



**Memorial Stadium Authority – Quarterly Meeting
August 2025
In-Person**

Durham County Memorial Stadium Authority Minutes

Date: May 6, 2025

Time: Noon

Location: Virtual

In Attendance: Charles Epps, Chair; E'Vonne Coleman, Vice Chair; Jonathan Leach, Secretary; Derrick Magee; Commissioner Allam

Also in attendance: Evan Kramer, County Stadium Manager; Chrystal Thomas, Deputy Director General Services; Curtis Massey, County Attorney; Hyrum Hemmingway, County Attorney; Motiryo Keambiroiro, Director of General Services; Sontina Greene, Senior Administrative Officer

Absent: Teah Rawlings

Chair Epps called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 2025 meeting, upon motion of E'Vonne Coleman and Second by Derrick Magee to approve, the minutes were unanimously approved by the Authority.

Fee Waiver for Verizon Temporary Cell Tower for CIAA Football Championship

Mr. Kramer outlined Verizon's proposal to provide a temporary cell tower during the 2025 CIAA Football Championship to enhance fan experience and provide additional cellular service to fans and emergency services. The contract would be written for one month, with load-in approximately 1-2 weeks before the championship and load-out approximately 1 week after the championship. Upon motion of E'Vonne Coleman and Second by Charles Epps, the board unanimously approved the proposal for a fee waiver for the Verizon temporary cell tower for the CIAA Football Championship at Durham County Stadium, contingent on approval of the agreement by the Durham County Legal Team.

Stadium Manager Report

Sponsorship Updates

Mr. Kramer updated the board that he has met with the Durham Bulls and the Durham County Office of Economic Development to strategize the most effective way to create a Sponsorship Packet and pursue Sponsorships at the Stadium. Mr. Kramer noted that the Bulls had proposed working with the County to help sell sponsorships in exchange for a portion of the proceeds. This proposal was tabled to a later meeting. Mr. Kramer also noted the challenge in scaling sponsorships at the stadium, as they are typically tied to venue attendance, and Durham County Stadium sees significantly lower annual attendance compared to comparable venues such as the Bulls.

Facility Updates

Mr. Kramer informed the board that both CIP projects had been awarded and were waiting for board approval and/or contracts. These include the stadium lights LED retrofit, and the stadium bleacher replacement project. Mr. Kramer also outlined upcoming events at the stadium for the remaining spring and summer schedule.



General Services Update

Director Keambiroiro stated that she has turned over the operation of the stadium authority from the county perspective to Deputy Director Thomas.

Deputy Director Thomas provided updates about the ongoing budget process and budget work sessions dates. The Vice Chair Coleman discussed meetings she has had with county leadership regarding budget and staffing for the stadium.

There was a discussion about an individual requesting to park his RV overnight in the stadium parking lot to attend appointments at Duke Regional Hospital. After discussion, upon motion from Vice Chair Coleman and second by Chair Epps, the board unanimously voted to approve the individual to park overnight, contingent on approval by County Legal and that the Board would reconvene to address remaining questions and concerns before final approval.

Authority Chair/Board Member Comments

The Board discussed scheduling a follow-up session to complete the Stadium Strategic Plan. Mr. Kramer stated that he would work with everyone to find times that work and get the meeting scheduled. The Board discussed the vacant seat after Ed Bryson's term ended. Vice Chair Coleman suggested trying to get additional candidates to diversify the board with additional experiences from around Durham. The Board decided to keep the vacancy open until the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2025.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Charles Epps and seconded by Vice Chair Coleman at 1:09 PM.