

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Cabarrus conducted a remote virtual meeting, as allowed by the Board's Remote Participation Policy during the Covid-19 state of emergency, for an Agenda Work Session for Cabarrus County in Concord, North Carolina at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020.

Public access to the meeting could be obtained through the following means:

live broadcast at 4:00 p.m. on Channel 22
<https://www.youtube.com/cabarruscounty>
<https://www.cabarruscounty.us/cabcotv>
 (704) 920-2023, Pin 1234

Present - Chairman:	Stephen M. Morris
Vice Chairman:	Diane R. Honeycutt
Commissioners:	F. Blake Kiger
	Elizabeth F. Poole
	Lynn W. Shue

Also present were Mike Downs, County Manager; Richard M. Koch, County Attorney; Jonathan Marshall, Deputy County Manager; Rodney Harris, Deputy County Manager; Kyle Bilafer, Area Manager of Operations; Debbie Brannan, Area Manager of Innovation and Technology; and Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board.

Call to Order

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Morris presented the following changes to the agenda:

Removed:
 Discussion Items for Discussion
 Active Living and Parks - North Carolina Trails Grant

UPON MOTION of Vice Chairman Honeycutt, seconded by Commissioner Shue and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda as amended.

Discussion Items - No Action

Active Living and Parks - Frank Liske Park Barn Update

Kyle Bilafer, Area Manager of Operations, presented a report on the fire that occurred at the Frank Liske Park Barn on March 26, 2020. Mr. Bilafer provided information regarding the extent of damage and insurance coverage. He further reported on current building codes should the structure be rebuilt.

Londa Strong, Active Living and Parks Director, shared comments received from the community expressing their support to rebuild the barn.

A discussion ensued. During discussion, Mr. Bilafer and Ms. Strong responded to questions from the Board.

By consensus, the Board approved staff to issue a Request for Qualification (RFQ) to rebuild the barn and potential alternative site locations.

Infrastructure and Asset Management - Frank Liske Park Lease Renewal

Kyle Bilafer, Area Manager of Operations, reported Cabarrus County currently has two separate leases for two separate tracts with the state for Frank Liske Park. Mr. Bilafer stated that Deputy County Manager Jonathan Marshall made a request to the state for the two leases to be combined into one lease. County staff also requested an extension on the lease or the possibility of purchasing the land on which the park sits. He noted issues with language in the current leases regarding stormwater and that the state maintains the ability to terminate the leases at any given time. Mr. Bilafer also responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. Marshall provided additional information regarding the lease, including the current expiration dates of both leases.

A discussion ensued. During discussion, Mr. Bilafer, Mr. Marshall and Mike Downs, County Manager, responded to questions from the Board.

It was the consensus of the Board to delay the lease renewal until there is more information regarding the barn and other items that were discussed.

Innovation and Technology - Innovation Report

Debbie Brannan, Area Manager of Innovation and Technology, reported the employee Digital Book Club is ongoing. The current books are *Born to Walk* by Dan Rubinstein and *The Nature Fix* by Florence Williams. She also encouraged everyone to participate in Walk Cabarrus, a community-wide walking campaign focused on creating a healthier community.

Ms. Brannan then commented on the State of New Jersey's search for COBOL programmers to help fix their mainframe unemployment system that is being overwhelmed by the pandemic related job losses. She reviewed the technology advances that have been made in Cabarrus County over the last 20 years and how those advances have allowed County operations and services to continue through the current health crisis.

A brief discussion ensued. During discussion, Chairman Morris commended the IT Department and Cabarrus County staff for an excellent job in providing continued services to County citizens.

Discussion Items for Action

Finance - Cabarrus County School Agency and Lease Agreement for a New Middle School

Susan Fearrington, Finance Director, presented a request for approval of a Cabarrus County school agency and lease agreement for the new middle school. She advised the County holds the title to each of our properties during the building process and for the duration of the debt. She stated the property will be leased to the Cabarrus County Board of Education so they can be our agent. She further stated one of the benefits of holding title to the property is the County can then retain the construction contractor's sales tax to use for project shortfalls or debt service.

Finance - Contingency Fund Request for Courthouse Project - \$800,000

Susan Fearrington, Finance Director, requested an increase of \$800,000 for the furniture and equipment budget for the Courthouse project. Ms. Fearrington advised there are sufficient contingency funds to cover the request.

Kyle Bilafer, Area Manager of Operations, explained increasing the furniture and equipment fund and removing fixed courtroom seating and cameras/card readers from the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) and Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) would allow the County to utilize state contract pricing, thereby decreasing the amount of overhead costs from the CMAR. Additionally, the County could avoid some significant value engineering cuts. Mr. Bilafer also responded to questions.

Human Resources - Emergency Leave Pay

Lundee Covington, Finance Director, reviewed the Emergency Leave Pay and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. She advised there are two basic provisions of this act. She stated one is for emergency family and medical leave and the second portion is for emergency paid sick leave. Ms. Covington advised the following categories would qualify under the personal medical situations for quarantine, self-quarantine and signs and symptoms of coronavirus. There are also three categories of caregiver leave. Those are at two-thirds pay. They include care for a quarantined or self-quarantined individual, childcare and then there is a substantially similar provision. In addition, she said there are some exclusions under this Act.

Ms. Covington reviewed a presentation titled "Families First Coronavirus Response Act" (FFCRA). The following information was included:

Basic Categories under FFCRA - Medical

Qualifying Reasons Unable to work (or telework) due to a need for leave because the employee:

1. Quarantine - is subject to a federal, state or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19
2. Self-Quarantine - has been advised to self-quarantine by a local healthcare provider due to COVID-19 related concerns

3. Symptoms / Diagnosis - is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis

Basic Categories under FFCRA - Caregiving (2/3 pay)

4. Care for a Quarantined / Self-Quarantined Individual - is caring for an individual subject to a quarantine or isolation order described in (1) or self-quarantine as described in (2)
5. Child Care - is caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed (or child care provider is unavailable) for reasons related to COVID-19
6. Substantially Similar Condition - is experiencing any other substantially-similar condition as specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services • Employee's own condition; not "care for" others

Exclusions under FFCRA

"First Responders" may be excluded.

