



Durham County

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

Meeting Minutes

Board of County Commissioners

Monday, January 8, 2018

7:00 PM

Commissioners' Chambers

Regular Session

Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Jacobs opened the meeting and stated Commissioner Howerton was excused from the January 8, 2018 Regular Session meeting.

Agenda Adjustments

Chair Jacobs announced there were no agenda adjustments.

Announcements

Chair Jacobs read the following announcements.

- 1)Join us for the CONNECTING TO OPPORTUNITY SUMMIT sponsored by GoTriangle, Triangle J Council of Governments, and Gateway Planning. This summit will be a day of learning and discussion with local and national experts. The event will be held Tuesday, February 6, 2018 from 9:00 am – 5:00pm at the Durham Performing Arts Center (DPAC), 123 Vivian Street. Please register by January 22, 2018 or contact Aspen Romeyn, Triangle J at 919-558-9319 for more information.

Chair Jacobs encouraged the community to get involved with the Summit as the topics were around the Light Rail Project. She stated this included positive incentives such as jobs, economic growth and other opportunities.

- 2)Please join us on January 11, 2018 at 12:00 noon as Durham City and County governments celebrate our annual Martin Luther King, Jr. program at First Presbyterian Church. The event is free and open to the public.
- 3)GoTriangle is holding two workshops this January, each of which will give you an opportunity to provide insight, ideas, and suggestions for the appearance of the light rail project. Workshops will be held on Tuesday, January 16 from 6-8 pm at the Hayti Heritage Center, 804 Old Fayetteville Street, Durham NC; and Thursday, January 18, Chapel Hill Public

Library, 100 Library Drive, Chapel Hill NC. The interactive sessions are the same and are expected to last two hours. If you are unable to attend in person, you may participate on line thru February 1, 2018. Visit our Announcement page for more information.

4)Durham County Library is participating in a challenge, joining other libraries around the world. We challenge the community to read for at least 10,000 minutes during the month of January and track those minutes. Over 100 libraries around the world will encourage their communities to read a target number of minutes and books. If we reach the nationwide goal, "Shark Tank" investor Mark Cuban will donate \$25,000 to the organization "First Book," which provides new books, learning materials, and other essentials to children in need. There are apparently small prizes from the library. To register: <https://durhamcounty.beanstack.com/reader365>

5)Durham County, along with the Partnership for Children, and the Child Care Services Association, will host an early childhood community forum on Saturday, January 20th from 9 AM – Noon at the Health and Human Services Building, 414 East Main Street. We will present information on the 100 Counties – Helping Children Thrive Initiative, the Pathways to Grade Level Reading, and recent reports – including the 2017 State of Durham County’s Young Children and the 2017 Pre-K Task Force Report. A significant portion of the morning is reserved for community input. This is an opportunity for parents, caregivers, and other interested citizens to weigh in and offer guidance as we develop plans to improve early childhood services in Durham County. Please join us!

Commissioner Reckhow stated the first half of the meeting would be about current initiatives while the remainder of the meeting would be devoted to roundtable discussion/focus groups.

6)The School Choice Workshop is for any parent or guardian with a child who wants to explore K-12 public school options, including charter schools. Come learn how to select a school for your child as we discuss:

7)Please contact the Clerk’s Office at 919-560-0025 or clerk@dconc.gov to find out about opportunities to serve on one of our volunteer boards or commissions. We have vacancies on the Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority, Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee, and Boxing and Wrestling Commission just to name a few.

Lowell Siler, County Attorney stated the Industrial Facilities Board did not have regular meetings. He continued to say the board met to issue bonds and create a unique set of statutory law for the boards. Attorney Siler stated the board only met as needed and would be a good opportunity for any citizen with limited time commitments.

8)These announcements may also be found on the County’s website or you may call the Clerk’s Office at 919-560-0025.

9)Commissioner Reckhow announced the School Choice Workshops would take place on January 9, 2018 from 6:30pm-8:00pm (childcare included) and January 10, 2018 from 12pm-1:30pm (childcare not included) at Durham Cooperative Extension. She added sessions would be offered in both English and Spanish and parents would be given the opportunity to explore school options, learn about the application process, obtain magnet school information

and receive advice/assistance on selecting a school. Commissioner Reckhow stated interested citizens should contact 919-560-0538 for more information.

