



# Durham County

200 E. Main Street  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 560-0025

## Meeting Minutes Board of County Commissioners

*Michael D. Page, Chair*  
*Brenda A. Howerton, Vice Chair*  
*Fred Foster, Jr., Commissioner*  
*Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner*  
*Ellen W. Reckhow, Commissioner*

Monday, August 24, 2015

7:00 PM

Commissioners' Chambers

### “Public Charge”

The Board of Commissioners asks its members and citizens to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous manner, both with the Board and fellow citizens. At any time, should any member of the Board or any citizen fail to observe this public charge, the Chairman will ask the offending person to leave the meeting until that individual regains personal control. Should decorum fail to be restored, the Chairman will recess the meeting until such time that a genuine commitment to the public charge is observed.

As a courtesy to others, please turn off cell phones during the meeting.

### 7:00 pm Regular Session

#### Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

#### Agenda Adjustments:

Vice Chair Howerton acknowledged the excused absence of Chairman Page.

Commissioners Foster and Reckhow requested an excused absence from the October Worksession.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow excuse Commissioners Foster and Reckhow from the October 5, 2015 Worksession.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### Announcements:

Commissioner Reckhow announced that Vice Chair Howerton along with Commissioner Foster and herself attended the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) conference and

brought back additional copies of the benchmarking report for the County Manager to review. She informed staff and citizens that information was also available online at [www.ncacc.org](http://www.ncacc.org). Commissioner Reckhow also highlighted that Vice Chair Howerton was elected to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the NCACC for the upcoming year and that Durham County won an award for the Teen Misdemeanor Diversion Award.

Commissioner Jacobs expressed her excitement about the Teen Diversion Award. She also announced that the Upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Grandparents and Care Takers Conference would be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 from 8am – 2:30pm in the Human Services Building. Commissioner Jacobs added it would be a free one day conference with pre-registration beginning September 7, 2015. She continued to say that interested citizens would need to email [grandparentconference@dconc.gov](mailto:grandparentconference@dconc.gov) or call 919-560-8398 to register.

Vice Chair Howerton mentioned that over 350 Commissioners attended the NCACC Conference and stated how humble she was to be voted and elected as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. She stated she looked forward to serving and becoming the President in the next few years.

Vice Chair Howerton read the following announcements:

- 1) A public hearing will be held on September 15, 2015 on the 2016 General Tax Reappraisal (Revaluation) Schedule of Values Standards and Rules. The Schedule of Values will be available for inspection on August 25, 2015 within the Durham County Tax Administrator's Office, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, or can be found on the website at [www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov). Select the "Services" tab and the "2016 Revaluation" tab.
- 2) The Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available for Public Review. You may view the draft by visiting the website at [www.ourtransitfuture.com](http://www.ourtransitfuture.com) or the GoTriangle administrative office (4600 Emperor Blvd, Suite 100, Durham NC). Two public information sessions will be held September 15 (4-7 pm) at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill NC; and September 19 (2-5 pm) at the Durham Transportation Station.
- 3) Sister Cities of Durham—Arusha Committee presents Saba Saba Festival, its annual fundraiser. This year's theme is on water. Come hear how Sister Cities of Durham has been fostering People to People relationships globally since 1975. There will be food trucks, music, demonstrations by the City of Durham Water Departments and the County's Soil & Water Conservation District, and more—Sunday, August 30, 2015, 4-9 pm at Durham Central Park, 501 Foster Street.
- 4) Please contact the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025 or [clerk@dconc.gov](mailto:clerk@dconc.gov) to find out about opportunities to serve on one of our volunteer boards or commissions.
- 5) We invite you to tune in to Cable TV Channel 8 or 97-5 to see rebroadcasts of tonight's meeting as well as other Durham County programming that may be of interest to you. Please contact the Public Information Office at 919-560-0008 or our website [www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov) for more information.
- 6) These announcements can also be found on the County's website or you may call the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025.

#### **Minutes:**

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Foster to approve the July 27, 2015 Regular Session minutes and the August 3, 2015 Worksession minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Ceremonial Items:**

**15-612 Proclamation - September as Recovery Month in Durham County**

Commissioner Foster read the following proclamation:

**NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH | 2015**

**WHEREAS**, behavioral health is now recognized as an essential part of one's overall health and wellbeing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is celebrating its 26th year of promoting September as National Recovery Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the costs of not encouraging mental health and substance use recovery is significant for individuals, families, neighborhoods and the community at large; and

**WHEREAS**, people in recovery strive to achieve healthy lifestyles, stable homes, meaningful daily activities, stronger neighborhoods and contribute in positive ways to the larger community; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2014 Community Health Assessment, conducted by the Partnership for a Healthy Durham, found that addiction to alcohol, drugs and medication was identified by Durham residents as the number one health problem, and considering that behavioral disorders are closely tied to other chronic health conditions, we must continue to support recovery as a primary public health goal; and

**WHEREAS**, SAMHSA reports that in 2013 7.7 million adults were diagnosed with co-occurring Mental and Substance Use Disorders, that the highest percentage was among adults aged 18 to 25, that suicide is the second leading cause of death for this age group, and that less than half received treatment, we must reduce the stigma and shame associated with behavioral disorders and learn to view them as we would any other medical condition; and