From DOL guidance this includes the following county positions:

- Law enforcement officers
- Firefighters
- Emergency medical personnel
- 911 dispatchers (Telecommunicators)
- All emergency management personnel
- Detention officers

Currently, under the Families First Act, all first responders (law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, emergency management personal and detention officers) are excluded from the compensation guidelines. Staff recommends to include the above-named County personnel should they have a need to use the leave act.

Commissioner Poole and Chairman Morris expressed support for the recommendations.

UPON MOTION of Commissioner Poole, seconded by Vice Chairman Honeycutt and unanimously carried, the Board suspended its Rules of Procedure in order to take action on this item due to time constraints.

UPON MOTION of Commissioner Poole, seconded by Commissioner Kiger and unanimously carried, the Board approved the inclusion of first responders to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

Planning and Development - 2020-2021 HOME Program - Public Hearing 6:30 p.m.

Kelly Sifford, Planning and Development Director, reported the previously presented collaborative project with the City of Concord has taken a different direction. Ms. Sifford proposed a new collaborative project with the City of Concord. She advised, in this proposal, the County would fund the construction of a new affordable home on a lot owned by the City, and City staff would manage the construction. She additionally proposed the full year's funding of approximately \$130,000 be used toward the project, and then recaptured upon sale of the property, allowing a new HOME eligible project. Ms. Sifford stated a 25 percent match is required. She also responded to questions from the Board.

Planning and Development - Proposed Amendment to Harrisburg Land Use Plan (HALUP) Residential Classifications - Public Hearing 6:30 p.m.

Susie Morris, Planning and Zoning Manager, reported the Town of Harrisburg amended their land use plan to lower the permissible densities for residential districts. The land use plan was then presented and approved by the Cabarrus County Planning and Zoning Commission. Ms. Morris presented the land use plan to the Board of Commissioners for review and consideration.

A discussion ensued. During discussion, Ms. Morris responded to questions from the Board.

Sheriff's Office - Implementing Body Worn Cameras (BWC)

Sheriff Van Shaw presented a request for the use of body worn cameras by the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office. He advised body cameras have become very prevalent in law enforcement and provide an element of transparency. He reported

a body worn camera trial was completed in 2019. It was a unanimous recommendation from the officers who participated in that trial to move towards body worn cameras. He advised it has been determined that Axon Enterprise would best meet their needs. Additionally, Sheriff Shaw reported a grant opportunity has been identified through the Department of Justice (DOJ) to fund a portion of the costs.

Rodney Harris, Deputy County Manager, provided information regarding the cost.

A discussion ensued. During discussion, Sheriff Shaw and Mr. Harris responded to questions from the Board.

Sheriff's office - Request to Appropriate Inmate Housing Revenues of \$142,000 to Purchased Services

Benita Conrad, Sheriff's Office Finance Coordinator, reported the Sheriff's Office has a deficit in the inmate housing due to higher costs for Juvenile offenders affected by Raise the Age legislation and a sick inmate in Safekeeping. She requested approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$142,000 to cover the additional costs.

A discussion ensued. During discussion, Ms. Conrad and Chief Deputy James Bailey responded to questions from the Board.

Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda

Chairman Morris commented on safety measures the County and municipalities within the county are taking by holding their meetings remotely during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

The Board then discussed the placement of the items on the agenda.

UPON MOTION of Vice Chairman Honeycutt, seconded by Commissioner Kiger and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda as follows.

Approval or Correction of Minutes

- Approval or Correction of Minutes

Recognitions and Presentations

- Active Living and Parks - Older Americans Month proclamation May 2020
- EMS - Cabarrus County Emergency Services Week Proclamation
- EMS - Recognition of EMS Personnel for Research Poster Competition
- Human Resources - Recognition of Stanley Parnell on His Retirement from the Cabarrus County Department of Human Services, Transportation Division

Consent

- Finance - Cabarrus County School Agency and Lease Agreement for a New Middle School
- Finance - Contingency Fund Request for Courthouse Project - \$800,000
- Sheriff's Office - Implementing Body Worn Cameral (BWC)
- Sheriff's Office - Request to Appropriate Inmate housing Revenues of \$142,000 to Purchased Services
- Tax Administration - Refund and Release Reports - March 2020

New Business

- Economic Development Investment - Project Press - Public Hearing 6:30 p.m.
- Planning and Development - 2020-2021 HOME Program - Public Hearing 6:30 p.m.
- Planning and Development - Proposed Amendment to Harrisburg Land Use Plan (HALUP) Residential Classifications - Public hearing 6:30 p.m.

Reports

- BOC - Receive Updates From Commission Members who Serve as Liaisons to Municipalities or on Various Boards/Committees
- BOC - Request for Applications for County Boards/Committees
- County Manager - Monthly Building Activity Reports
- County Manager - Monthly New Development Report
- EDC - March 2020 Monthly Summary Report
- Finance - Monthly Financial Update

Cabarrus Health Alliance - COVID-19 Update

Erin Shoe, Interim Health Director, Cabarrus Health Alliance, provided an update on the County's response to COVID-19 in the community.

A lengthy discussion ensued. During discussion, Ms. Shoe responded to a variety of questions from the Board.

Adjourn

UPON MOTION of Commissioner Shue, seconded by Commissioner Kiger and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.



Lauren Linker

Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board