

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

Monday, May 31, 2006

9:10 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 Becky M. Heron, and Commissioners Lewis A. Cheek, Philip R. Cousin Jr. (arrived late—9:20 a.m.), and Michael D. Page

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Reckhow

**Social Services**

Pam Meyer, Director of Budget & Management Services Department, provided a brief overview of the Social Services budget to be presented by the Department of Social Services (DSS) staff.

Pamela S. Glean, DSS Board Member, introduced the budget, entitled "Department of Social Services: Focused on *Results for Families*", to be presented to the Board.

DSS Director Sammy Haithcock presented the following elements of the budget:

- Family Focused Mission & Values
  - Vision
  - Mission
  - Core Values
- Immediate Challenges
- Family Focused Strategic Planning: Results Based
  - Identified Outcomes
- Management of Resources: Stewardship
- Federal and State Mandates vs. Discretionary Programs
- Increasing Productivity
- Child Support: Moving to Universal Support
- IV-E Waiver: Flexible Revenue to Serve Children At-Risk
  - Children Entering Custody from FY99-06
  - # of Children Placed with Relatives When Entered Custody
  - Placement Types

- Durham's Alliance for Child Care Access Performance
  - Durham County Children Receiving Child Care Subsidies and placement of 0-5 year olds in 3-5 Start Child Care Facilities
- Federal Squeeze: Block Grants and Recent Cuts
  - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
  - Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)
  - Federal Cuts Retroactive to October 1
- County Share of DSS Budget (including Medicaid)

Sharon Hirsch, Assistant Director, Customer Access and Program Support Services, presented the following portions of the DSS budget:

- The Budget Requested
- County Manager's Recommended Budget
- Expansion Requests: *Working Smarter* through Technology/Systems Improvements
  - Document Management—Phase II
- *Working Smarter* Using Support Staff: Improving Performance
- Customer Service
- Adult Services and Family Crisis Performance at Current Levels
  - Adults Able to Remain in Community
  - Family Crisis Services FY06
- Food Stamps and Medicaid Performance
  - Medicaid and Health Choice Recipients
  - Food Stamps Cases and Recipients
- Work First Performance
- FY06 Revenues and Expenditures
- Medicaid Trend
- Medicaid Impact
- DSS Budget vs. Medicaid

Tom Niemann, DSS Board Member, asked for the County Manager to reconsider the DSS budget in the following areas:

- Personnel (*Chairman Reckhow clarified that two new DSS call center positions are included in the County Manager's recommended budget*);
- Child Care Subsidy; and
- Plan to End Homelessness (*Chairman Reckhow informed that monies for homelessness have been set aside, contingent upon a decision between the County and City Managers*).

#### Discussions/Questions

1. Plan to End Homelessness
  - a. How will funds be allocated
  - b. Collaborating with agencies that assist with homelessness (i.e. TROSA, Durham Rescue Mission)

2. Personnel/New Positions
    - a. Child Care Subsidy
    - b. Call Center vs. Child Support
    - c. Technical
      - i. effects of decrease in funding
      - ii. County IT Staff vs. DSS Internal IT Staff
  3. DSS Total Expenditures
    - a. Child Support
  4. Work First Operating Budget
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### Directives

(Courts) Assistant County Manager Deborah Craig-Ray and County Attorney Chuck Kitchen to communicate to Representative Mickey Michaux the courts' need for four (not two) new ADA positions.

### Public Health

Public Health Director Brian Letourneau introduced the Public Health budget to the Board.

Gail Harris, Assistant Local Health Director, presented the following FY 07 Performance Indicators:

- Nutrition: Durham's Innovative Nutrition Education for Lasting Improvement in Fitness and Eating
- Health Education: Together Everyone Accomplishes Something
- Dental
  - Percentage of Children in Grades K-5 in Durham Public Schools Found to have Urgent Dental Needs
  - Percentage of 5<sup>th</sup> graders with Sealants in Schools served by the Dental Van
- Communicable Disease Control
  - Durham Syphilis Rates
  - Durham HIV Disease Rates—New Infections
  - Durham County TB Cases and Rates
- Maternal Health
  - Percentage of Infants Born Alive Weighing Less Than 5.5 Pounds
- Child Health
  - Durham County Health Check Participation Rates
  - Percentage of Two-Year Olds in CSC with Up-to-Date Immunizations
- Home Health
  - Percentage of Acute Care Hospitalizations Among Home Health Patients
  - Percentage Improvement in Management of Oral Medication
- Environmental Health
  - Inspection Compliance

