

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

Monday, May 28, 2024

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 Nida Allam, Vice-Chair Nimasheena Burns and Commissioners Heidi Carter, Brenda Howerton and Wendy Jacobs

Presider: Chair Nida Allam

Zoom Hybrid

Participants: 13

**Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Adjustments**

Chair Allam announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

**Announcements**

Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board read the following announcements:

1. **Introducing the Aging Well Durham’s New Website** – The Aging Well Durham’s website has officially launched. On this site, you will find the Comprehensive Aging Plan, learn about the mission and vision as well as get updates about community events. Please visit [www.agingwelldurham.org](http://www.agingwelldurham.org) for additional information.
2. **Healthy Durham Listening Sessions** – The Partnership for a Healthy Durham wants to hear your thoughts on Durham County’s health priorities! You can earn a \$25 gift card for participating in a Community Listening Session. There are two on Wednesday, May 29. Persons with Disabilities at Bull City Bakeshop (3601 Witherspoon Blvd., Suite 109), from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Register at <https://www.tinyurl.com/ms8c6dt>. Adults who identify as men from 1-3 p.m. at JRC3 Design (4517 Hillsborough Rd.). Register at <https://www.tinyurl.com/3j4tdu9e>.
3. **Electronic Recycling Drop Off Event** – The Durham County Northern Convenience Site (11894 N. Roxboro Road in Rougemont) will hold an Electronic Recycling Drop Off Event on Saturday, June 1, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. This event is for residents of unincorporated Durham County only, and you must have a current 2023-2024 Solid Waste Decal to participate. Accepted items are – televisions, stereo equipment, gaming consoles, etc.; computers, monitors, laptops, keyboards, printers, CPU, speakers, etc.; telephones, cell phones, fax machines, kitchen electronics, power tools, cordless tools, hair dryers, curling irons, and alarm clocks. Commercially generated waste is NOT accepted.

4. **Juneteenth Flag Raising** – Everyone is invited to the Durham County Courthouse (510 S. Dillard Street) on Wednesday, June 5, for the annual NC Official Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony sponsored by Spectacular Magazine. The ceremony will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the flag raising at 12 p.m. Visit <https://spectacularmag.com> for more information.
5. **Apply for Durham Neighborhood College** – Durham Neighborhood College is a unique 7-week educational program offered by the governments of the City of Durham and Durham County for residents to meet and interact with staff to learn about all thing’s local government! Sessions run on Thursday nights from Sept. 5 to Oct. 17 with a light meal provided. The class is limited to 25 participants. Cost is \$35. Apply at [www.dconc.gov/neighborhoodcollege](http://www.dconc.gov/neighborhoodcollege). Deadline is June 21.
6. **Find Money at NCCash.com** – Are you owed any of the almost \$1.3 billion in the North Carolina Treasury’s unclaimed property fund? Claim Your Cash, part of the NC Cash Program, helps reunite owners with their unclaimed property. Unclaimed property consists of bank accounts, wages, utility deposits, insurance policy proceeds, stocks, bonds, and contents of safe deposit boxes that typically have been abandoned for one to five years. Visit <https://NCCash.com> and enter your name or business name to see if you have Unclaimed Cash today!
7. **Get a Copy of My Durham** – The Durham County Public Information Office has produced “My Durham: A Guide to Durham County for Kids” – a booklet that gives children in Durham County a comprehensive resource to teach young readers about how Durham County Government works, and the important services designed to support a community where everyone can live, grow, and thrive! Download a copy in English or Spanish at <https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-f-z/public-information/publications#!/> or pick one up at Durham County Library locations and the Public Information Office (200 E. Main Street, 2nd Floor).

## Minutes

Commissioner Howerton moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the May 6, 2024 Work Session and May 13, 2024 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

## Ceremonial Items

### **24-0278 Resolution – Asian American-Pacific Islander Heritage Month 2024**

Chair Allam read the following resolution:

#### **ASIAN AMERICAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH| 2024**

**WHEREAS,** Asian American-Pacific Islander Heritage Month has been celebrated nationally since 1992 to recognize the contributions, rich history, and diversity that Asian Americans-Pacific Islanders bring to our communities; and

**WHEREAS,** North Carolina has been home to members of the Asian American-Pacific Islander community since the mid-nineteenth century, when the first Chinese immigrants began to settle in our state; and

**WHEREAS,** over 20,000 Asian Americans-Pacific Islanders call Durham County their home; and

**WHEREAS,** throughout history, Asian American-Pacific Islanders have faced adversity and used their strength and resilience to become leaders and trailblazers in our nation, including but not limited to our Vice President Kamala Harris; and

**WHEREAS,** the efforts and contributions of Asian American-Pacific Islanders can be seen in every aspect of society, including education, history, politics, health care, economics, and science, playing a pivotal role in the history of the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** the State of North Carolina, Governor Roy Cooper, and Durham County are proud to commemorate May as Asian American-Pacific Islander Heritage Month and to recognize the contributions of Asian American-Pacific Islanders to diversity, leadership, and empowerment throughout our nation’s history.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Chair Nida Allam and on behalf of the Durham County Board of Commissioners do hereby doth hereby proclaim the month of May 2024 as

**“ASIAN AMERICAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH”**

in Durham County, North Carolina, and call upon all citizens to observe and celebrate the AAPI community and to mark this month with appropriate observances honoring endless possibilities of Asian Americans everywhere.

