

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

Tuesday, September 2, 2014

12:00 Noon Worksession

**AGENDA**

**1. Citizen Comments (30 min)**

- 1) The Board of County Commissioners will provide a 30-minute comment period at the beginning of its Worksession meeting on the first Monday of each month. Any citizen of Durham County wishing to speak shall have an opportunity to do so. The Board may direct staff to research and reply to the concerns, if appropriate. Speakers must sign in prior to the start of the meeting providing a mail/email address and telephone number so that staff may reply to comments and/or questions. Citizens who request an immediate response from the Board are encouraged to submit a brief description of the issue to the Clerk to the Board two weeks prior to the Worksession to allow an opportunity for research prior to the meeting. **All speakers shall have three minutes to speak and are requested to refrain from addressing issues related to personnel matters.**

**Resource Person(s):** V. Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board

**County Manager's Recommendation:** The Manager recommends that the Board receive citizen comments and direct staff to respond, as deemed appropriate.

**2. Removal of a Board Member Due to Poor Attendance (10 min)**

- 1) On May 28, 2013, the Board of County Commissioners appointed Chris Kimaru to serve a full term on the Durham City-County Appearance Commission. Based on information from Wade Griffin, Durham City-County Planning, Mr. Kimaru has failed to comply with the Policy and Procedures for Appointments to the County Boards, Commissions, Committees or Authorities, set forth by the County Commissioners.
- 2) The Policy and Procedures for Appointments to the County Boards, Commissions, Committees or Authorities states, *“If an appointee has absences (excused or unexcused) which constitute more than 50% of the meetings in any calendar year, he or she is obligated to resign.”*
- 3) The Clerk’s Office has attempted to contact Mr. Kimaru via letter (attached) and email to request his resignation. There has been no response.

**Resource Person:** V. Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board

**County Manager’s Recommendation:** The Manager recommends that the Board suspend the rules and address Mr. Kimaru’s appointment.

**3. Discussion of Statewide Ideas for NCACC 2015 Legislative Goals Process (20 min)**

- 1) The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) has initiated its semi annual process for approval of Statewide Legislative Goals for the 2015 General Assembly session. All proposals must be submitted to NCACC by September 19, 2014 and must be accompanied by an adopted resolution of the Board, a letter from the Chairman, or a letter from the president of an affiliate organization. The entire process will culminate in January 2015 with the membership adopting final goals at the Legislative Conference in Moore County.
- 2) Staff requests that the Board review the attached proposals, discuss, offer any additional proposals and instruct staff to finalize for adoption at the September 8, 2014 Regular Session.
- 3) Alignment with Strategic Plan: This resolution aligns with Strategic Goal 5: Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government.

**Resource Persons:** Deborah Craig-Ray, Assistant County Manager; Kathy Everett-Perry Assistant County Attorney

**County Manager's Recommendation:** The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners discuss the legislative information and direct staff accordingly.

**4. Presentation on the Bionomic Educational Training Center (BETC) developed at Southern High School (15 min)**

- 1) The Board is requested to receive a presentation on the Bionomic Education Training Center (BETC) developed at Southern High School. In 2012, the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District staff partnered with the administration and teachers at Southern High School to create and implement a program that integrates science, storm water engineering technology and agribusiness. This program, referred to as BETC is designed to educate students regarding the future in agriscience and agribusiness in order to meet the growing need and demand in these fields. Students at Southern High School work in two areas of the project: the Experiment Station and the School Based Agribusiness. The Experiment Station lab has been completed with a series of experiments that can be used by all students enrolled in AP Environmental Science and Biology.
- 2) The lab focuses on water quality concerns and conservation using research techniques, data collection and analysis. The project also provided solar panels for plant grow lights and a Smart Controller upgrade to the irrigation system on five athletic fields for Southern High School. The new controller and weather monitoring station system will save an estimated 20% to 50% of the current potable water usage that DPS uses, approximately \$15,000 a year on average for the irrigation of the five fields. In the school-based agribusiness program, students propagate and sell native species of plants for use in bioretention ponds, riparian buffers and other storm water projects throughout the county, thereby creating jobs for these students, generating a source of income to sustain the BETC program, as well as providing a service to the community. These two programs, have enhanced the quality of the science and math curriculum and offer hands-on experience in applied research and plant production.

- 3) It is worth noting that the Soil and Water Department received a \$325,000 EEG grant from the Department of Justice on August 14, 2014 to conduct a stormwater project at the school. This will provide further economic savings to the school while providing another educational tool on campus.
- 4) Alignment with Strategic Plan: This program meets objectives under Goal 4 by increasing energy efficiency, improving water quality while changing behaviors to achieve environmental quality.

**Resource Persons**: Eddie Culberson, Director Soil and Water; Michael Dupree, Ag Development and Watershed Conservationist

**County Manager's Recommendation**: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the presentation on the BETC program located at Southern High School.

**5. Facility Use Plan (30 min) (15 min presentation)**

- 1) The Board is requested to consider a proposed Facility Use Policy. This policy is proposed to assure certain facilities owned and operated by Durham County are utilized in a manner that has a public purpose which meets the needs and interests of the community, as well as to set clear policies, procedures, regulations and fees regarding such uses. Once approved, this policy will supersede all other County and Department policies regarding the use of County facilities as defined in this policy.
- 2) Key employee stakeholders of affected facilities participated in developing the policy.
- 3) Alignment with Strategic Plan: This proposed policy aligns with Goal 5: Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government objectives to harness community resources and foster informed public engagement.

**Resource Persons**: Motiryo Keambiroiro, Director of General Services; Lowell Siler, County Attorney

**County Manager's Recommendation**: The County Manager recommends that the Board consider the proposed Facility Use Policy for approval at the September 8, 2014 regular meeting.

**6. Demonstrate New Technology Portal to Track Citizens' or BOCC Requests and/or Questions (30 min)**

- 1) The Board is requested to view a short demonstration of the new technology portal that has been built to track citizen's request for information or BOCC request.
- 2) As we continue our mission toward implementation of the County's Strategic Goals, it is vitally important that we are responsive to questions as they come into the County. This new portal will allow us to capture and assigned request for information or questions to the various department heads and track when those issues have been closed. This is our first step towards realizing our goal of delivering technology solutions that will help us easily manage all citizen interactions with Durham County Government.

**Resource Persons:** Greg Marrow, Information Services & Technology, CIO

**County Manager's Recommendation:** The County Manager recommends that the Board receive a short demonstration of the new technology portal that has been built to track citizen's request for information or BOCC request and direct staff as appropriate.

**7. Community Giving Fund (30 min) (15 min presentation)**

**8. Review of BOCC Directives (10 min)**

- 1) The Board is requested to review the previous month's directives for staff and make comments as necessary. This set of directives covers June, July and August of 2014.
- 2) Alignment with Strategic Plan: Following up on the directives from the Board of County Commissioner meetings aligns with Goal 5 of the Strategic Plan: Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government.

**Resource Persons:** Dionne Hines, County Intern

**County Manager's Recommendation:** The County Manager recommends that the Board review the BOCC directives and make comments to staff as necessary.