Minutes

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Vice Chair Hill to approve the November 1, 2017 Worksession minutes and the December 11, 2017 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Jacobs commended staff on the detailed minutes with regard to the complex issues discussed.

Commissioner Reckhow inquired about the directives from meetings prior to December 2017 with more concerns about the contract with the Research Triangle Park (RTP) Foundation. Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff responded a follow-up would be completed so that any missed directives could be addressed.

Directive: Chair Jacobs stated many directives were documented and asked staff to contact those individuals on the minutes and send to appropriate staff for follow-up.

Ceremonial Items

Presentation of Award from NC Department of Environmental Quality for the Rougemont Water System

Mark Petermann, NC DEQ, provided background information on the project and shared the benefits of the Rougemont Water System.

Vance Jackson, NC DEQ, provided background information on the Executive Board and explained their role. Mr. Jackson presented Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff, with the 2017 Employee of the Year Finalist Award from the Environmental Protective Agency.

Mr. Cummings thanked everyone for the award and expanded the recipient group to those individuals who assisted with this project.

Chair Jacobs stated on behalf of the Board, she wanted to thank Mr. Petermann and Mr. Jackson for nominating Mr. Cummings for the award. She continued to say this was a wonderful moment that symbolized the importance of working together in all levels of government.

Commissioner Reckhow thanked Mr. Peterman and Mr. Jackson for the nomination as well. She stated there were a lot of moving parts and setbacks, but Mr. Cummings remained positive and focused while moving the project forward.

Recognition that the Information Services and Technology Department has Received a National Award that Demonstrates World-Class IT Effectiveness

Steve Barden, Application Services Manager, stated the award goes beyond doing good but allowed the County to repeat the standards and processes needed to be effective.

Chair Jacobs stated that the County was one (1) of two (2) organizations to receive the National Award.

She asked Mr. Barden to provide clarification on the specifics of the recognition.

Mr. Barden explained the standards which included performance management, communication within the department and other areas, training and awareness of cyber security.

Durham County Receives FEMA Grant to Prepare for Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks

Jim Groves, Emergency/Fire Management Director provided background information on the grant received and explained how County personnel attended the Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks (CCTA) Program. He added after 145 applications, 29 were awarded with Durham County being one of those awardees. Mr. Groves continued to say a plan, budget and other documents were completed and the department had since partnered with Wake and Orange Counties. He continued to say the outcome of the grant would be a Regional Response Plan which would include all three (3) counties and it would describe how to respond to an attack, ways to communicate with each other, offer family/friend assistance centers, resource management plans, suspicious activity plan as well as mental health planning. Mr. Groves stated the plan would be implemented in the next three (3) years and he expressed his excitement about this opportunity for the County.

Chair Jacobs thanked Mr. Groves for the overview. She added the funds would go into the community to help prepare all citizens in the wake of a crisis. Chair Jacobs also expressed her excitement about the partnerships with Wake and Orange counties.

Proclamation - National Mentoring Month

Chair Jacobs read the following proclamation:

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH | 2018

WHEREAS, in 2002, the Harvard School of Public Health and MENTOR: the National Mentoring Partnership created National Mentoring Month; and

WHEREAS, the goals of National Mentoring Month are to raise awareness of mentoring, recruit individuals to mentor, encourage organizations to engage and integrate quality mentoring into their efforts; and motivate youth to persevere even in the toughest of times; and

WHEREAS, a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who devotes time to a young person to help that young person discover personal strength and achieve their potential through a structured and trusting relationship; and

WHEREAS, quality mentoring encourages and empowers young people to make positive choices, promote self-esteem, support academic achievement and introduce young people to new ideas that put them on a path for making better life decisions to improve opportunities; and

WHEREAS, mentoring programs have shown to be effective in combating school violence and discipline problems, substance abuse, incarceration and truancy; and

WHEREAS, research shows that young people who were at risk for not completing high school but who had a mentor were 52 percent less likely than their peers to skip a day of school, 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 81 percent more likely to report participating regularly extracurricular activities, 46 percent less likely than their peers to start using drugs, 130 percent more than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team, and 78 percent more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities;

WHEREAS,mentors help young people set career goals and use their personal contacts to help young people meet industry professionals and find jobs to improve academic and professional outcomes for youth; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED 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 January 2018 as

“NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH”

in Durham County, and hereby call upon public officials, business and community leaders, educators, and citizens to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities and programs in order to:

- recognize the men and women who serve as staff and volunteers at quality mentoring programs and who help our young people find inner strength and reach their full potential;
- acknowledge that mentoring is beneficial because it encourages educational achievement, reduces juvenile delinquency, improves life outcomes, and strengthens communities;
- promote the creation and expansion of quality mentoring programs across the Durham to equip young people with the tools needed to lead healthy and productive lives; and
- support initiatives to close the "mentoring gap."

