

DURHAM COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

April 8, 2016

Meeting Notes

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

Legislators Present: Senators Floyd McKissick, Jr. and Mike Woodward

Others Present: Jodi Miller, Deborah Craig-Ray, Claudia Hager, Jay Gibson, Gayle Harris, Marqueta Welton, Drew Cummings, Michelle Parker-Evans, Lowell Siler, and Dionne Hines

Senators Woodard and McKissick commended Deborah Craig-Ray and County staff for being very responsive and great to work with.

Senator McKissick commented that Medicaid continued to be an issue. He spoke about expanding tax exemptions for low income families and the transit cap.

Senator Woodard added there may be some amendments to clarify HB2. Vice Chair Howerton inquired if there was any sense of how counties felt. Senator Woodard responded that the metro Mayors were taking action.

Commissioner Reckhow asked about the State Human Relations Commission. Senator McKissick explained the role of the Commission was to hear complaints when local communities didn't have a Human Relations Commission. Senator Woodard added that the Governor appointed most of its members.

Ms. Craig-Ray shared the draft resolution on House Bill2 (HB2).

Senator Woodard mentioned that counties needed to be prepared for discussion on the sales tax although it may not come up in the short session.

Senator Woodard commented on Mental Health and Jordan Lake/Falls Lake Rules. Commissioner Reckhow stated that Durham would need help in delaying Phase 2 of the Rules.

Commissioner Jacobs mentioned foster care and the need to revisit subsidy to families – there was a 20% increase in the need since 2013; however, that had been no change in the subsidy since 2008.

Senator Woodard thanked the staff again for their work and he departed for another meeting.

NCACC Priority Goals

Attorney Siler spoke about an exception for farms to accept fill. Farms had been allowed to accept beneficial fill and it has become a community problem. Commissioner Reckhow commented that if there were no regulations, there could be sedimentation that affected streams.

Commissioner Foster was concerned about the economic piece on the HB2 resolution – minimum wage. He opined the need to address the economic impact so it resonated with the state and not focus on the LGBT.

The Board thanked Senator McKissick for attending the breakfast.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

V. Michelle Parker-Evans
County Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners