

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD

WHEREAS, the Transylvania County Board of Education (the “board”) has a strong interest in fostering and supporting good relations between all persons in our community; and

WHEREAS, the board believes that in our community and throughout our nation, our differences and our diversity have always been and continue to be among our greatest strengths, and should be celebrated as a part of our local and national heritage; and

WHEREAS, the board believes that a Community Relations Board structured, empowered, operated, and managed consistent with the Statement of Organization and Purpose attached hereto, will be a positive force in our community; and

WHEREAS, the board believes that Transylvania County, the City of Brevard, and the Town of Rosman represent an open and welcoming community which desires to embrace all who are living within it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Transylvania County Board of Education hereby endorses the creation of a Community Relations Board and agrees to be an additional sponsoring entity, with authority to appoint members to the Community Relations Board as per the attached Statement of Organization and Purpose.

ADOPTED this the 17th day of July 2017.

Chairman

Secretary

EXHIBIT A
Resolution No. 2017-XX

COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD

STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE

1. **General Purpose:** Transylvania County, City of Brevard, and Town of Rosman jointly desire to foster an all-inclusive, caring, positive, and empathic community that seeks to reduce real and perceived discrimination and/or bullying of any citizen. As a matter of policy and in accordance with NC General Statute §160A-492 the purposes and goals of the Community Relations Board (Board) shall include the following:
 - A. Encourage and promote unity, respect and goodwill to all people living, working or visiting Transylvania County;
 - B. Support community efforts to provide meaningful and equitable education and work opportunities for all citizens;
 - C. Provide and encourage free interchange of ideas and mutual understanding between citizens, community organizations, law enforcement and elected officials;
 - D. Celebrate the Transylvania County's unique mountain and cultural heritage and diversity while promoting the many different communities and individuals that make this an all-inclusive and vibrant place to live; and
 - E. Help ensure that Transylvania County, City of Brevard, and Town of Rosman are in compliance with various federal rules, regulations and laws regarding discrimination.

2. **Board Functions:** While fostering, promoting and encouraging positive community relations, the functions of the Board shall include the following:
 - F. Serve as an advisory body to the elected bodies of Transylvania County, City of Brevard and Town of Rosman, as well as the Transylvania County School Board and local law enforcement agencies, as the same may request.
 - G. Identify practices and seek solutions to help alleviate animosity, unrest and discrimination.
 - H. Study problems relating to relationships among individuals and groups of all kinds, and to make recommendations for the betterment of such relationships within the community.
 - I. Act as the coordinating agent for efforts that promote cooperation, equality, equity, understanding and positive community relations.
 - J. Liaison between citizens, local, state and federal agencies whenever further cooperation between all parties is needed.
 - K. As appropriate, issue publications, studies or reports of investigations, conciliations and research in the field of community and human relations, and to make public reports of case histories or conciliation efforts that, in the judgment of the board, will support goodwill in the community as a whole.
 - L. Solicit and accept grants and donations from foundations and others for the purpose of carrying out the Board's activities.
 - M. Receive complaints arising between individuals or groups that could result in tensions, discrimination or conflicts and offer assistance by recommending resources including, as appropriate and not limited to, individual and group discussions, facilitations and mediations.

- N. Prepare and submit an annual report to all elected boards and the public outlining the Board's accomplishments.
- O. Promote and help County celebrate mountain culture, diversity and unity.
- P. Preserve the privacy of individuals involved in certain matters coming before the Board. In connection with the functions described in Sections 2H, 2K and 2M, in particular, the Board and its creating and sponsoring public entities have determined that the protection of privacy of persons involved in such matters is of great importance in that the public trust in the Board would be compromised if disclosure of the names of private individuals involved and the specific facts and circumstances were made public. Therefore, any public report shall not include the name(s) of the parties or other facts which might clearly identify them without their written consent.

3. Board Composition, Vacancies and Compensation: The Board shall consist of eleven (11) residents from Transylvania County, the City of Brevard, and the Town of Rosman to be appointed as follows:

Brevard, Davidson River and/or Rosman High School students appointed by the Transylvania County Schools (2)

Brevard Police Department (1)

Transylvania County Sherriff's Office (1)

NAACP (1)

Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce or Transylvania Economic Alliance (1)

El Centro (1)

At-large individuals representing Transylvania County, City of Brevard, Town of Rosman, and Transylvania County School Board, each appointed by the associated political jurisdiction (4)

Appointing entities are urged to consider the diverse geographical, economic and social makeup of their communities. The intention is that the Board's composition will be consistent with an all-inclusive approach to its mission of fostering, promoting and encouraging positive community relations.

