



Durham County

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

Meeting Minutes

Board of County Commissioners

Wendy Jacobs, Chair
James Hill, Vice Chair
Heidi Carter, Commissioner
Brenda A. Howerton, Commissioner
Ellen W. Reckhow, Commissioner

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

7:00 PM

Commissioners' Chambers

Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Adjustments

Chair Jacobs announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

Announcements

Chair Jacobs read the following announcements:

- 1)Property owners, please be reminded that this year's deadline to appeal real property tax values will be April 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. "That is the date and time that the Durham County Board of Equalization and Review officially adjourns for the year, and state statutes remove the Board's authority to consider appeals filed after the adjournment."
- 2)The Durham City/County Planning Department and Preservation Durham are collaborating to update Durham's Architectural and Historic Inventory. A series of community meetings are planned where residents can learn how to input information into the Open Durham website to assist in collecting robust data for the inventory and sharing their stories about Durham. The drop-in style workshops will take place from 6-8 pm as follows:
 - April 27: Durham County Library North Regional Branch, 221 Milton Road
 - June 15: Durham County Library Southwest Branch, 3605 Shannon Road
 - September 14: Durham County Library South Branch, 4505 S Alston Road
 - November 2: Durham County Library East Branch, 211 Lick Creek LaneFor more information, contact Lisa Miller at 919-560-4137, ext 28270.

3) Cooperative Extension will offer a new Cook Smart, Eat Smart Cooking School to teach participants how to prepare simple, healthy and delicious foods in just four weeks. Sessions will be offered from 5:30-8:30 pm on Thursday evenings from April 27-May 18, 2017. The registration fee is \$40 which includes the ingredients for the dishes planned. To register, contact Pam Jordan-Carrington at 919-560-0536 or pjcarrin@dconc.gov.

Minutes

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to approve the March 27, 2017 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ceremonial Items

Proclamation - Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

Vice Chair Hill read the following proclamation:

PARKINSONS AWARENESS MONTH | 2017

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, but it is estimated to affect approximately one million people in the United States and the prevalence will more than double by 2040; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is at least \$14.4 billion annually, including indirect costs to patients and family members of \$6.3 billion; and

WHEREAS, research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and

WHEREAS, there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, and there is no cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and

WHEREAS, volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and

WHEREAS, increased research, education, and community support services are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2017 to be

“PARKINSONS AWARENESS MONTH”

in Durham, North Carolina.

This the 11th day of April, 2017.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Dr. Burton Scott, Duke Movement Disorders at Duke Neurology stated of the one (1) million people in the United States about 30,000 in North Carolina and about 1,000 in Durham County were diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. He provided background information on the disease and thanked the Board for the proclamation.

Commissioner Howerton mentioned the effects of the disease and thanked Dr. Burton for his contribution to the community.

Proclamation - National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 9-15, 2017

Commissioner Reckhow read the following proclamation:

NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK | 2017

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at any time that require law enforcement, fire or emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of law enforcement officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our deputies is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Durham County Sheriff’s Office Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our deputies by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators of the Durham County Sheriff’s Office have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, rendering assistance and protecting the citizens; and

WHEREAS, each telecommunicator has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the week of April 9 - 15, 2017 to be

“NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK”

in Durham, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our county and citizens safe.

This the 11th day of April, 2017.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Denise Vaughan-Pratt, Durham County Sheriff’s Office Communications Supervisor thanked the Board for the recognition. She explained how much work was involved with being a telecommunicator and how important it was for them to make sure the caller received the help needed and each officer made it home safely.

Resolution - Honoring Durham County Social Services Michael Becketts

Chair Jacobs read the following resolution:

MICHAEL BECKETTS

WHEREAS, Michael Becketts was hired in 2012 to lead the Durham County Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, he formerly served as Deputy Director of the Baltimore Maryland Department of Social Services where he oversaw a workforce of 1100 and a budget of nearly \$100 million; and

WHEREAS, in selecting Becketts, DSS Board members noted that his broad experience within healthcare agencies, educational institutions and public welfare agencies that equipped him with a depth of experience to move Durham County forward; and

