THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Monday, November 9, 2020

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second Floor, Durham County Government Administrative

Complex, 200 East Main Street, Durham, North Carolina

Present: Chair Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair James Hill and Commissioners Heidi Carter, Brenda

Howerton and Ellen Reckhow

Presider: Chair Wendy Jacobs

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. **Durham County Nonprofit Agency Funding Program** – Durham County began accepting applications for its new COVID-focused nonprofit funding program on October 15, 2020. The 18-month program, which runs January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, will seek funding proposals from nonprofits that address both COVID response and recovery issues, as well as plan for stronger, more equitable systems in the aftermath of COVID, across three strategic target areas (Food Security; Child, Youth, and Family Wellness; Workforce Development).

The application process opened on Thursday, Oct. 15, with submissions due on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020. Awards will be announced in early January. Recipients of funds will meet with County staff to finalize a quarterly report template, including a list of activities, deliverables, and performance measures.

Please use the following link to the county Budget Web page for more details: https://www.dconc.gov/government/departments-a-e/budget-management-services/non-profit-agency-funding-program

If you have questions about this process, including eligibility or application procedures, please contact Anna Hawksworth in the Durham County Budget Office at ahawksworth@dconc.gov

2. **HOPE Program Aims to Help Prevent Evictions and Utility Disconnections** – The Housing Opportunities and Prevention of Evictions (HOPE) Program is now accepting applications from low-and moderate income renters experiencing financial hardships due to COVID-19.

Renters can call 2-1-1 to get started or visit www.nc211org.hope for more information. Applications can be found on the website in both English and Spanish.

3. **Durham Launches CARES Small Business Grant Program** – Durham is offering more financial support for small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Durham has authorized \$240,000 of its CARES Act funding to this grant program which would provide direct grants to negatively impacted small businesses.

Applications will be accepted beginning Thursday, November 12th and awardees will be notified on Monday, November 30th with the funds being released by mid December 2020. For complete program details, please visit www.durhambusiness360.com

4. **Durham Recovery and Renewal Task Force (RRTF) Website Launch** – Have you wondered how Chair Jacobs and Mayor Steve Schewel make decisions related to Durham's Recovery from COVID-19. The RRTF is key to advising them on how to keep our community safe while helping the economy open.

Please visit the website https://durhamnc.gov/4329/Recovery-Renewal-Task-Force which was designed to share information with the public on upcoming monthly meetings, industry roundtables and planned community town halls.

5. **2020 Virtual 5K and 10K Run** – The 2020 Emergency Chaplin 5K/10K Run will be completed virtually this year and participants are invited to sign up by visiting www.echap.org/run

This year's participants will be able to walk or run anytime beginning November $1^{st} - 30^{th}$ and can track their time by using the RaceJoy app for awards and prizes.

Commissioner Howerton stated two (2) community pioneers John "Skeepie" Scarborough, Owner and President of Scarborough and Hargett Celebration of Life and Richmond Edward Stewart, President of United Durham Incorporated Community Development Corporation (UDI/CDC) recently passed away. She asked that the Board send condolences to the families.

Commissioner Howerton also made the following statement:

I am so pleased about the election and how Durham County voted. We voted 80.56% for President-Elect Joe Biden and Vice-President-Elect Kamala Harris. Unfortunately, we were not as successful across the state in other races. National experts and pundits are saying this election was overwhelmingly supported and won through the work of many coalitions but in particular black and brown women. For the first time in history, a woman, a black woman, an Asian-American woman, a woman of color will be the second most powerful person in this country. Words cannot express the elation I feel for our black and brown little girls and all of our girls across the country who will grow up seeing Vice-President Kamala Harris lead. She looks like and represents them.

I believe many lessons have been learned through this election cycle:

- It is time to stop expecting unwavering support from black and brown communities and offering broken promises in return.
- It is time to be more inclusive and diverse in leadership.
- It is time to acknowledge, respect, and support black and brown women's leadership.
- It is time for those who have historically led to step back and watch us lead at the national and local levels.

