, that they want an answer and answers right away, as soon as possible. She said they could not demand anything but were asking to at least say something about their children and if they look across the country to see the number of children killed over

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the weekend, what was happening to America with guns? She said she worried about the young people and 14-year old's who were involved and lost their life. She said she worried about the seniors who were afraid to walk the streets.

She said she would be participating Monday with a group which talked about the needs for a change on Beatties Ford Road, and as long as she had been on the Board, she had talked about that side of town and its need to be refurbished and helped in terms of providing the same type of support that there was for other parts of the community. She was begging the community to step forward and to not wait but have response to what took place. She stated she held the City accountable, especially Code Enforcement, who was not doing their job.

Commissioner Jerrell spoke about his concern for the refugee communities during the pandemic. He said on July 25, 2020 there would be a virtual town hall. He said there would be individuals sharing about available resources.

Commissioner Harden asked what meetings would look like in August and what the predictions for hospitalizations would be by August 1st, as they were currently at 80% capacity in hospitals. She asked about schools and childcare and how they would go back to schoolwork if people aren't wearing masks.

Commissioner Cotham was proud that the County adopted the ADA proclamation.

Commissioner Fuller spoke about Richard Hunt.

Commissioner Scarborough stated that the Board was doing well and to keep up the good work.

Commissioner Dunlap stated he had good discussions with the School Board Chair, and they had recommitted to the two boards working together. He said she shared her concerns about reopening schools that they may be put in a situation where they may have to decide which plan to choose. He said he would be happy to report that they did agree to pay all of their non-certified employees \$15 an hour and were committed to ensuring they were translating their goals into a number so they could understand where they were in achieving their goals.

Chair Dunlap said he had received calls from CEO of Centene and they spoke about community investments. He reported while they anticipated 3,275 jobs at the time, they made their announcement, they now upped it to 6,000 jobs. He said he was informed they secured an additional 50 acres in land across the street from the original campus and now secured a temporary location that would house up to 600 employees and that hiring has started.

ADJOURNMENT


A motion was made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Cotham, and

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carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 p.m.


Emily A. Kunze, Clerk


George Dunlap, Chair