WHEREAS, his successful tenure has included noteworthy accomplishments such as working with community stakeholders in addressing critical events such as the closing of a low-income housing community, the local implementation of the state’s NCFAST system that processes public assistance benefits and the development of the state’s first mobile application that allows residents to submit documentation for benefits via mobile devices; and

WHEREAS, his leadership with Durham County Social Services has been marked by a tremendous work ethic, visionary leadership, and a true and abiding concern for the total health and wellbeing of children and families served by the agency.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Durham Board of County Commissioners do hereby extend sincere and grateful appreciation to

MICHAEL BECKETTS

for his transformative and dynamic service to Durham County Government while serving as Director of Social Services. As he prepares to assume his new role as Assistant Secretary for Human Services at the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services., we wish for him tremendous success and thank him for the invaluable contributions he has made to Durham County.

This the 11th day of April 2017.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair

James Hill, Jr., Vice Chair

Heidi Carter

Brenda Howerton

Ellen W. Reckhow

Michael Becketts, Director of Social Services stated his job could not have been done without the community partners and staff. He mentioned the support he felt from department heads and the Commissioners beginning with his first day of leadership. Mr. Becketts added there was more transition coming along but he believed that Catherine Williamson-Hardy, Interim Director would be able to lead the department and develop the vision that showed exceptional service, growth and professional development. He continued to say that although he was leaving, the agency would not stand still. Mr. Becketts thanked the Board and the County for a great five (5) years.

Commissioner Reckhow thanked Mr. Becketts for his strong service to the County. She mentioned the creativity shown and his can do attitude. Commissioner Reckhow added Social Services had seen a decrease in complaints over the past five (5) years and although she was sorry to see him leave, she wished him well in his future endeavors.

Commissioner Howerton stated she was thankful and grateful that Mr. Becketts was selected as the Director nearly five (5) years ago. She added this was not the end as they would see more of each other at the state legislature.

Wendell Davis, County Manager stated he wanted to thank Mr. Becketts for his passion, compassion and commitment. He added he respected Mr. Becketts' professionalism and the manner in which he conducted himself. County Manager Davis thanked and congratulated Mr. Becketts in his endeavors.

Lowell Siler, County Attorney stated nearly half (1/2) of the attorney's office conducted work related to Social Services. He added Mr. Becketts came in and accomplished a lot of work in a short period of time. Attorney Siler continued to say that Mr. Becketts was willing to work with all staff on best practices and he created ways for everyone to work better together.

Chair Jacobs mentioned her role as Vice Chair on the Social Services Board and the Durham Directors Group and how closely she worked with Mr. Becketts. She stated he was incredibly innovative and always looked for ways to improve the system and technology in the department. Chair Jacobs added he was very driven for personal self-improvement and was always thinking about how to be better for himself and his staff. She explained that Mr. Becketts made the County a model in the state for being one of the first to roll out new implementations. Chair Jacobs continued to say Mr. Becketts raised the bar for the new Director and wished him well in his new position.

Other Business

Receive Update of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project and Receive Public Comments

Melinda Taylor, Senior Financial Analyst and Danny Rogers, Project Director shared a presentation titled "Draft Durham County Transit Plan – Overview" which highlighted the following:

- Overview of Durham Transit Plan
- Goals of Durham Transit Plan
- Regional Transit Vision
- Key Assumptions
 - Federal/State/Local Funding
 - D-O LRT Project Cost-Share Agreement
 - D-O LRT Project Cost
- Funding Durham Projects and Services

- Project Cash Flow Results
 - Key Assumptions
 - Cash Balances
 - Revenue vs. Debt Service
 - Net Coverage Ratios
- Meeting Additional Needs
 - Exploring Affordability of CRT
 - Wake-Durham Commuter Rail
- Mitigating Risks
 - Identified Risk
- Cost-Sharing Agreement

Chair Jacobs asked if the draft plan had a combined local funding commitment of \$906 million, why was the assumption of the Durham share \$742.9 million. Ms. Taylor responded the \$906 million was the total share with Durham assuming the \$742.9 and Orange County assuming the difference.

