



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**25 June 2020**

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**Yancey County Economic Development Director  
Elected President of CarolinaWest**

Will Lead Seven County Asheville-Metro Regional Economic Development  
Council

Yancey County Economic Development Director Jamie McMahan was unanimously elected as President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of CarolinaWest on 25 June 2020. Created in 1991 CarolinaWest is a seven-county regional economic development organization, including Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, Mitchell, Transylvania and Yancey Counties, and the City of Asheville.

Working collaboratively with the economic development agencies in the seven counties, along with its corporate partners, the Asheville Regional Airport Authority, Duke Energy, the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, ERC Broadband, Dominion Energy and The Land of Sky Regional Council of Governments, CarolinaWest works to promote and advance business recruitment and expansion throughout the seven-county region.

“I am honored and humbled to have been selected by my colleagues to serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors of CarolinaWest through 2021. One of our assets as a region is our ability to find ways to collaborate regionally and promote the economic success of the entire region. With the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis affecting the business community in ways that we certainly never expected this will be an interesting time to step into this role. Nevertheless, every crisis also brings new opportunities to work together to find ways to be resilient and successful in our individual communities and as a region. I look forward to helping to facilitate the work of our partners in the business community and local government to find ways to evolve and be successful in these challenging times” said EDC Director McMahan. “Though the counties and communities which make up the Asheville-metro region are all different, we are all the same when it comes to our dedication to our mountain communities and to providing successful jobs and opportunities for our people.”

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