

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Monday, March 10, 2014

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, second floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chairman Michael D. Page, Vice-Chair Brenda A. Howerton, and Commissioners, Fred Foster, Jr., Wendy Jacobs, Michael D. Page, and Ellen Reckhow

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Michael D. Page

Opening of Regular Session—Chairman Page asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Adjustments

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Announcements

Chairman Page made the following announcements:

- "In Touch with Durham County," the Durham County Television show, airs daily on Cable TV Channel 8 or 97-5 at 10 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Our County Commissioners' meetings are also rebroadcast on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m., Saturdays at 9:00 p.m., and Sundays at 9:00 p.m.
- Durham County needs you! If you have a few hours to commit, Durham County has a number of boards and commissions that can benefit from your participation. We invite you to make a difference in our community. Contact the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025, visit the County's website, or email Clerk@dconc.gov for more information. Please note that all City and County taxes must be current at the time of application.
- "Living Healthy," the Durham Diabetes Coalition Television show, airs daily on Cable TV Channel 8 or 97-5 at 7 p.m. Each episode features Durham County resources and residents successfully living with diabetes. This is also an initiative that supports Durham County's strategic goal Health and Well-being for All.

- As Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, I will begin office hours for citizens on Wednesday, January 15th from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Appointments can be made by calling me at 919-949-4022.

Commissioner Reckhow publicized a recent newspaper insert that highlighted programming at various Durham County Library branches for the months of March, April and May 2014. She invited citizens to obtain further information about the programs by visiting any library location in-person or via the Durham County Library website. Commissioner Reckhow emphasized that there were programs for people of all ages and interests.

Chairman Page praised the Durham County Library for the good work being done. He stated that the library was providing many wonderful opportunities for citizens. Chairman Page commented on a Herald-Sun newspaper article that recognized Women's History Month. He continued saying that the article highlighted women in leadership, including Vice-Chair Howerton and Commissioners Jacobs and Reckhow. Chairman Page saluted the aforementioned Commissioners and thanked them for their leadership on the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Lowell Siler, County Attorney, announced that Ms. Carol Hammett, Deputy County Attorney had resigned from her position with Durham County Government. Attorney Siler stated that Ms. Hammett would be working as the General Counsel for Alliance Behavioral Healthcare. He continued saying that Ms. Hammett produced high-quality work on behalf of the County in many different areas. In closing, Attorney Siler thanked her for doing such a great job during her tenure.

The Board thanked Ms. Hammett for her professionalism and service to Durham County; and wished her the best in her new position.

Ms. Hammett provided brief remarks thanking the Board and County Attorney Siler for the recognition. Ms. Hammett acknowledged the staff of the County Attorney's Office and other County staff who helped to create a proficient and personable workplace.

Citizen Comments

The Board of County Commissioners provided a 30-minute comment period to allow Durham County citizens an opportunity to speak. Citizens were requested to refrain from addressing issues related to personnel matters.

Mr. John Tarantino presented a musical satire to the Board.

Ms. Victoria Peterson expressed concern regarding individuals who were allegedly wrongfully arrested and/or detained at the Durham County Detention Center. Ms. Peterson also commented on the right to a fair and speedy trial.

Minutes

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Howerton, to approve as submitted the February 24, 2014 Regular Session Minutes of the Board.

The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation – Professional Social Work Month

Commissioner Page read the following proclamation into record:

NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

MARCH 2014

WHEREAS, social workers have the right education and experience to guide individuals, families, and communities through complex issues and choices; and

WHEREAS, social workers connect individuals, families, and communities to available resources; and

WHEREAS, social workers are dedicated to improving the society in which we live; and

WHEREAS, social workers stand up for others to make sure everyone has access to the same basic rights, protections, and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, social workers help people help themselves, whenever and wherever they need it most; and

WHEREAS, social workers have been the driving force behind important social movements in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, social workers in the Durham County Department of Social Services invest in people so that they can contribute more to the economic and social wellbeing of our community; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Work's 2014 theme is *All People Matter* and social workers in the Durham County Department of Social Services respect that all people matter by assuring families' basic economic needs are met; providing access to health care and nutrition; helping people find jobs and developing strong work habits and a career path; keeping children and families safe; and helping children to be ready for and succeed in school;

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 March 2014 as

“PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH”

in Durham County, North Carolina and commend this observance to our citizens and urge all citizens to join with the Department of Social Services in celebration and support of social workers and the social work profession.