This the 8th day of January, 2018.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

DeWarren Langley, Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Foundation, thanked the Board for the proclamation and provided background information on the foundation. He also acknowledged the numerous mentor programs in attendance and asked them to share their name and organization.

Edmond Lewis, Program Manager for My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) mentioned the County was awarded \$50,000 and was looking for ways to best use the funds. He highlighted a new program called “31 Mentors in 31 Days.” Chair Jacobs asked how the public could get more information about the program. Mr. Lewis stated all individuals interested could email mybrotherskeeper@dconc.gov.

Commissioner Reckhow stated the County should lead the way with regards to the “31 Mentors in 31 Days” Program. She mentioned Volunteer Service Policy approved for County employees where they would be allowed up to four (4) hours off per month to mentor at educational and non-profit organizations and asked if it could be publicized again. Wendell Davis, County Manager, responded mentoring was a long-term commitment. He added an hour was good, but more time was needed to accomplish life changing experiences.

The remaining individuals who spoke were as follows:

- Claudis Polk, Minority Men in Medicine – UNC School of Medicine
- Erin Callahan, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Triangle
- Lorenza Wilkins, Made In Durham
- Al Sullivan, 100 Black Men in America – Triangle East Chapter
- Earl Chestnut, Durham Men’s Health Network
- Charles Lyons, Durham Housing Authority, Salvation Army – Volunteer throughout Durham
- Steve Chalmers, Men of Vision
- Herb Sellers, Durham Bulls Youth Athletic League
- Larry Thomas, Thomas Mentoring Leadership Academy
- Raheem Aleem, Choices Youth Program - Durham County Sheriff’s Department

Chair Jacobs thanked Mr. Langley for bringing forward the proclamation and the organizations in Durham County to share their stories of the incredible work being done in the community. She hoped that the citizens watching learned information about the organizations and decided to become actively

involved.

Resolution - Celebrating & Honoring the Life & Service of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Vice Chair Hill read the following resolution:

**CELEBRATING & HONORING
THE LIFE & SERVICE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

WHEREAS, A champion of justice, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. devoted his life to strengthening the content of the American character and fought unrelentingly for the civil rights of all Americans and taught us through non-violence that courage displaces fear, love transforms hate, acceptance dissipates prejudice and mutual regard cancels enmity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King helped to organize efforts, plan events, and lead marches to advance the rights of African Americans to vote, for desegregation, for recognition and respect for labor rights, and to ensure other basic civil rights; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King was one of the leaders of the successful Montgomery bus boycott in 1955 and helped found and served as the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957 to coordinate and support nonviolent direct action as a method of desegregating bus systems across the South; and

WHEREAS, between 1960 and 1964, Dr. King made addresses in Durham at White Rock Baptist Church, the Durham Business & Professional Chain, Hillside High School, Jack Tar Hotel to the Southern Political Science Association, North Carolina College (now North Carolina Central University) and Duke University urging civil disobedience and nonviolent protests to end racial segregation and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King helped organize the 1963 nonviolent protests in Birmingham, Alabama, that drew national attention to the struggle for civil rights and to the hateful and brutal responses of the local law enforcement; and helped organize the March on Washington during which he delivered his eloquent and moving “I Have a Dream” speech; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King helped to organize the monumentally inspiring Selma to Montgomery marches in 1965 to advocate for passage of the Voting Rights Act to guarantee African American citizens the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King was supporting the garbage workers in Memphis, Tennessee, and planning the Poor People’s Campaign to promote economic justice, when he was assassinated in Memphis in 1968; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we the Durham Board of County Commissioners do hereby resolve to recognize and honor the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his commitment to a free and just world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Durham Board of County Commissioners call on the residents of Durham County to join us in reflecting on and advancing Dr. King’s life and fulfilling his dream.

