

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

Monday, September 7, 2011

1:30 P.M. Worksession

**MINUTES**

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

Present: Chairman Michael D. Page, Vice-Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow and Commissioners Joe W. Bowser and Brenda A. Howerton

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Page

**Citizen Comments**

The Board of County Commissioners provided a 30-minute comment period at the beginning of the Worksession to allow any citizen of Durham County the opportunity to speak.

Ralph McKinney spoke to the Commissioners about various issues.

**Removal of Board and Commission Members Due to Poor Attendance**

Chairman Page introduced this item. He stated that on February 28, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners appointed Christle J. Glosson to serve a full term on the Durham County Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (ACHCAC). Based on information from Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee Ombudsman Carmelita Karhoff, Ms. Glosson failed to comply with the Policy and Procedures for Appointments to the County Boards, Commissions, Committees or Authorities, set forth by the County Commissioners.

Section 1.(F) of the Policy and Procedures for Appointments to the County Boards, Commissions, Committees or Authorities states, "*If an appointee has absences (excused or unexcused) which constitute more than 50% of the meetings in any calendar year which he or she is required to attend pursuant to his or her appointment, he or she is obligated to resign.*"

The Clerk to the Board's Office attempted to contact Ms. Glosson via email, telephone, and courier mail requesting her resignation; no response was received.

Chairman Page noted that Timothy Burris, Member, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, submitted his resignation; therefore, he would not be included in the process.

Vice-Chairman Reckhow moved seconded by Commissioner Howerton to suspend the rules.

The motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Howerton moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Reckhow to remove Ms. Glosson from the ACHCAC.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Medicaid 1915 (b)/(c) Waiver Update**

Ellen Holliman presented this item. She stated that the Durham Center requested the opportunity to update the Board on Medicaid Waivers it is in the process of seeking. She recognized Area Director Hank Debnam and Area Board Chair Luis Collazo from Cumberland County Mental Health Center, and by Area Director Janis Nutt and Area Board member DeVan Barbour from Johnston County Mental Health Center. Mr. Barbour also serves on the Johnston County Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Holliman informed the Board that the Department of Health and Human Services is pursuing a policy for statewide expansion of an existing Medicaid 1915(b)/(c) Waiver that has been in operation since 2005 in Davidson, Rowan, Cabarrus, Stanly and Union counties.

In April, the Department of Health and Human Services solicited applications for additional LMEs to apply to operate managed care under a Medicaid waiver, and The Durham Center applied as Lead LME in a partnership including Cumberland and Johnston counties.

Ms. Holliman highlighted the following updates:

- An overview of the Waiver application process – where we started and where we are today;
- The benefits to Durham County and its citizens from operating in a Waiver environment;
- The importance of succeeding in our application and the significant risks to the survival of The Durham Center and County control of services resulting from an unsuccessful effort;
- What is needed by The Durham Center to help ensure a successful application?

Ms. Holliman spoke about the resolution and asked that the Commissioners support the revision of North Carolina General Statute 122C-116 that allows The Durham Center to operate as an independent entity in a manner consistent with multi-county Area Authorities; to initiate the process immediately to allow The Durham Center to apply to the N.C. Offices of State Personnel to obtain “substantially equivalent” status with regard to human resources administration; and to allocate \$2,209,407 to a Special Reserve Fund to provide start-up funding for the PIHP.

### Directives

1. Place on September 12 agenda.
2. Consider a budget proviso pertaining to start up funds for Johnston, Cumberland, and Durham Counties.
3. Calculate the indirect cost for Durham County.

### **Naming Opportunities in Durham County Library Locations**

Tammy Baggett, Durham County Library Director, introduced this item stating that in accordance with the Durham County Library Public Library Facilities Naming Policy approved by the Board of County Commissioners on May 9, 2005, Durham Library Foundation requested the approval to name the following areas in the Durham County Library system:

- Periodicals Room, South Regional Library in memory of Drs. Valerie and Anton Schindler. Both were research scientists in the Research Triangle Park and enjoyed quiet reflection while reading. Bequest-\$118,795.54;
- Meeting Room, North Regional Library, in honor of Ms. Dorothy Gier. A frequent patron of North Regional Library, Ms. Gier used library resources to build and manage a significant portfolio. While now residing in St. Louis, Ms. Gier wanted to give back to the Durham County Library through donating her home and its contents to Durham Library Foundation. Proceeds were netted in the amount of \$200,669.20;
- Children's Program Room, Southwest Regional Library, in memory of Mrs. Frances Brinkley. As an elementary teacher, Mrs. Brinkley instilled in many young children of Durham, the value of and love for reading. Bequest of \$70,143.02.