Commissioner Reckhow stated the bottom line was very important because it showed the local total cost of the project. She asked Ms. Taylor to clarify the total expected revenue from Durham-Orange over the next few years. Ms. Taylor stated that total was \$5.27 billion dollars. Commissioner Reckhow highlighted the fact that there was a 30% contingency included along with money being placed aside for maintenance.

Commissioner Carter noted that the projected amount showed the minimum cash balance needed to begin construction in 2018 was \$211.8 million, but the projection showed that there was a negative balance in 2028. Ms. Taylor responded that having a negative cash balance showed that the funds were maxed out and there was no money available to complete during the suggested timeline.

Commissioner Reckhow stated the County needed to look at everything including a timeframe that was more workable. She added by overlapping commuter rail during the same time as light rail was not workable. Chair Jacobs continued to say that the scheduling, other sources of revenue and possibly having Wake County start earlier than Durham with the commuter rail project would be a great benefit for the County. Commissioner Reckhow interjected and stated if Wake waited, then they could possibly benefit from more state funding as well.

Commissioner Howerton asked how the commuter rail would be affordable. She asked for clarification on why the commuter rail project may not occur if the light rail project was completed. Ms. Taylor responded one of the biggest challenges was the 25% state funding assumption for the commuter rail project as with the light rail project. She added originally both projects would not occur at the same time, but with changes, they were looking at different ways to get the project funded.

Commissioner Reckhow referenced the “Meeting Additional Needs” slide and stated the bus service in that corridor would not be needed so the “dividend hours” buses could be deployed more widely across the County. She added in 2029 when the light rail begins, overall transit would expand as well.

Chair Jacobs highlighted one item that was not in the agreement which was they equally shared a position of one full time person to work and oversee the Durham/Orange Light Rail.

Commissioner Reckhow stated there was a consultant hired with a \$1.6 million dollar grant from the federal transit agency to do station area planning. She added the preliminary information looked very

positive in terms of the amount of economic development that could be generated around the stations.

Chair Jacobs recalled details from the preliminary information provided by the consultant for the Chapel Hill and Orange County stations. She stated there was an opportunity for \$490 million to \$820 million worth of new transit development by 2028. Chair Jacobs added the economic development potential would be significant for our area. She also emphasized to the public that all money for the project was coming from transit designated funds. Chair Jacobs also highlighted the numerous connections of the light rail project to local colleges and businesses.

Commissioner Carter asked if the model included fare information. Ms. Taylor responded there was a ridership model used and the assumption was that 20% of maintenance cost would be covered from fares.

Chair Jacobs opened the public comment period and recognized citizens who were signed up to speak.

Matthew Clark mentioned the Triangle had experienced a period of growth and wondered what ways could the Triangle continue to sustain that growth. He added the Durham/Orange light rail project was the way to go as it would connect the communities and form a nexus for education, healthcare and economic development.

Alex Modestou stated the light rail project stood to benefit Durham and the County would grow by 100,000 people in the next 20 years. He referenced the land use plans and mentioned reliable transportation was needed to help people get to and from work as well as other activities. Mr. Modestou added if the County did not invest in light rail there would be an increase in congestion and growth continues in the area.

Brian Callaway stated he was interested in the long-term transportation need; however, the development concerns were imperative. He mentioned his concerns about affordable housing and previous failed attempts in the past regarding transit being provided to the Raleigh/Durham Airport. Mr. Callaway added he was not 100% for the plan but agreed that there was a need for more transit.

Dan Jewell, mentioned the need of the transit system for personal and business needs. He added transit was important for the future of our youth.

Wayland Burton spoke in the affirmative concerning the light rail system. He added there was a need for the system due to the population growth. Mr. Burton added the growth would bring more revenue and taxes to the community as well as provide decreased congestion on the roads.

Chair Jacobs thanked all the citizens for speaking and stated the issue would be back before the Board at the April 24, 2017 Regular Session meeting.

Consent Agenda

Chair Jacobs asked the Board if they desired to pull any items from the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Carter requested to pull item #17-0169. Chair Jacobs entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Howerton moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to approve all items on the Consent Agenda except item #17-0169.