**WHEREAS**, to help more people achieve and sustain long-term recovery, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) invite all residents of Durham, North Carolina to participate in National Recovery Month; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael D. Page, Chairman of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2015 as

**“NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH”**

in Durham, North Carolina and call upon the people of Durham, North Carolina to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies to support this year's theme:

**“Join the Voices for Recovery, visible, vocal, valuable!”**

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

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Michael D. Page, Chairman  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Robert Thomas, Quality Assurance Manager and Randy Tucker, Supervisor of the STAR program thanked the Board for the proclamation and their ongoing support for Behavioral Health Recovery in Durham. Mr. Thomas announced invited the Board to attend the main event being held on Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 3pm-8pm at the Criminal Justice Resource Center located on 326 E. Main Street. He added the event would be held in the multi-purpose room and it was open to the public.

Commissioner Jacobs thanked Mr. Thomas and Mr. Tucker and congratulated them on receiving the National Award.

**15-626 Proclamation - Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

Commissioner Jacobs read the following proclamation:

**CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH | 2015**

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection report cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among U.S. children between infancy and age 15. This tragic disease is detected in nearly 15,000 of our country's young people each and every year.

WHEREAS, one in five of our nation's children loses his or her battle with cancer. Many infants, children and teens will suffer from long-term effects of comprehensive treatment, including secondary cancers; and

WHEREAS, founded over twenty years ago by Steven Firestein, a member of the philanthropic Max Factor cosmetics family, the American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. and Kids Cancer Connection, Inc. are dedicated to helping these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection provide a variety of vital patient psychosocial services to children undergoing cancer treatment at North Carolina Children's Hospital in Chapel Hill, Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte, as well as participating hospitals throughout the country, thereby enhancing the quality of life for these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection also sponsor Courageous Kid Recognition Award ceremonies, community get well cards and hospital celebrations in honor of a child's determination and bravery to fight the battle against childhood cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael D. Page, Chairman of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September, 2014 as

**“CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”**

in Durham County, North Carolina and encourage all Durham citizens to support the children who are battling cancer and the people and organizations who support them.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

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Michael D. Page, Chairman  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

**Consent Agenda:**

Vice Chair Howerton asked the Commissioners if they desired to pull any items from the Consent

Agenda. No items were pulled.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

15-593 Appointment to Durham County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

15-600 2016 Reappraisal Schedule of Values – Submission

15-603 Amendment of Chapter 4 § 4-7 (a) of the Durham County Code of Ordinances Entitled: Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, to Add a Position to the Committee to be Appointed by the Director of Public Health for Durham County

\*15-604 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for July, 2015

\*15-605 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 16BCC000008 to Recognize Funds in the Amount of \$7,800 from the NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health for the CAPUS / Safe Spaces Program

15-606 Request to Extend Durham County Fire & Rescue Insurance Rating District and Response District

15-621 Resolution of Support and Approval of \$37,498 Grant for NCDOT-PTD Apprentice Program

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jacobs commented on item 15-621 and congratulated Linda Thomas-Wallace for applying for and being awarded the \$37,498 grant.

Consent Agenda Item #15-604

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings, and clerical errors, etc. the attached report details releases and refunds for the month of July, 2015.

Releases & Refunds for 2015 Taxes

Personal Property	\$ 332,445.02
Motor Vehicles-VTS	\$ <u>14,068.94</u>
Total	\$ 346,513.96

Releases & Refunds for Prior Years

Personal	\$ <u>11,447.11</u>
Grand Total	\$ 357,961.07

Consent Agenda Item #15-605

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2015-2016 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 16BCC000008**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2015-2016 budget

ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

Revenue:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$57,658,244	\$7,800	\$57,666,044

Expenditures:

<u>Function</u>			
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	\$89,297,669	\$7,800	\$89,305,469

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

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**Board and Commission Appointments:**

Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board, distributed ballots to the Board to make appointments to boards and commissions.

The Board made the following appointments (incumbents are underlined.) Individuals listed in bold print were appointed:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

**Max Bushell** (Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Ralph Griesenbeck (Foster)

Community Child Protection Team/Child Fatality Prevention Team

David Atwater

Leonard Kovalick

**Judy Mack** (Foster, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Convention Center Authority

**Gerry Link** (Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Jay Zenner (Foster)

Dangerous Dog Appeal Board

**David Atwater** (Foster, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

**Mimi Coker** (Foster, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Environmental Affairs Board

**Matthew Herman** (Foster, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)

**Nikita Jade Deans** (Foster, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Roxana Prado Martinez

Rachel Ruderman (Howerton)

Commissioner Reckhow commented on the qualifications of the youth who applied for this JCPC vacancy and suggested that the County Manager and Vice Chair follow-up with JCPC to have the two

individuals not selected still be encouraged to be involved. Vice Chair Howerton responded that she was on the JCPC Board and would make the suggested recommendation.

Vice Chair Howerton asked the Board to have a conversation at a future Worksession regarding the State funding for the Durham Public School system.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to adjourn the Regular Session meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Monica Toomer".

Monica W. Toomer  
Deputy Clerk to the Board