This the 10th day of March, 2014.

Michael D. Page, Chairman
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Michael Becketts, Director of Social Services (DSS); Ms. Jovetta Whitfield, Assistant Director of Family Safety and Permanency Services; Ms. Rhonda Stevens, Assistant Director of Family Economic Independence and Ms. Janice Williams, Adoption Supervisor were present to accept the proclamation.

Mr. Becketts thanked the Board for recognizing March 2014 as Professional Social Work Month. He stated that social workers performed their jobs to ensure that individuals were treated with dignity and respect. He continued saying that there were 175 social workers in DSS who performed countless duties and went above and beyond what was expected. Mr. Becketts closed saying that there was an overarching theme within the department that “all people matter.”

Chairman Page extended thanks to staff of the Department of Social Services for the work that they do and their commitment to the citizens of Durham County.

Referencing consent agenda item “a,” Commissioner Reckhow stated that the reallocated child care revenue was indicative of a highly performing DSS. She continued saying that in order to receive the funds in question, the DSS must show good money management by efficiently using funds with no overages. Commissioner Reckhow praised the DSS for obtaining this level of funding and providing Durham County citizens with access to high-quality child care services.

Commissioner Jacobs thanked DSS staff for services that they provide. She stated that she enjoyed working with the DSS Board and gaining first-hand knowledge of how the department works together. Commissioner Jacobs commented that the DSS were “front-line” personnel in the community who ensured that basic needs were met across diverse populations. She also noted that the Board recently met with the DSS Board to discuss a potential Medicaid services crisis, which brought to light other recent difficulties regarding NCFAST and meeting service needs. Commissioner Jacobs expressed her desire for a formal celebration in recognition of Professional Social Work Month.

Vice-Chair Howerton thanked DSS staff. She stated that the work that they perform positively affected the hearts and minds of Durham County residents.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Page asked the Commissioners if they desired to pull any items from the Consent agenda. Chairman Page and Commissioner Foster indicated that they wanted to pull item “b.”

Vice-Chair Howerton moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow, to approve the following consent agenda items (7a, c, d, e, f and g):

- a. *Approve Budget Ordinance No. 14BCC000040 recognizing reallocated child care revenue in the amount of \$771,869;
- c. Adopt a resolution requesting the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) accept Keeneland Court into the Secondary Road System for state maintenance. Keeneland Court is part of the Keeneland Manor subdivision and intersects with Stagecoach Road;

- d. Adopt a resolution requesting the North Carolina Department of Transportation accept Winner's Circle into the Secondary Road System for state maintenance. Winner's Circle is a part of the Keeneland Manor subdivision and intersects with Keeneland Court;
- e. Adopt the Resolution authorizing the Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority to levy an additional three dollar (\$3.00) vehicle registration tax on motor vehicles registered in the Special Tax District;
- f. Approve an amendment to the legal services contract with Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP by an amount not to exceed \$31,000 and authorize the County Attorney to execute the amendment;
- g. Approve an amendment to the legal services contract with Navigant Consulting, Inc. by an amount not to exceed \$6,000 and authorize the County Attorney to execute the amendment.

The motion carried unanimously.

*Document(s) related to this item follow:

Consent Agenda Item No. a.

DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
FY 2013-14 Budget Ordinance
Amendment No. 14BCC000040

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the FY 2013-14 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	\$56,421,081	\$771,869	\$57,192,950

Expenditures:

<u>Function</u>			
<u>GENERAL FUND</u> Human Services	\$89,027,781	\$771,869	89,799,650

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

This the 10th day of March, 2014.