Black women have been supporting and leading in the background for centuries. President-Elect Biden realized he needed a proven partner to help him lead and heal our divided nation. He made the right selection. I have said this many times and it is worth repeating, using the language of racial equity and not implementing its principles is empty talk. This is what racial equity looks like when we truly walk the walk. Next critical work requires those who truly appreciate that historically Black, Native-American, Latinx, Asian-Americans and other women of color have been left out of leadership opportunities for decades and centuries because of systemic racism are now willing to step back and support women of color to lead at the highest levels. Finally, I am delighted to very soon welcome our newest county commissioners, Nimasheena Burns and Nida Allam to the Board. There is important work we must do in our service to Durham County residents.

Chair Jacobs thanked Commissioner Howerton for her remarks and thanked the Durham community who assisted County residents at the polls.

Chair Jacobs announced Durham County Veteran Services invited everyone to watch a virtual Veterans Day program to honor those who served in the military on Wednesday, November 11 at 11 a.m. She added the event was virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic and could be watched on Durham Television Network, Durham County's social media accounts and YouTube Channel. Chair Jacobs stated the Veterans Services would also hold a "Drive-thru of Honor" Event between 1-2 p.m. for veterans and their families at the Durham County Human Services Building parking lot located at the corner of East Main and Dillard Streets. For more information, residents were asked to call 919-560-8387.

Minutes

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to approve the September 28, 2020 Regular Session and October 5, 2020 Work Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ceremonial Items

20-0586 Resolution – Veterans Day 2020

Chair Jacobs read the following proclamation:

VETERANS DAY 2020

WHEREAS, each year, our Nation pauses to pay tribute to the many men and women who have pledged their allegiance to the United States Armed Forces; and

- WHEREAS, their loyalty to the military is evident in their commitment and willingness to make sacrifices to protect our country; and
- WHEREAS, their faithfulness and courage commands respect as many have stood in the face of our country's adversaries to protect our freedom; and
- WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies, and later provided in an act approved on May 13, 1938, that the eleventh of November in each year should be a legal holiday celebrated and known as Armistice Day; and
- WHEREAS, on June 1, 1954, Congress made an amendment replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans"; and
- WHEREAS, November 11 is Veterans Day and is set aside as a legal state and federal public holiday to honor our Nation's veterans; and
- WHEREAS, it is hoped that we are inspired and our bond as a Nation is strengthened as we gather on Veterans Day to recognize the patriots across our great nation and the nearly 15,000 veterans of Durham County who have defended our rights, values and freedoms.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby resolve that November 11, 2020 as

"VETERANS DAY"

in Durham County. We urge all citizens in Durham to observe Veterans Day 2020 by displaying respect and gratitude for our veterans, both living and deceased, through appropriate services and ceremonies recognizing their great sacrifice.

Wendy Jacobs, Chairman	James Hill, Vice-Chairman
Brenda A. Howerton	Heidi Carter

This the 9th day of November 2020.

Lois Harvin-Ravin, Director of Durham County Veteran Services thanked the Board and the County Manager for the resolution and support. She invited veterans and their family members to participate in the "Drive-thru of Honor" Event in the Durham County Human Services Building parking lot at the corner of East Main Street and Dillard Street from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Veterans Day. Ms. Harvin-Ravin thanked Mike Wells for his assistance with the planning for Veterans Day.

Jonathan Crooms, Veteran Services Officer shared the public was invited to attend the 8th Annual Durham County Veterans Day Recognition and Celebration Program hosted virtually by the Durham County Veteran Services Department on Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m. He added the annual program would be hosted by Linzie Atkins, Veteran Services Officers and himself and would be available for viewing on the Durham Television Network (DTN) as well as the County's Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and YouTube accounts. Mr. Crooms thanks Randy Jones, Public Information Specialist for his assistance with the public announcements for Veterans Day.

Consent Agenda

Chair Jacobs asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda. After hearing none, Chair Jacobs entertained a motion for approval.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

20-0561 Requesting Approval to Utilize Existing Operational funds in the amount of \$82,199.44 this 2021 fiscal year to Renew Contract Support with NetApp.

20-0577 Durham County Open Sesame-Training Content and Classes.

20-0587 Land Lease for 410 West Chapel Hill Street.

20-0593 Purchase of Real Property Lot 22 Electra Road PIN 171572.

20-0594 Purchase of Real Property Lot 24 Electra Road PIN 171574.