Ms. Baggett announced that Durham Library Foundation would memorialize the naming of these locations with an appropriate plaque at each named area in the library locations.

Ms. Baggett shared that Durham Library Foundation submitted the appropriate Durham County Library Public Facility Naming applications in the name of the four individuals named above, to the Durham County Library Development Officer. The Library Director oversaw the verification of information contained in the applications. All information was verified as correct. After the completion of the verification process, the Director forwarded the applications to the Chair of the Library Board of Trustees.

The Chair of the Library Board of Trustees created an ad hoc committee made up of the Trustee Chair, the President of the Durham Library Foundation, the President of the Friends of the Durham Library, Inc. and two representatives of each of their boards. This committee reviewed the applications. The unanimous committee recommendation to the Board of Trustees was to name the designated library areas as outlined in their applications.

At the March 17, 2011 meeting, the Library Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of the ad hoc committee and moved that the request be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

The Board commended Ms. Baggett on her presentation.

Directive

Place on the September 12 agenda.

**Strategic Plan Update**

Michael Palmer, Interim Deputy County Manager, presented this item. He stated that the Board requested to hear an update of the County's Strategic Planning Process. The County Manager's Office continues to seek the input of the BOCC in helping craft a meaningful Strategic Plan. He noted that at each Worksession, the County Manager's Office would seek the feedback of the Board of County Commissioners. Since your last update on August 1, the County Manager's Office has continued working on the early stages of the Strategic Planning Process.

Mr. Palmer highlighted the following key developments:

- 29 key stakeholders were interviewed in person and over the phone in early August;
- Almost 50 people provided input during six external focus groups, held August 17-18;
- Approximately 1,600 community surveys were completed and more than 950 employee surveys were completed;
- Spanish-language survey has been shared with the community;
- Two employee-based focus groups to be held Sept. 7.

Lou O'Boyle and her staff at the consulting firm of Zelos prepared a preliminary analysis of information gathered thus far in the Strategic Planning Process and that analysis would be shared today. In mid-September, the Direction Setting Team (which is the County Manager's Management Team) and the Plan Development Team would meet to review data collected this summer and begin drafting goals and objectives for the Strategic Plan.

The Board thanked staff for doing a great job of engaging citizens in the community.

**Request from Southern Development**

Daniel A Jewell, President, Coulter, Jewell & Thames, on behalf of its client, Southern Durham Development, requested that the County consider wastewater services for its development on 751 South. According to the request, transmitted by letter on September 1, 2011, the County system is within 7,000 of linear feet of the property.

Glen Whisler replied to questions posed by the Board.

The Board held a lengthy discussion regarding the project.

Directives

1. Staff to bring recommendations to the Board at the September 26 Regular Session;

2. County Manager Ruffin to have discussions with City Manager regarding the agreement; discuss specific findings that would factor into the decision;
3. Distribute maps to the Board that define the area of service to the County Treatment Plant;
4. Address red-flag issues and report back to the Board; share the City's position on the matter.

### **Review of August BOCC Directives**

Michael Davis, Assistant to the County Manager, presented this item. He stated that it was requested that at each month's Worksession, the Board of County Commissioners has the opportunity to review the previous month's directives for staff and make comments as necessary.

#### **Directives**

1. Place the cleaning contract on the September 26 Regular Session agenda;
2. As it relates to the jail study, convey information to the Board about the property at the Durham Prison on Guess Road.

### **County Commission Candidates Review and Discussion**

The Commissioners devoted time to discuss interviews for the prospective candidates to fill the seat vacated by Becky Heron and to determine the next course of action.

The Commissioners provided feedback regarding the candidates in hopes of formulating a decision for an upcoming meeting.

Kathy Everett-Perry, Assistant County Manager, explained why all votes should be public. She also provided legal advice relating to a ballot versus a motion.

The consensus of the Board was to make a decision at a special meeting on September 12 at 4:30 p.m. However, if a decision is not made at that time, it would be continued at the September 26 Regular Session. The Board decided that a ballot would be used in the decision process.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairman Page adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela M. Pinnix  
Administrative Assistant  
Clerk to the Board's office