



Durham County

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Durham, NC 27701
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Meeting Agenda Board of County Commissioners

Michael D. Page, Chair
Brenda A. Howerton, Vice Chair
Fred Foster, Jr., Commissioner
Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner
Ellen W. Reckhow, Commissioner

Monday, December 7, 2015

9:00 AM

Commissioners' Chambers

Workession

“Public Charge”

The Board of Commissioners asks its members and citizens to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous manner, both with the Board and fellow citizens. At any time, should any member of the Board or any citizen fail to observe this public charge, the Chairman will ask the offending person to leave the meeting until that individual regains personal control. Should decorum fail to be restored, the Chairman will recess the meeting until such time that a genuine commitment to the public charge is observed.

As a courtesy to others, please turn off cell phones during the meeting.

9:00 am Worksession Agenda

1. Other Business

15-772

Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Text:

County Attorney Lowell Siler will preside over the election of the Board's Chair. The newly elected Chair will preside over the election of the Vice Chair.

Alignment With Strategic Plan: Goal 5 - Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government

Resource Persons: Lowell L. Siler, County Attorney

15-773

Approval of Public Official Bonds

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the bonds of public officials on the first Monday of December of each year. Following approval, the bonds will be recorded in the Register of Deeds Office and then sent to the Clerk of Superior Court for safekeeping.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This request relates to the following elements of the Durham County Strategic Plan: the effort aligns with Goal #5 (Accountable, Efficient, and Visionary Government).

Resource Persons: Lowell Siler, County Attorney; David English, Risk Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board suspend the rules and approve the bonds as they meet the statutory requirements.

Attachments: [Public Official Bond Approval FY2016](#)

2. Citizen Comments (30 min)

[15-781](#)

Citizen Comments

Agenda Text:

The Board of County Commissioners will provide a 30-minute comment period at a meeting once a month. Any citizen of Durham County wishing to speak shall have an opportunity to do so. The Board may direct staff to research and reply to the concerns, if appropriate. Speakers must sign in prior to the start of the meeting providing a mail/email address and telephone number so that staff may reply to comments and/or questions. Citizens who request an immediate response from the Board are encouraged to submit a brief description of the issue to the Clerk to the Board two weeks prior to the meeting to allow an opportunity for research prior to the meeting. **All speakers shall have three (3) minutes to speak and are requested to refrain from addressing issues related to personnel matters.**

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Citizen engagement aligns with all five of the strategic goals by allowing the Board to receive comments and concerns from the community related to important issues in Durham County.

Resource Persons: V. Michelle Parker-Evans, County Clerk to the Board

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive citizen comments and direct staff to respond, as deemed appropriate.

3. Discussion Items:

[15-767](#)

Charter School Update to County Commissioners

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to receive the report prepared for them by Durham's charter schools and ask any questions they wish.

Durham County's charter schools appeared before the County Commissioners in the spring of 2014 with a presentation and a wide variety of information about school finances and student achievement prepared in a uniform format. Now that school year 2014-2015 testing data and financials are available, the

schools are coming back with updated data and an updated presentation. Many charter school directors and other representatives will be in attendance.

Commissioners are encouraged to ask any questions they like about the data presented or about any data which may not be presented.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: A high quality, publicly-funded system of schools contributes strongly to the health, safety, and economic well-being (goals 2, 3, and 1 of the County Strategic Plan, respectively) of the Durham community.

Resource Persons: Lisa Gordon Stella, Board Vice President (Maureen Joy Charter School)

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the report prepared for them by Durham's charter schools and ask any questions they wish.

Attachments: [PPT Presentation DCC 2015 Final](#)

15-794 Durham Public Schools Audit

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to receive a presentation by the Chief financial Officer on the FY2015 audit of Durham Public Schools. The presentation will address the fund balance status and its relationship to the current request by DPS for additional funds to cover raises for classified employees and an increase in stipends for teachers providing after school program support. The request is for \$2.2M.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Goal 5, Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government

Resource Persons: George K. Quick, Chief Financial Officer; Susan Tezai, Deputy Chief Financial Officer

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the presentation.

15-760 Discussion about the Watershed Improvement Commission/GS 319

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to receive the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board's discussion on the Watershed Improvement Commission/GS 139. Durham County lies within the watersheds of two major water supply reservoirs for the Triangle region of NC, Falls Lake and Jordan Lake. Due to impaired water quality in both the Jordan Lake and Falls Lake, the NC Environmental Management Commission adopted Nutrient Reduction strategies for both watersheds in the effort to improve the overall health of the lakes. Both strategies establish rules for reducing Nitrogen (N) and Phosphorus (P) from entering the lakes, but at different rates. The ultimate goal of the rules is to improve the health of both lakes and surrounding watersheds. New development, existing development, agriculture and wastewater initiatives

within these watersheds are impacted by the rules and must meet designated nutrient reduction requirements, often through undertaking costly pollution reduction measures.

In order to comply with the watershed rules, Durham County will need to utilize best management practices (BMPs) to maximize pollution reduction and minimize cost. Installation of 'Green Infrastructures' (i.e. stormwater mitigation practices, agricultural best management practices, wastewater treatment plant upgrades, stream-wetland restorations etc.) will be vitally helpful in meeting reductions in both watersheds. Given the large-scale green infrastructure investments needed to comply with the rules, it is critical for entities in Durham County to work together to cooperatively address the reductions required while preparing Durham County for the future demands placed on its natural resources. Potential Watershed improvement Commission/GS 139 outcomes are as follows: 1) Improve water quality in Durham (Goal 4), 2) Increase collaboration of City and County to work together reducing cost to tax payers (Goal 5), 3) To provide BMP recommendations & implementation of specific projects to remediate "Hot Spots", 4) Green Infrastructure mapping and planning, 5) Jobs for the community.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This request is aligned with Goal 4 Environmental Stewardship by improving water quality, changing behaviors to achieve environmental quality and protecting open space while preserving rural character. Additionally, it addresses Goal 5's Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government by strengthening leadership through collaboration while encouraging innovation.

Resource Persons: Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board; Eddie Culberson, Director Soil and Water

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board's research paper on the Watershed Rules and provide directions accordingly.

Attachments:

[Article 3 GS 139](#)

[Methods and Strategies for Financing Green Infrastructure Durham](#)

4. Adjournment