



**WESTERN UNION MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021 4:00 P.M.
WEDDINGTON TOWN HALL
1924 WEDDINGTON ROAD
Minutes
Page 1 of 5**

1. Open the Meeting and Determination of Quorum

Chairman Perryman called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Quorum was determined with Chairman Jeff Perryman, Vice Chair Amanda Fuller, Delegates Rick Becker and Joe Pollino, Alternates David Boyce and Andy Wortman present. Stallings Delegate Wyatt Dunn was absent.

Visitors: Waxhaw Mayor Ron Pappas, County Commissioner Richard Helms and via Zoom County Commissioner Dennis Rape.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Chairman Perryman added item 7.c. Discussion of Twelve Mile Creek/Antioch Church Proposed High Density Subdivision (move current item 12.c. to 12.d.).

Vice Chair Fuller added item 12.e. Discussion of the American Rescue Plan Act.

Motion: Chairman Perryman made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended.

Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

3. Approve February 25, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: Vice Chairman Fuller made a motion to approve the February 25, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Public Comments

None

5. Delegate and Municipality Reports

Wesley Chapel: Vice Chairman Fuller reported that Wesley Chapel is concerned with the proposed high-density subdivision off Twelve Mile Creek. Wesley Chapel will be holding their first community event in a year on June 19th at Dogwood Park as restrictions continue to be lifted.

Mineral Springs: Delegate Becker reported that Mineral Springs will be holding their first in-person Council meeting in a year in April and the Planning Board are still meeting virtually. The Council adopted a resolution opposing the high-density rezoning for Aventon Apartments at the March meeting. He stated that he appreciated seeing everybody at the BOCC meeting in March and really learned about the utilities.

Marvin: Delegate Pollino reported that Marvin has received 8-10 bids for their Town Hall. By delaying the process, they saw a decrease in the bid estimates. The Village is planning to hold a “Marvin Day” in 2022 with a parade. The biggest challenge will be finding a venue and parking. Marvin held a Spring Town Hall meeting at Forest Hills Church. The venue is free with a nominal fee for cleanup. The waste hauling process is moving along, and the Village is working on the heritage district. They are hoping to form committees for that. David Willis is sponsoring a bill to protect candidates from being financially responsible for election lawsuits and it will allow municipalities to tap into funds to reimburse for legal fees.

Weddington: Chairman Perryman reported that the BOCC held a great meeting. He’d like to see two meetings like that held a year and include one in the evening so more public can attend. The Town is ready to start turning dirt at the park, the hope is to start using it for outdoor events in the fall. The Unified Development Ordinance is about 99% done. There will be a public hearing held at the April Council meeting. Weddington is working with Marvin to get the waste hauling RFP together and it will go out next week and staff is working on a public campaign. There won’t be any Food Truck Fridays this spring, but the Town is looking into a movie night and community activities.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

a. Review of County Board of Commissioners Special Meeting

The Delegates gave their take-aways from the meeting.

- Vice Chairman Fuller: She appreciated hearing from the other municipalities about their issues and obstacles. Communication has grown by leaps and bounds. Wesley Chapel is concerned about what the decision regarding where the sewer will be.
- Delegate Rick Becker: He found the discussion about the sewer capacity surprising and how quickly the capacity limit was out of control. He noticed that there wasn’t talk about water for fire suppression and that’s essential as well. Appreciated meeting the new county staff.