Advance Public Comments on the FY 2014-2015 Budget

The Board of County Commissioners was requested to hold an Advance Public Comment session to receive public comments for the FY 2014-2015 Budget. Chairman Page stated that as County staff began the preparation of the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget, public input was being solicited on issues that may need to be addressed during the budget process. He also encouraged citizens to email their comments to commissioners@dconc.gov.

Mr. Lee Worsley, Interim County Manager, introduced Mr. Keith Lane, Interim Budget and Management Services Director.

Mr. Stephen Hopkins, spoke on behalf of northeast central Durham. He spoke on various issues in that area of Durham including: employment, crime, business opportunities and a lack of affordable housing. He submitted his comments for the record.

Mr. John Martin, Inter-Neighborhood Council, spoke on adequate funding for the City-County Planning Department. Mr. Martin cited difficulty obtaining assistance from the Planning Department on a number of different matters due to staffing constraints. He submitted his comments for the record.

Mr. Vince Hammond, spoke on adequate funding for the City-County Planning Department. Mr. Hammond commented on staffing concerns regarding the Planning Department, which impacted revisions to the current cell phone tower ordinance. He submitted his comments for the record.

Ms. Donna Rudolph, Eagle's Point Homeowner's Association, spoke on adequate funding for the City-County Planning Department. Ms. Rudolph commented on staffing concerns regarding the Planning Department, which impacted revisions to the current cell phone tower ordinance. She submitted her comments for the record.

Items Pulled From Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda Item No. b

- b. Approve the Resolution Authorizing an Electronic Public Auction Sale and authorize the County Manager or designee to follow the surplus disposal procedures for proper disposal and removal of accumulated surplus vehicles.

Commissioner Foster stated that he pulled the item to question for the record if the County did its due diligence to ensure the surplus vehicles in question were unserviceable/unusable by other departments prior to their disposal/removal. Commissioner Foster expressed that the County should strive for cost efficiency and reuse surplus vehicles in other County service areas.

Chairman Page questioned where the County's surplus vehicles go once they receive that designation.

Ms. Jacqueline Boyce, Purchasing Division Manager, stated that surplus vehicles were being stored at the warehouse on Hillsborough Road, but occasionally they were stored on-site by individual departments. Chairman Page recommended the Wheels for Hope non-profit program, as an option to

use the surplus vehicles to help citizens. Ms. Boyce responded that donation requests from departments would be brought back before the Board for approval.

Referencing *Attachment 1- 2013 Surplus Vehicle Listing*, Commissioner Jacobs questioned the reason that vehicles labeled in “good” condition were deemed surplus and scheduled for removal/disposal. She then asked if there were plans to replace the vehicles on the list. Ms. Boyce responded stating that prior to a vehicle being labeled as surplus, departments were required to follow the Durham County *Vehicle/Equipment Replacement Policy*. She stated that the policy listed the criteria for a vehicle to be deemed surplus: mileage, age, repair costs and/or a lack of replacement parts or components. Ms. Boyce stated that the policy was applied to each vehicle before it was referred to her to be labeled as surplus. Commissioner Jacobs inquired if at any time surplus vehicles were referred to other departments that were in need of a vehicle. Ms. Boyce stated that before a vehicle is deemed to be surplus that the needs of other departments were considered; however once a vehicle meets the replacement criteria that it is usually not transferred to prevent further maintenance and repair costs.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Howerton, to approve the Resolution Authorizing an Electronic Public Auction Sale and authorize the County Manager or designee to follow the surplus disposal procedures for proper disposal and removal of accumulated surplus vehicles.

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Vice-Chair Howerton moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to adjourn into Closed Session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, pursuant to G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6).

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

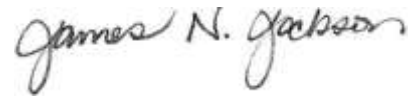
Chairman Page announced that the Board met in Closed Session. Direction was provided to staff.

Adjournment

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James N. Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

James N. Jackson
Deputy Clerk to the Board