

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

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

10:05 A.M. Budget Worksession

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Room, second floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow, Vice-Chairman Michael D. Page (arrived at 10:10 a.m.), and Commissioners Lewis A. Cheek (arrived at 10:10 a.m.), Philip R. Cousin Jr., and Becky M. Heron

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Reckhow

Durham Technical Community College

Chairman Reckhow recognized Dr. Bill Ingram, President, Durham Technical Community College (DTCC), to present the DTCC FY08-09 budget request.

Dr. Ingram began his presentation by stating that a large portion of DTCC's budget request is due to campus security. Durham Technical Community College has addressed the security issue in two phases. Phase one occurred last year when the DTCC Board of Trustees approved the conversion of its campus security operation from a contract operation to an operation where all security personnel are DTCC employed. (The employees are to be paid directly by DTCC.) Phase two involves increasing the level of security on campus: 1) by having at least two sworn campus police officers patrol the campus 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and 2) by providing additional non-sworn security staff during the day and evening hours when activities are scheduled Monday through Friday and Saturday mornings. Dr. Ingram stated that DTCC is requesting capital funds for a campus emergency, silent notification system.

Dr. Ingram continued his presentation by requesting a 4% increase for 40 DTCC employees who are paid with local funds. DTCC has not been able to pay its locally-paid employees at the same rate as its state-paid employees, which resulted in the locally-paid employees falling below market by 2-4% within the past three to four years.

Dr. Ingram added that DTCC also requests approximately \$500,000 in operating expenses from Orange County which includes supplements between five and ten percent for the locally-paid employees. He clarified that up until this past year, Durham County has paid 100% of the salaries for DTCC buildings and grounds staff, facilities director,

shipping and receiving employees, and other employees who are paid with local funds. This year, DTCC is requesting funds from Orange County to offset the work involved at the new DTCC campus located in Orange County. Orange County would pay 5-15% of salaries for employees, depending on the amount of time spent at the Orange County facility. If more time than what is anticipated is spent at the Orange County facility, then that would be reflected in next year's budget request.

Dr. Ingram addressed the following topics and questions by the Board:

- Orange County Facility
 - Funding amount and agreement from Orange County
 - Number of students expected to be enrolled
 - Positions funded by Orange County
 - Campus Security Operation
 - Preliminary budget for Orange County
- Cost Per Student—DTCC Durham Campus vs. DTCC Orange County Campus
- Campus Security Operation
 - Other colleges that employ its own police force
- Travel Expenses for Faculty
- Training/Instruction Requests from Industries locating to Durham County

Chairman Reckhow expressed appreciation to Dr. Ingram and staff for their diligent work at Durham Technical Community College.

Dr. Ingram informed Chairman Reckhow that the DTCC budget includes a 4.25% increase in Current Expense and a 16% decrease in Capital Outlay.

Durham Technical Community College	FY 2006-07 Approved	FY 2008-09 Requested	FY 2008-09 Recommended
Current Expense	\$3,863,586	\$4,267,439	\$4,189,944
Capital Outlay	<u>\$732,892</u>	<u>\$949,610</u>	<u>\$614,602</u>
Total	\$4,596,478	\$5,217,049	\$4,804,546

North Carolina Museum of Life and Science

Barry A. Van Deman, President and CEO, North Carolina Museum of Life and Science (NCMLS), requested that the Board support the County Manager's recommendation for the NCMLS budget.

Mr. Van Deman stated that the NCMLS is a regional science-technology center dedicated to furthering education in natural and physical sciences for people of all ages. He discussed the following three key points:

- Improving the lives of Durham County citizens and achieving critical outcomes;

- In order to achieve the NCMLS mission and Durham County's desired outcomes, the NCMLS project must continue to grow; and
- With the county's stable foundation of support, NCMLS is able to earn over 70% of its total operating needs annually and to attract additional resources built for capital and other activities through partnerships.

Mr. Van Deman also discussed the following topics:

- One mechanic needed to maintain the locomotive.
- Additional revenue sources requested from Orange and Wake Counties.
- Museum staff aggressively seeks productive relationships with corporate partners.
 - New partnerships have been established with the EPA and Duke University Pratt School of Engineering.
- A new website has been launched.

Mr. Van Deman again requested that the Board support the County Manager's budget recommendation for the Museum.

Mr. Van Deman addressed the following questions by the Board:

- Cost increases for animal care
- Entrance fees for teachers and students visiting from other counties

Chairman Reckhow thanked Mr. Van Deman for the presentation and expressed appreciation for his hard work.

Durham Public Schools

Chairman Reckhow informed County Manager Mike Ruffin that the Board suggested to Durham Public Schools (DPS) Board of Education that its representatives arrive early to the meeting; they have yet to arrive. She directed staff to inform presenters to arrive at least 20 minutes earlier than their designated time. Agenda times are only estimates, and items may take less time than what is allotted.

County Manager Ruffin discussed a handout that was placed at each Commissioner's station regarding budget estimates for DPS social workers.

County Manager Ruffin briefed Dr. Carl Harris, Superintendent, DPS, on the previous discussion with the Board about the budget for DPS social workers.

Dr. Harris addressed questions raised by Commissioners regarding the following topics:

- DPS social workers' duties
- Process for recommending students to social workers
- Social Worker to Student Ratio

Dr. Harris provided an overview of the following:

- Request for additional social workers
- Approximately \$7.22 million continuation budget
 - Operating Costs
 - Opening of Spring Valley Elementary School (previously Elementary “B”)
 - Opening of City of Medicine Academy
 - Salary increases—6½ percent
- Supplemental budget request
 - Increase More at Four program
 - Additional social workers
 - Additional funding for Encore! middle school after school program
 - 2 additional ESL interpreters

Per pupil funding	\$1,960
Multiply by total, FY 2007-2008 ADM	\$32,925
Minimum funding, FY 2007-2008	\$64,533,000

(If the ADM for Charter Schools was factored into the calculation, an additional 2,516 pupils, for a total of 35,411, would equate to \$69,464,360 minimum funding for FY2007-08.)

Hank Hurd, Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services, DPS, and the Board discussed detailed statistics on student growth at DPS and charter schools.

DPS staff answered questions by the Board regarding the following:

- State and local funding for student growth
- Saving money due to gas price increases
 - Regionalizing transportation to/from Magnet schools
 - Distributing City bus passes to high school students
 - School start times
- Energy performance management
- Total per pupil expenditures, in addition to local costs
- Encore! program
- Backup plan for ESL interpreters
- Reasons for student growth

Vice-Chairman Page commended the DPS Board of Education for its hard work.

County Manager Ruffin expressed appreciation for the good relationship between his staff and DPS staff.

Chairman Reckhow thanked DPS Board of Education for its reasonable budget request and hard work.

Minnie Forte-Brown, DPS Board of Education Chair, thanked the Board for its support.

Chairman Reckhow congratulated DPS for four of its high schools being named in the top tier of high schools in the country.

Dr. Harris gave closing remarks, thanking the Board for its leadership and support.

Directives

1. Provide a report to the Board on successes/failures of having additional social workers.
2. DPS to look at County funding awarded last year for student growth at DPS and Charter schools and compare to what is anticipated for the upcoming year; submit a follow-up memo to the Board.
3. County Manager to write a letter of support to the City for DPS' request for annexation of Creekside Elementary School.

Adjournment

Chairman Reckhow announced that the Board will meet tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers for another budget worksession. She directed staff to ensure that presenters arrive on time to discuss their items.

There being no further business, Chairman Reckhow adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne R. Gordon
Deputy Clerk to the Board