*20-0596 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000053 Allocating \$37,098 of Funds Set Aside for Potential COVID-19 Related Spending to Support the Durham Recovery and Renewal Take Force (RRTF) Funding: Remaining Back on the Bull Communications Plan.

*20-0597 Approve the Final Budget for the McFarland Farm Conservation Easement and Approve Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000017 Decreasing the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Capital Project (4730DC083) by \$296,173 and Budget Amendment No. 21BCC000049 transferring \$296,173 from the Pay-As-You-Go Capital Project Fund to the General Fund to Support the Purchase of the McFarland Farm Conservation Easement.

*20-0598 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000040 – Budget Changes Related to Board of County Commissioner Policy on Capital Finance Program Dedicated Revenues, Transferring \$411,927 of General Fund Fund Balance to the Capital Financing Fund.

*20-0600 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000050 to Appropriate \$100,000 in General Fund Fund Balance to Offset Unplanned Expenses for the Durham County Youth Home.

*20-0607 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000051 to Appropriate \$50,000 in General Fund Fund Balance to Execute the Previously Approved Consultant Contract with Ecoshift Consulting, LLC to Develop the County's Renewable Energy Plan.

*20-0608 Approve Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000018 and Budget Amendment no. 21BCC00052 Appropriating \$40,000 in Debt Service Fund Fund Balance for the New Durham County Youth Home Project (DC001).

Consent Agenda Item #20-0596

Durham County, North Carolina 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 21BCC000053

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Category</u>	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$122,982,419	\$0	\$122,982,419

^{*}There is a net \$0.00 effect in the General Government Functional Area. \$37, 098 is being reduced from the Non-Departmental Business Area and the County Manager's Office will have an increase in the same amount.

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

Approved November 9, 2020	

Consent Agenda Item #20-0597

DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA 2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance Amendment Number 21CPA000017

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2020-21 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

Project Name	Project #	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
Open Space & Farmland		\$13,586,509.70		
Preservation	4730DC083		(\$296,173)	\$13,290,336.70
Total		\$13,586,509.70	(\$296,173)	\$13,290,336.70

Adopted this the 9th day of November 2020.

Durham County, North Carolina 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 21BCC000049

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Category</u>	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Environmental Protection	\$4,604,506	\$296,173	\$4,900,679
Revenue			
Other Financing Services	\$30,599,090	\$296,173	\$30,895,263

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

Approved November 9, 2020

Consent Agenda Item #20-0598

Durham County, North Carolina 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 21BCC000040

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Category</u>	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
CAPITAL FINANCING FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$76,972,859	\$411,927	\$77,384,786
Revenue			
Other Financing Services	\$38,787,138	\$411,927	\$39,199,065
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$121,411,896	\$411,927	\$121,823,823
Revenue			
Other Financing Services	\$30,599,090	\$411,927	\$31,011,017
Other I manering bervices	Ψ50,577,070	Ψ111,727	Ψ51,011,017

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

Approved November 9, 2020

Consent Agenda Item #20-0600

Durham County, North Carolina 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 21BCC000050

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Category</u>	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
GENERAL FUND			-
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Public Safety	\$65,957,575	\$100,000	\$66,057,575
Revenue			
Other Financing Services	\$31,307,190	\$100,000	\$31,407,190

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

Approved November 9, 2020

Consent Agenda Item #20-0607

Durham County, North Carolina 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 21BCC000051

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Category</u>	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Environmental Protection	\$4,900,679	\$50,000	\$4,950,679
Revenue			
Other Financing Services	\$31,407,190	\$50,000	\$31,457,190

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

Approved November 9, 2020

DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA 2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance Amendment Number 20CPA000018

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2020-21 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

Project Name	Project #	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
New Durham County Youth		\$1,770,833		
Home	4400DC001		\$40,000	\$1,810,883
Total		\$1,770,883	\$40,000	\$1,810,883

Adopted this the 9th day of November 2020.

Durham County, North Carolina 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 21BCC000052

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Category</u>	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
DEBT SERVICE FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$70,958,550	\$40,000	\$70,998,550
Revenue			
Other Financing Services	\$70,150,134	\$40,000	\$70,190,134

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

Approved November 9, 2020

Public Hearings

20-0548 First Public Hearing for Public Input on Durham County CDBG-CV Plan

Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff explained the Board was requested to conduct a public hearing to receive public input County residents might offer for a plan for grant-funded activities which the County might propose as part of an application to the state.