This the 28th day of May 2024.

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Nida Allam, Chair

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Nimasheena Burns, Vice-Chair

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Heidi Carter, Commissioner

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Brenda Howerton, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

Dr. Brent Lewis, Equitable Well-being Director thanked the Board and County Manager Sowell for the resolution and encouraged residents to visit the County website for upcoming events and additional information.

The Board thanked Dr. Lewis for celebrating Asian American-Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

**24-0279 Resolution – Jewish American Heritage Month**

Commissioner Jacobs read the following proclamation:

**JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH| 2024**

**WHEREAS,** Jewish American Heritage Month is a time to honor the significant religious, cultural, political and economic contributions Jewish Americans have made to our state, nation and Durham County; and

**WHEREAS,** since 2006, May has nationally been considered Jewish American Heritage Month and all citizens are invited to celebrate the vibrant and varied American Jewish experience; and

**WHEREAS,** Jewish Americans represent communities across the globe in their diverse racial and linguistic make up; and

**WHEREAS,** Jewish communities have existed in North Carolina since the 1600’s; and

**WHEREAS,** Jewish North Carolinians have been participants and leaders on the front lines of fights for women’s suffrage, racial and gender justice, and social movements supporting diverse North Carolinians; and

**WHEREAS,** the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust teaches us that combatting prejudice, indifference, and systemic bias can create a stronger, more tolerant society, and North Carolina’s Jewish community continue to work with members of all faiths and backgrounds so that “never again shall any peoples suffer the evils of discrimination and racial or religious hatred”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Chair Nida Allam and on behalf of the Durham County Board of Commissioners do hereby doth hereby proclaim the month of May 2024 as

**“JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH”**

in Durham County, North Carolina, and call upon all citizens to observe and celebrate the successes of Jewish Americans and to mark this month with appropriate observances honoring endless possibilities of Jewish Americans everywhere.

This the 28th day of May 2024.

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Nida Allam, Chair	Nimasheena Burns, Vice-Chair
_____	_____
Heidi Carter, Commissioner	Brenda Howerton, Commissioner
_____	
Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner	

Dr. Brent Lewis, Equitable Well-being Director thanked the Board for the resolution.

The Board thanked Dr. Lewis for celebrating Arab American Month and for creating a culture and community to celebrate everyone in Durham.

**Consent Agenda**

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

Vice Chair Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

24-0259 Approval of a Contract with Scottie’s Building Services to provide exterior and interior window washing for six County buildings: Admin II, Health & Human Services, Main Library, Southwest Library, South Library and North Regional Library in the amount of \$56,900.00. RFP 24-025

\*24-0277 Capital Project Amendment No.24CPA00026 Reducing the IT Security Program Capital Project (4200DC142) by \$84,329.73 and the SAP S4 HANA ERP Upgrade Capital Project (4200DC109) by \$166,370.27 and Increasing the 21 Audio-Visual Tech Capital Project (4200DC139)

by \$250,700 to Update the Technology in the Main Library Conference

24-0293 Approval of Contract with Convergent Technologies LLC in the amount of \$129,845.31 for the Renewal of Durham County Lenel S2 Video Management Servers and Access Control Server Software Licenses

\*24-0296 Approval of Property Tax Releases and Refunds for May 1 - 15, 2024

\*24-0314 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.24CPA00027 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No.24BCC00103 Appropriating \$215,450 of Sewer Utility Enterprise Fund Fund Balance and Transferring Those Funds to the New Page Park Lift Station, Force Main, and Outfalls Capital Project (7100SE065); Approval of a Contract with the Design-Build Firm Crowder Construction Company to Provide Pre-Construction Services in the Amount of \$205,191; and Authorize the County Manager to Execute the Contract and Any Related Contract Amendments not to exceed \$215,450

Consent Agenda Item #24-0277

**Durham County, North Carolina  
FY 2023-2024 Capital Project  
Amendment Number 24CPA-26**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:  
That the FY 2023-24 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
42001910DC109	Sap S4 Hana Erp Upgrade	\$250,000.00	(\$166,370.27)	\$83,629.73
42001910DC142	IT Security Program Support	\$1,226,360.00	(\$84,329.73)	\$1,142,030.27
42001910DC139	21 Audio-Visual Technologies	\$1,270,000.00	\$250,700.00	\$1,520,700.00

