

June 4, 2020 (Special)

**MINUTES  
BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING**

Both Burke County and the State of North Carolina had previously declared a state of emergency which was ongoing as of June 4, 2020 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Following the N.C. Governor's Executive Order limiting mass gatherings and to protect the health of all meeting participants, the Burke County Board of Commissioners' regularly scheduled in-person budget meeting on June 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. was cancelled on June 2, 2020. A special remote meeting via Zoom, a virtual meeting / teleconferencing platform with simultaneous communication, was scheduled for June 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. to facilitate the meeting. Chairman Carswell executed the combined notice of meeting cancellation and notice of a special virtual meeting which was published on June 2, 2020. The purpose of the special meeting was to make appointments to the Western Piedmont Regional Transportation Authority and to discuss the FY 20-21 budget. The Commissioners, the County Manager, the County Attorney, the Clerk and County staff as well as any citizens that joined the virtual meeting, could hear, and see one another for the duration of the meeting. Citizens that joined by telephone, could only hear the meeting. Citizens were also invited on June 2, 2020 to watch a live stream of the meeting on the County's YouTube channel, BurkeCountyNC or view the meeting later on the local cable systems. During the meeting, the Clerk shared each agenda item on her computer screen so that meeting participants could see the item being discussed and the agenda, in its entirety, was posted to the County's website, [www.burkenc.org](http://www.burkenc.org), prior to the meeting as usual. A verbal roll call was conducted.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Johnnie W. Carswell, Chairman  
Wayne F. Abele, Sr.  
Jeffrey C. Brittain

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Scott Mulwee, Vice Chairman (Out of town.)  
Maynard M. Taylor (Unable to attend.)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bryan Steen, County Manager  
Margaret Pierce, Deputy County Manager/Finance Director  
J.R. Simpson, II, County Attorney  
Kay Honeycutt Draughn, Clerk to the Board

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Carswell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion: To approve the agenda.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] BY A VERBAL ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr. and Jeffrey C. Brittain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Scott Mulwee and Maynard M. Taylor

**ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**CLERK - APPOINTMENT TO WPRTA TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Clerk Draughn reported that Burke County appoints four (4) members to the WPRTA - TAB (Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority - Transportation Advisory Board). Seat No. 1 is occupied by Mike Queen. Seat No. 2 is vacant. Roxanne Powell, the County's Senior Services Director, occupies Seat No. 3 and Seat No. 4 is occupied by Rebecca McLeod, the Health Director. Two (2) applications were received from Gary Kling and Jennie Cook for the vacant seat that has an unexpired term ending December 31, 2020. Mr. Kling was serving on the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment but resigned recently. Ms. Cook currently serves on the Library Board and the Board of Adjustment. Ms. Powell and Ms. McLeod are both seeking reappointments for the remainder of 2-year terms ending December 31, 2021.

**Motion: To appoint Jennie Cook to the WPRTA-TAB (Seat No. 2) to complete an unexpired term ending December 31, 2020. To reappoint Roxanne Powell (Seat No. 3) and Rebecca McLeod (Seat No. 4) to the WPRTA-TAB for the remainder of 2-year terms ending December 31, 2021.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] BY A VERBAL ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jeffrey C. Brittain, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr. and Jeffrey C. Brittain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Scott Mulwee and Maynard M. Taylor

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**BOC - DISCUSSION ON THE FY 20-21 RECOMMENDED BUDGET**

Chairman Carswell announced this is an opportunity for the Board to discuss the recommended budget, provide direction to staff on any proposed changes to the budget or for staff to address any questions the Board may have about it. He then opened the floor for questions, comments, and further budgetary direction. Commissioner Abele said he still has issues with the jail and noted he hates to see that there are some items in the budget that cannot be removed. He noted he will most likely vote against the budget. Commissioner Brittain said he has no further questions concerning the budget. Chairman Carswell said he has no questions and he will vote for the budget because it is one of the better budgets the County has produced considering the circumstances.

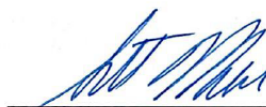
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>NO ACTION TAKEN.</b>
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**ADJOURN**

**Motion: To adjourn at 2:05 p.m.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] BY A VERBAL ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnnie W. Carswell, Wayne F. Abele, Sr. and Jeffrey C. Brittain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Scott Mulwee and Maynard M. Taylor

Approved the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.



Scott Mulwee, Vice Chairman  
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners

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Kay Honeycutt Draughn, CMC, NCMCC  
Clerk to the Board