The initial board, excluding the two student representatives, shall be randomly appointed so that three (3) members shall serve for a one-year term, three (3) members shall serve for a two-year term, and three (3) members shall serve for a three-year term. After their initial term, all members, other than the high school representatives, may hold office for an additional three (3) year term from the date of their appointment or until their successors shall be appointed by the appropriate elected board. The appointed student representatives shall hold office for one (1) year from the date of appointment and shall be eligible for reappointment for an additional one-year term.

Vacancies in the office of any member of the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term by the entity that originally appointed the vacating member's position.

All members shall hold office subject to existing ordinances, policies and regulations applicable to the Transylvania County boards and commission.

Members of the Board shall serve without compensation.

4. Officers and Procedures:

- A. **Organization and Officers.** Within sixty (60) days from the initial appointment of the Board and within sixty (60) days after the subsequent

annual appointments, the Board shall hold an organizational meeting at which time the Board shall select from its membership a chairman, a secretary and other officers deemed necessary to serve for a period of one (1) year or until successors are elected and take other action necessary to organize itself as an active Board.

B. **Meetings.** The time and place of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board shall be established and filed with each of the elected board’s clerks. Notice of meetings shall be in conformance to current NC General Statute. A quorum is a simple majority of Board members. A special meeting may be called by the chairman or at the written request of three Board members.

C. **Minutes and Meeting Records.** The Board shall keep a full record of its proceedings and meeting minutes showing the business conducted. Approved minutes shall be subject the NC Public Record requirements.

D. **Open Meetings/Closed Sessions Authorized.** The Board is a “public body” as defined in G.S. Section 143-318.10(b) and shall follow state statute with regard to Open Meetings Laws. The Board is authorized to hold closed sessions as described in G.S. Section 143-318.11 as the same may be appropriate, including but not limited to consulting with an attorney in order to retain the attorney-client privilege and protect the identities of persons involved in complaints received by the Board, and in order to refer the same to an appropriate agency or other resource, including mediation, under subsection (a)(3); and to plan, conduct or hear reports concerning investigations of alleged criminal conduct, in order to refer the same to an appropriate agency or other resource, including mediation, under subsection (a)(6). Subsections (a)(3) and (a)(6), in particular, may be utilized by the Board to protect the identities of persons with whom the Board is concerned under Section 2H, 2K, 2M or 2P of this document.

5. **Rules and Commission Regulations.** The Board may adopt bylaws and shall prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the transaction of its business.

6. **Adoption:**

Transylvania County Chairman Date

Mayor of Brevard Date

Mayor of Rosman Date

§ 160A-492. Human relations, community action and manpower development programs.

The governing body of any city, town, or county is hereby authorized to undertake, and to expend tax or nontax funds for, human relations, community action and manpower development programs. In undertaking and engaging in such programs, the governing body may enter into contracts with and accept loans and grants from the State or federal governments. The governing body may appoint such human relations, community action and manpower development committees or boards and citizens' committees, as it may deem necessary in carrying out such programs and activities, and may authorize the employment of personnel by such committees or boards, and may establish their duties, responsibilities, and powers. The cities and counties may jointly undertake any program or activity which they are authorized to undertake by this section. The expenses of undertaking and engaging in the human relations, community action and manpower development programs and activities

authorized by this section are necessary expenses for which funds derived from taxation may be expended without the necessity of prior approval of the voters.

For the purposes of this section, a "human relations program" is one devoted to (i) the study of problems in the area of human relations, (ii) the promotion of equality of opportunity for all citizens, (iii) the promotion of understanding, respect and goodwill among all citizens, (iv) the provision of channels of communication among the races, (v) dispute resolution, (vi) encouraging the employment of qualified people without regard to race, or (vii) encouraging youth to become better trained and qualified for employment. (1971, c. 896, s. 11; c. 1207, ss. 1, 2; 1973, c. 641; 1989 (Reg. Sess., 1990), c. 1062, s. 1.)