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved May 28, 2024

Consent Agenda Item #24-0296

Releases and Refunds – May 1 - 15, 2024

Current Year 2023 Taxes	Releases	Refunds	
Real Property	\$10,636.14	\$37,777.96	
Personal Property	\$892.56	\$395.82	
Motor Vehicle	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Solid Waste	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Stormwater Utility	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Public Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	
VTS Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Gross Rec	\$0.00	\$175.00	
<b>SUB – TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,528.70</b>	<b>\$38,348.78</b>	<b>\$49,877.48</b>
Prior Year 2019-2022	Releases	Refunds	
Real Property	\$0.00	\$3,146.63	

Personal Property	\$86,884.20	\$632.64	
GAP Vehicles	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Motor Vehicle	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Solid Waste	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Stormwater Utility	\$0.00	\$0.00	
VTS Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<b>SUB - TOTAL</b>	<b>\$86,884.20</b>	<b>\$3,779.27</b>	<b>\$90,663.47</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$98,412.90</b>	<b>\$42,128.05</b>	<b>\$140,540.95</b>

Consent Agenda Item #24-0314

**Durham County, North Carolina  
FY 2023-2024 Capital Project  
Amendment Number 24CPA-27**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:  
That the FY 2023-24 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
71006011SE065	Page Park Lift Station, Force Main and Outfall Project	\$0.00	\$215,450.00	\$215,450.00

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved May 28, 2024

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2023-2024 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 24BCC00103**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2022-2023 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$4,088,885.00	\$215,450.00	\$4,304,335.00
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$4,073,982.44	\$215,450.00	\$4,289,432.44

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

Approved May 28, 2024

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**Public Hearings**

24-0297 – Public Hearing on the FY 2024-25 County Manager’s Recommended Budget

Chair Allam opened the public hearing.

The following citizens requested full support of the Durham Public Schools funding request: *Emily*

*Kahn, Quentia Thomas Headen, Krystal Moore, Earll Williams, Page McCullough, Patrick Nalley, Ann Rebeck, Elizabeth McCoy, Andre Rivero, Amanda Ghosh, Meg Goodhand, Skye Drehl, Haley Davidson, Daniel Kemp, Gina Arhone, Mika Hunter Twiehmeyer, Angela Ebron, Cassandra Cobb, Deneen Cherry, Ameenah Walker, Stephanie Messina, Leslie Alanis, Josephine Cobb, Nykia Watson, Anna Benfield, Elizabeth Cranford, Jen Painter, Kendell Doyle, Christie Clem, Lily Gellman, Kristen Southworth, Ariana Johnson, Ali Cuffy, Erin Bingaman, Lauren Binanay, Dabney Hopkins, Agnieszka McCort, Sophia Bessias, Elizabeth Jones, Nichola Grafei-Gracp, Kia Parrish-Haim, Katherine Goldstein, John Hodges-Copple, Brian Schneiderman, Leigh Bonnley, Matt Kopac, Allison Swain, Katie McGunnell, Eleanor Weston and Maya Jackson.*

The following citizens requested full funding to purchase personal protective equipment for the Detention Officers: *Chancellor McFalls, Nicole Locke, Tara Holloway,*

DeWarren Langley, Citizen

Mr. Langley asked the Board for funding to support the Charles Hamilton Houston Foundation, Inc.

Brandon Mitchell, Citizen

Mr. Mitchell asked the Board to increase the retirement pension.

Evonne Coleman, Citizen

Ms. Coleman asked for the Board to minimize budget reductions for the Cultural Advisory Committee and the Memorial Stadium Authority while supporting DPS funding request.

Cynthia William, Citizen

Ms. Williams asked the Board to expand the Low-Income Homeowners Relief Program and expand the County's Tax Department staff.

Dennis Garrett, Citizen

Mr. Garrett asked the Board to support funding for Violence Intervention and Prevention in Durham.

Chair Allam thanked the citizens for attending the meeting and sharing their comments on the budget.

## **Board and Commission Appointments**

Curtis Massey, Interim County Attorney announced the voting results.

The Board made the following appointments (incumbents are identified with an (i). Individuals who are recommended by a Board are underlined.) Individuals listed in bold print were appointed.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

**Anthony Reevy** (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Community Child Protection and Child Fatality Protection Team

**Elisabeth Conradt** (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

Dangerous Dog Appeal Board

**Nicodemus Monts** (Allam, Burns, Carter, Jacobs)

Grace Laws (Howerton)

Memorial Stadium Authority

(i)**Charles Epps** (Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, Jacobs)

**Closed Session**

The Board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session for the following:

- The Board was requested to adjourn into Closed Session 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, to discuss the National Opioid Litigation which privilege is hereby acknowledged; pursuant to G. S. 143- 318.11(a)(3).

Vice Chair Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to adjourn into the Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Reconvene to Open Session**

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

**Adjournment**

Vice Chair Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 9:30 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton  
Deputy Clerk to the Board