Chair Jacobs opened the public hearing. No one was signed up to speak. Chair Jacobs closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Reckhow inquired about the timing of the broad-band study being done by Information Systems and Technology. Mr. Cummings responded he did not know when the study would be finalized,

although the results would not provide actual steps for the County to fix the problems. He added the County was attempting to determine how many of the distributed Durham Public School hotspots were being used by students outside of the City Limits.

Chair Jacobs asked if staff was working on the implementation plan. Mr. Cummings replied a draft for approval would be presented to the Board at the second public hearing. He added departments were dealing with primary needs of citizens including food and housing. Mr. Cummings stated the focus was on how to add and continue services being provided to citizens by the County.

Commissioner Howerton asked how the County would distinguish unincorporated areas and inquired about a deadline date. Mr. Cummings responded the areas would be determined by the address and the application did not have a deadline and would remain open until the funds were depleted.

Commissioner Carter asked if staff had knowledge of what was needed in the community. Mr. Cummings replied staff would provide estimated needs of the community. Chair Jacobs recommended for staff to check with Department of Social Services, Public Health, Veteran Services and Aging and Adult Services for the needs of the Durham community.

Directive: Chair Jacobs recommended for staff to check with the Department of Social Services, Public Health, Veteran Services and Aging and Adult Services for the needs of the Durham community.

Other Business

20-0617 Durham County Public Health Focused Update on the COVID-19 Crisis.

Rodney Jenkins, Public Health Director thanked the Board and County Management for their support in the COVID response.

Mr. Jenkins provided the following updates for Durham County:

- 9275 total cases
- 61 seven-day moving average
- 32.4 percent were African American; 29.7 percent were Caucasian; 29.1 percent were Latinx
- 12.9 percent of cases were under age 18
- October was the highest month for COVID-19 testing with an estimated 29,646 total test or weekly average of 7.412 test administered.
- Durham County had paid 168 residents relief payments.

Chair Jacobs inquired about the hours for testing at the Health and Human Services parking lot and if an appointment was required. Mr. Jenkins responded testing was available for free on Saturday's and Sunday's from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. and an appointment was not required

Commissioner Reckhow asked for feedback on the SlowCOVIDNC application and if the application was helping staff with contact tracing. Mr. Jenkins replied the application had 30,000 downloads and was minimally helping with contact tracing. Commissioner Reckhow recommended Deborah Craig-Ray create a public announcement highlighting the SlowCOVIDNC application and to contact local college and universities about promoting the application. Commissioner Carter also recommended testing sites provide information on the application.

Commissioner Carter asked how the homeless population was being addressed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Jenkins replied the homeless community was taken care of in Durham. Chair Jacobs inquired about testing for the detention center. Mr. Jenkins responded the staff and detainees were being tested at the detention center.

Commissioner Reckhow thanked the Public Health Department for assisting County residents with proper mask techniques.

Directive: Commissioner Reckhow recommended Deborah Craig-Ray create a public announcement highlighting the SlowCOVIDNC application and to contact local colleges and universities about promoting the application.

20-0614 Discussion of Proposed 2021 Durham Local Legislative Goals

Deborah Craig-Ray, General Manager explained the Board was requested to discuss Durham focused legislative proposals that were submitted by departments and to share the goals with the Durham delegation. She added the City of Durham and Durham Public Schools were working on creating goals as well.

The following goals were discussed:

- Stormwater and Erosion Control Division submitted a goal to seek legislation to update the Sediment Pollution Control Act (Sec 113A-50) as it related to agriculture and stated agricultural activity on one part of a property does not necessarily exempt the entirety of the parcel from erosion control requirements.
- Durham County Youth Home submitted a goal to seek state funds for additional juvenile beds as needed to implement the new legislation.
- Tax Administration submitted a goal for tax deferment for certain Durham County property owners to have taxes forgiven instead of deferred. Commissioner Howerton asked if the goal was discussed with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Mr. Brinson responded no due to the goal being submitted statewide. Commissioner Carter asked if the goal wording was similar to the City's goal and, if the City and County could collaborate. Mr. Brinson replied he had not reviewed the City's goal and would discuss with Ms. Craig-Ray and the City. Ms. Craig-Ray added she informed Durham delegation about the goal package.
- Agribusiness & Environmental Services submitted a goal to seek support for local farmers markets.