- Delegate Joe Pollino: He stated these meetings are critical for communication. He'd like to see support for closing up the donut holes- the pockets of unincorporated parcels are benefiting from municipal benefits without paying taxes. He enjoyed hearing from the other parts of the county on the other side of 74. Their needs and wants are the same as west side. He appreciates these opportunities and hopes they continue.
- Chairman Perryman: He thanked the commissioners for that meeting and for giving municipalities the opportunity to hear commissioners speak and to hear from the staff as well and interact. These meetings have so many benefits, but it would be great to have one in the evening so public can attend to sit in and listen. Mr. Perryman took the chance to speak with County Planner Lee Jenson about the Union County 2050 Plan and he is pleased to see that the number of planned higher density parcels were reduced by about 90%. Those areas are still concentrated in the transportation corridors.
- Mayor Ron Pappas: He stated that he is glad for the BOCC meetings. He sees reestablished relationships between the county and other municipalities and planning and communication are better. It is a great forum to hear where the municipalities are and where they are going. Each one has different needs. Waxhaw has a different make up to the community than surrounding towns. It was a good dialogue. It is important to solve for today and plan for tomorrow. More communication leads to fewer unintended consequences.
- Commissioner Helms: County will be voting on how to fix the sewer issue on April 19th: they are looking at 12-Mile Creek-increase capacity for the interim or start construction of Lower Crooked Creek. They need to mitigate the situation and plan for the future. On April 12th they will hold a discussion of the sewer issues. They will probably vote to increase the 12-Mile Creek capacity. Yadkin water is for Yadkin basin and will be the main water source for the next 75-100 years.
- Commissioner Rape: Commented on the communication between the county and the towns. The county budget has a high percentage of agriculture paying a lower percentage of taxes, putting burden on the rest of the county. He stated that he uses that mindset to try to be fair to towns as well as farmers.

b. Solid Waste Update

Chairman Perryman reviewed the timeline for the Marvin/Weddington Solid Waste RFP. Proposals are due in May. Weddington held a special meeting to talk about options. Weddington will put out information to residents and follow up with a survey in May. Delegate Pollino stated that regardless whether the town owns the roads or not, this will extend the life of the roads. Commissioner Helms asked if the towns are considering using the Union County waste site. One of the requirements in the RFP is to use the Union County landfill.

c. Discussion of Twelve-Mile Creek/Antioch Church Road High-Density Subdivision

The County received an application for a rezoning from R-40 to R-20 on Antioch Church Road. Concerns include: the number of houses to be built in the flood plain, 39 homes on 25.52 acres, a bridge to be built over 12-Mile Creek. The application goes before the county planning board possibly in April.

d. Discussion of Transportation Topics for April meeting

Topics to be discussed will include critical intersections, alternate sources of federal/state funding to get projects started, collaborate with other towns for funding, discuss Powell Bill with Marvin Town Manager to answer any questions, Chairman Perryman is working on getting a DOT representative at the meeting. Commissioner Helms reminded the delegates that there is a survey for critical intersection improvements and it's critical that the citizens give their opinions on the improvement options.

e. Discussion of the American Rescue Plan Act

Vice Chair Fuller discussed the NCLM call about the American Rescue Plan Act. It is capped at 75% pre-pandemic budget and based on population. She asked if other towns are discussing what to spend. The delegates agreed to make this an agenda item at the next meeting.

8. Delegate Comments

Delegate Joe Pollino: I want to thank everybody. These meetings are critical. We're seeing different faces, which is a good thing. We have a guest from the UCWeekly, thank you for being here. We're trying to get the word out; this is a public meeting. We are very appreciative of representatives from the BOCC being here.

Delegate Rick Becker: Thank you, we are getting a lot of value from this group.

Vice Chair Amanda Fuller: Wesley Chapel has done a resident survey that is statistically significant. They are working on their town identity. We (Wesley Chapel) are tired of developers telling us what our identity is and letting the donut holes steer our identity. It's nice to make this connection with the other towns, our voices are stronger together.

Chairman Jeff Perryman: Thank you to everybody here and thank you Commissioners. This is invaluable. WUMA hasn't even been an organization for a year, but the fact that our towns have a direct line to the BOCC, we appreciate you taking the time to do it. Our meetings are public, and minutes are published on the website. Thank you, Ron for being here. There is an open invitation to you or any of your staff. Anybody is welcome. We're all in this boat together. This is a tough job and we are trying to balance the county's needs and big picture and our needs in our little corner, it is not easy. I hope that what we're doing is making that process a little easier. The next WUMA meeting will be held at Marvin at Banks Presbyterian Fellowship Hall on April 22nd at 4:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Motion: Vice Chair Fuller made a motion to adjourn the March 25, 2021 Regular WUMA meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Minutes approved by unanimous vote 04/22/2021