### Discussions

1. Restaurant Inspections/Health Requirements
  - a. Private Catering
2. Septic Tanks/Wells Inspection Soil
3. Healthy Smiles/Healthy Kids Grant
4. Adequate Staff for Wells/Septic Tanks
5. Electronic Medical Records
6. Water Testing/Sampling
7. Monitoring of Jail Health

### Directive

Staff to inform the Board of the receipt/non-receipt of the Healthy Smiles/Healthy Kids Grant.

### **Mental Health—The Durham Center**

#### Presentation—Area Director Ellen Holliman

- Durham County Funding for Substance Abuse Services
  - A National Nightmare
    - Substance abuse numbers
  - A Durham County Epidemic
    - Substance abuse numbers
    - 25% of fatal accidents involve alcohol
    - Alcohol relation to prison entries
  - Treatment is Cost Effective
    - Investments in treatment
  - Access to Services
    - Addicted Persons in Durham County
    - Expected to Present for Treatment
    - Projected Penetration Rate
  - Local Consumer Profile
    - Gender breakdown
    - Age groups
    - % of population to use tobacco, alcohol, cocaine, and combination of heroin/opiate/cocaine or marijuana
  - Funding Shortfall
    - % of population with substance abuse problems
    - % of Medicaid and IPRS Funding received for substance abuse treatment
  - Contracted Providers
  - Provider Sustainability
    - 3 out of 6 providers unable to provide substance abuse services
      - Unable to keep pace with rapid growth
      - Insufficient infrastructure
      - Lack of supervision and training
      - Inequality in compensation

Doug Wright, Area Mental Health Board Chairman, synopsised The Durham Center budget request. He beseeched the Board to award the requested funding to continue supplying substance abuse treatment and assistance.

#### Discussions

1. The Healing Place program
  - a. The Homeless Shelter
2. Homeless with Substance Abuse/Mental Issues
  - a. Outreach workers to assist (Path Workers)
3. Expanding Resources

#### Directive

County Manager to review the revised budget requests for his recommended budget. Staff to come back to the Board for the June 15 budget worksession.

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12:40 p.m.

#### **Library**

Priscilla Lewis, Interim Library Director, gave the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) update on each library branch (Main, North, East, Southwest, and South Regional, and Stanford L. Warren).

County Engineer Glen Whisler updated the Board on the construction at South Regional Library.

#### Discussions

1. South Regional Library Construction
2. Center for Senior Life
  - a. Funding for foundation planting
3. Meeting Room Rental Fees
  - a. Rate increase
    - i. Fees set by resolution or budget ordinance
  - b. Occupancy rate
4. East Regional Library

#### Directives

1. Staff to bring back a progress report on the South Regional Library site plan to the August 22 Worksession.
2. County Manager to negotiate costs for site construction at South Regional Library.
3. Staff to discuss with Cooperative Extension about volunteering to plant the garden at the library.
4. Library Board to revisit the meeting room rental fee (\$25 when food is served) for a possible increase and bring a recommendation back to the Commissioners.

### **Museum of Life & Science**

Barry VanDeman, CEO & President, Museum of Life and Science, presented the Museum's budget to the Board. Museum staff requested \$1,384,574; the County Manager recommended \$1,277,672.

Mr. VanDeman gave the following report on the Museum of Life and Science:

- Improving lives of citizens and achieving critical outcomes
  - Impressive Outputs
  - Contributing to the County's desired outcomes
- Budget must grow to achieve our mission and Durham's desired outcomes
  - Operating budget increase of \$1.2 million
  - Overnight security—\$100,000
  - Salary increases
- Performing at capacity
  - Improvements
    - Membership sales
    - Operating fundraising
    - Non-operating fundraising
    - General and group attendance revenues
    - Free Wednesday visitation
  - Good return on investment

### **Discussion**

1. Security Budget
  - a. Increasing fundraising
  - b. Increasing membership dues

### **Directive**

Museum to assist the County with lobbying for a revenue source (i.e. a prepared food tax) to support culture and recreational opportunities in the County.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Reckhow adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne R. Gordon  
Deputy Clerk to the Board