Ms. Craig-Ray added the holdovers from the 2019 Legislative Agenda included seeking legislation to authorize Durham Public Schools Board of Education to provide affordable rental housing for teachers and other school employees and increased court funding to support an increase in the number of Assistant District Attorney's in the 14th prosecutorial district. She asked if the Board would like to add any of the goals from the City of Durham list. Commissioner Carter suggested added expanding Medicaid. Ms. Craig-Ray stated she would add expanding Medicaid to the goals and asked for the Board to email her any additions they deemed necessary.

20-0571 Board Discussion about FEMA Guidelines and COVID-19 Expenses Reimbursements

Chair Jacobs thanked staff for providing the Board with information about FEMA guidelines and COVID-19 expenses.

Commissioner Reckhow asked if the line item funding for differential pay was also funding the 4.5 million for COVID-19 expenses. Claudia Hager, General Manager explained \$4 million of the COVID-19 expenses were coming from the Fund Balance. She added the money from the frozen positions was being used for revenue shortfalls and expenditures about the base budget.

Chair Jacobs inquired about the timeline to submit for reimbursement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the expected amount of reimbursement. Wendell Davis, County Manger responded Susan Tezai, Chief Financial Officer could explain the timeline and the County would find out how much money would be reimbursed from FEMA once the reimbursement was filed; adding FEMA decided on the amount. He stated staff would monitor the budget and near January 2021 analyze budget decisions. Ms. Tezai stated FEMA did not have a deadline. She explained the malware attack caused the County delays and staff worked to document a process for filing for reimbursement with FEMA and the CARES Act. Ms. Tezai continued to say the reconciliation process was underway and staff were reviewing areas to be applied to the CARES Act funding and not to FEMA to expediate the reimbursement. She stated staff would bring the reconciliation and adjustments to the Board once finalized.

Chair Jacobs asked if the County could use the CARES Act funding to assist with community needs and small business grants. Jodi Miller, General Manager responded the CARES Act funding would allow the County to assist with community needs and provide grants and loans to small businesses. She added staff was reviewing the plan submitted on September 8, 2020 and would provide the Board with a Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) update. Chair Jacobs asked Ms. Miller to provide the Board with an update on using CARES Act funding to provide community needs and small business grants and loans. Commissioner Reckhow asked staff to provide the Board with an explanation of where the funding came from in the budget to pay for COVID-19 expenses.

Commissioner Carter asked about the proposed use of the fund balance to cover hazard pay if the County did not receive reimbursement from FEMA. She added staff consistently advised against using the fund balance for large expenses. Ms. Hager responded due to sales taxes collected higher than expected, the County was not planning to use the fund balance to cover the expenses. Vice-Chair Hill asked that the County be mindful with the spending of taxpayer's dollars while facing uncertainties due to COVID-19. He added he was concerned about the County retaining the Triple-A bond rating and not being able to support DPS classified salaries. Commissioner Howerton thanked staff for their hard work and information provided to the Board. She added the Board needed to exercise patience and allow staff to help the Board understand Federal compliances and reimbursements. Commissioner Howerton asked that the Board plan carefully and make decisions only when they understood the process and numbers.

Chair Jacobs expressed concerns that the COVID-19 expenses were not presented to the Board to be assessed and evaluated for budget decisions. She referenced General Statue 153A-92 as it related to the approval of pay, expense allowances and compensation of all County employees.

Directives:

• Chair Jacobs asked Jodi Miller to provide the Board with an update on using CARES Act funding to provide community needs and small business grants and loans.

• Commissioner Reckhow asked staff to provide the Board with an explanation of where the funding came from in the budget to pay for COVID-19 expenses.

Closed Session

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

• 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, or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee, pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6).

Commissioner Howerton stated she was not comfortable going into closed session without the County Attorney. Chair Jacobs stated the County Attorney was not usually included on closed sessions that pertained to certain personnel matters. Lowell Siler, County Attorney was asked to attend the meeting at the request of Commissioner Howerton.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

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

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 10:40 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Macio Carlton

Deputy Clerk to the Board