This the 8th day of January, 2018.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair

James Hill, Jr., Vice-Chair

Heidi Carter

Brenda A. Howerton

Ellen W. Reckhow

Williams Lucas, Chair of the MLK Steering Committee thanked the Board on behalf of the committee for the resolution. He added there were nine (9) subcommittees alongside the regular committee that worked 12 months out of the year to promote upcoming events.

Minister Warren Herndon, Chair of the Special Events Committee, thanked the Board for all the support over the years and invited them to attend the Unity March and Rally on Monday, January 15, 2018 at 10:30am beginning at the NC Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Grace Wilson and John Jerrid, Committee Members, shared highlights from the Interfaith Breakfast and thanked the Board for the acknowledgment.

Chair Jacobs thanked the members for their attendance and asked them to share any upcoming events.

DeWarren Langley, Secretary shared the list of upcoming events and also directed citizens to www.durhammlkcommittee.org for more information.

Consent Agenda

Chair Jacobs asked the Board if they requested to comment or pull an item from the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, she asked to entertain a motion for approval.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

*18-0562 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 18BCC000019 to Recognize an Increase of \$14,539 from the NC Division of Public Health Epidemiology/Communicable Disease Branch for Safe Spaces

18-0566 Execution of the Consulting Services Agreement with CBRE/Heery for the Moving Consulting Services for the Administrative Building II Renovation (former Judicial Building) Project No.: DC073

18-0578 Award of the Easement Maintenance Services for Durham County Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant (RFP 18-006) contract to Electrical Controls & Maintenance, Inc.

18-0591 Approval of the Purchase of Goods contract with Alfred Williams and Company for the Purchase of the Workstations from the U.S. Communities Buying Program for the Administrative II Building Renovation (former Judicial Building) Project No.: DC073

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Item #18-0562

**Durham County, North Carolina
2017-2018 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 18BCC000019**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2017-2018 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	\$60,340,575	\$14,539	\$60,355,114
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Expenditures:

Function

GENERAL FUND

Human Services	\$97,000,454	\$14,539	\$97,014,993
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All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This the 8th day of January 2018

Public Hearings

Public Hearing and Award of Franchise to Provide Ambulance Service in Durham County

Kevin Underhill, Interim Director of EMS, stated in Durham County there was a consistent struggle in ensuring there was enough transportation to assist the community in a time of need. He provided background information on MedEx Transport and explained how they assisted in an urgent need with a bariatric patient. Mr. Hill continued to explain the capacity that MedEx Transport would assist the County in if they were awarded the ambulance franchise.

Commissioner Carter asked for clarification on non-emergency medical transportation. Mr. Hill responded Durham County would still be responsible for all emergency 911 calls. He added MedEx Transport would assist with transporting patients between nursing facilities, non-emergency doctor appointments and fill in only if there was a major disaster for non-critical patients.

Chair Jacobs opened the public hearing.

Jeff White, Chief Operations Officer of MedEx Transport, stated he was available to answer any questions that the Board may have.

Commissioner Carter asked how many vehicles would MedEx have available to the County. Mr. White stated the initial plan was to start with 10 vehicles. He added the company owned 62 total units and more would be made available if needed.

Chair Jacobs inquired about the other ambulance franchises within the County and asked about the capacity. Mr. Hill responded he was unsure of the exact capacity number; however, there was more than enough volume for an additional franchise. Chair Jacobs stated as the aging population grew in Durham, there would be an increased need for this type of service in the community.

Chair Jacobs closed the public hearing and asked to entertain a motion.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Vice Chair Hill to award an ambulance franchise to MedEx Medical Transport, Inc.

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Chair Jacobs stated the Board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session for the following:

- 1) 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 Commissioner, Wendell Davis, and Kathy Everett-Perry pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).
- 2) 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 pursuant to G.S.143-318.11(a)(3).

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

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

Vice Chair Hill requested an excused absence for the February 12, 2018 and February 26, 2018 Regular Session meetings.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to excuse Vice Chair Hill from the February 12, 2018 and February 26, 2018 Regular Session meetings.

The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Monica W. Toomer
Deputy Clerk to the Board.