17-0121 Approve Agreement with Duke University for the use of Duke University Fiber Optic Network

with Durham County

17-0145 Contract Amendment for Vincent Valuations, LLC

17-0156 Resolution to Appoint (Plat) Review Officers and to Cancel the Review Officer Duties of Former County Employees

17-0158 Approval of the Contract to Purchase CISCO Unified Computing System (UCS) and installation services from NWN, Inc. using Technology Capital Funds Set Aside For the Purpose of Technology Life Cycle Replacement in the Amount of \$883,044.82

*17-0160 Capital Project Amendment No. 17CPA000018 - For Limited Obligation Bond (LOBs) Series 2018-B Funding in the Amount of \$2,924,443 for the Durham County Share of the new 911 Facility Located Within a New City of Durham Public Safety Facility

*17-0161 Capital Project Amendment No. 17CPA000017 - Appropriation of 2016 Voter Approved General Obligation Bonds for the Museum of Life and Science

17-0162 Refund of Overpayment of Tax\Revenues Stamps pursuant to N.C. General Statute 105-228.37

17-0163 Upgrade Existing Andover Controlled Building Management System at the Detention Center

17-0173 Resolution Endorsing Triangle J Council of Government’s Efforts to Develop an Economic Development District (EDD) in Conjunction with the United States Economic Development Agency (USEDA) and Member Counties

17-0175 Proposed Changes to the Durham County Finance Policy

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Item #17-0160

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
2016-17 Capital Project Ordinance
Amendment Number 17CPA000018**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2016-17 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

Project	Current Budget	Increase/ Decrease	Revised Budget
E911 Facility County Share (4320DC001)	\$0	\$2,924,443	\$2,924,443

Adopted this the 11th day of April, 2017.

Consent Agenda Item #17-0161

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
2016-17 Capital Project Ordinance
Amendment Number 17CPA000017**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2016-17 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

2016 Voter Approved General Obligation Bonds for the Museum of Life and Science

Project	Current Budget	Increase/ Decrease	Revised Budget
Exhibit Upgrades and Maintenance (6190CD035)	\$0	\$2,053,542	\$2,053,542
Classrooms Expansion (6190CD036)	\$0	\$3,094,522	\$3,094,522
Entry Plaza and Lobby Renovation (6190CD037)	\$0	\$1,819,641	\$1,819,641
New Parking Deck (6190CD038)	\$0	\$7,100,000	\$7,100,000
16 GO Bonds Issuance Costs -Library (6190CD039)	\$0	\$147,198	\$147,198

Adopted this the 11th day of April, 2017.

Items Pulled From Consent Agenda

17-0169 - My Brother’s Keeper Durham and Public Allies of North Carolina Partnership

Chair Jacobs asked Wendell Davis, County Manager to provide clarification on the item.

County Manager Davis stated there were 24 recommendations that came from the policy review for the My Brother’s Keeper – Youth Initiative Group. He explained that the County has six (6) public allies that were on a ten (10) month contract which was scheduled to end in April 2017. County Manager Davis stated the old document programed two (2) additional public allies for another ten (10) months. He continued to say the changes were that the County would keep two (2) people between April 2017 – June 2017 and the Public Allies Organization would keep one (1) person on their payroll until June 2017. County Manager Davis added there would be a recommendation for funding in the manager’s budget in the next fiscal year.

Chair Jacobs clarified that the request was to add an addendum to extend the services from April 2017 – June 2017. County Manager Davis concurred. Chair Jacobs also confirmed that a report would be provided at the May 2017 Worksession meeting. County Manager Davis concurred.

Commissioner Reckhow expressed her support for the extension; however, after reading the report by Dionne Hines, Assistant to the County Manager, she felt the allies were hitting roadblocks in terms of the work being completed. She suggested in the future the County should figure out ways to make the allies as productive as possible. County Manager Davis responded as the initiative was laid out, an institutional change would occur that would allow more doors to be opened.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to approve

the partnership agreement Public Allies, Inc. and Durham County Government for work with MBK Durham.

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Chair Jacobs stated the Board was requested to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; in the matter of Marqueta Welton vs. Durham County, Durham Board of County Commissioners, Wendell Davis, and Kathy Everett-Perry.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to adjourn to Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

Chair Jacobs announced that the Board met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

Adjournment

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Monica W. Toomer
Deputy Clerk to the Board