

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

Monday, August 24, 2020

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 Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair James Hill and Commissioners Heidi Carter, Brenda Howerton and Ellen Reckhow

Presider: Chair Wendy Jacobs

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

**Agenda Adjustments**

Chair Jacobs announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

**Announcements**

Chair Jacobs read the following announcements:

1. **North Carolina's Job Retention Grant** - Using \$15 million of CARES Act funding, the State's new Job Retention Grant program offers grant awards for businesses and nonprofits that maintained 90% of FTEs from March to May, demonstrated 10% loss as a result of the pandemic and did not receive specific Federal and State emergency COVID-19 support. An employer, including both private businesses and specific nonprofits, may be eligible for a grant up to \$250,000 under this program if it meets all of the following conditions:
  - It employs at least 90% of FTEs during March 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020 as of Feb. pay period
  - It experienced an economic loss of at least 10% in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic
  - It did not participate in:
    - Paycheck Protection Program (Federal)
    - Main Street Lending Program (Federal)
    - North Carolina Rapid Recovery Loan Program

**The deadline to apply is September 1, 2020.**

For more information and to apply:

<https://www.nccommerce.com/grants-incentives/disaster-recovery/job-retention-grant-jrg#eligibility-requirements>

2. **Spotlight on Census Tract** – Do you know someone that lives in the Union Baptist, Alston Avenue and Albright area? If so, we need your help! Our community is below the City, State and US response rates and we need resources like help spread the word.

The community is asked to take the census by visiting [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) today!

3. **Low-Income Individuals & Families: Contact CARES NC for Help** – CARES NC will be assisting low income individuals and families who have been impacted by COVID-19 to get back on their feet. For more information about this program, please visit [www.cpcanc.org/caresnc](http://www.cpcanc.org/caresnc)
4. **DPS Families: Questions about Chromebooks** – Schedules, Chromebooks, and hotspots will be distributed by your child's school for the 2020/2021 school year. For more information, please contact your child's school directly by visiting [www.dpsnc.net/](http://www.dpsnc.net/)
5. **Paid Opportunities for Youth** – The NCWorks NextGen Program is seeking referrals of youth to enroll who are seeking paid classroom training, work experience internships, or employment opportunities.

For more information and instructions on how to apply, please visit [www.networksnextgendurham.com/interest](http://www.networksnextgendurham.com/interest).

6. **Friendly Watershed Academy** – The Watershed Academy is a four-month community development opportunity to enhance participants knowledge in local urban watershed planning and stewardship. Participants of the academy will receive a \$400 stipend. For more information please visit <https://sfcrce.co/3iaXXWd> or email [keshi@ellerbecreek.org](mailto:keshi@ellerbecreek.org)
7. **Donate to the Hygiene & Cleaning Supply Drive at Durham County** – Food Security Task Force & Durham Congregations in Action are hosting a cleaning and hygiene supply drive for clients of 20+ Durham area food pantries. For a list of items to donate and location sites, please visit [www.dcia.org/](http://www.dcia.org/)
8. **Round 3 Durham Small Business Recovery Loan Fund Changes** – Recent changes are designed to greatly expand loan eligibility to Durham Small Businesses by modifying the following criteria:
  - Businesses with revenue up to \$5 million and 50 employees are now eligible (no longer a \$500,000 minimum)
  - Businesses that received a grant may apply for a loan
  - Businesses do not need to demonstrate a revenue decline for the loan program

Please see additional program information here:

<https://carolinasmallbusiness.org/initiatives/durhamloanprogram/>

9. **Durham Tech's Back-to-Work Initiative** - Durham Tech is offering a number of courses to help students get opportunities for immediate employment in high demand occupations. Courses being offered in the career fields listed below require less than a year of classroom time to help students get back to work quickly in fields like Biotechnology, Information Technology, Health and Wellness, Skilled Trades and more. Scholarship opportunities are available. Some courses

may require a high school diploma or GED®/HiSET® as well as access to a computer and internet.

Please visit the following link for more information on the initiative, available courses and start dates: <https://www.durhamtech.edu/academic-programs/durham-tech-back-work-initiative>

10. **Youth Opportunities in Durham (YODurham) Text Line** – The Office on Youth has set up a one-way text line for young people in Durham under 25 years old. This line provides information about food assistance, housing, employment, events and more.

Please visit [www.durhamnc.gov/1350/Office-on-Youth](http://www.durhamnc.gov/1350/Office-on-Youth) for additional information and to sign up.

11. **Parent and Family Advocacy and Support Training** – NC Cooperative Extension invites you to join a 7-week online course to help parents navigate the school system and virtual learning.

Classes are held in Spanish on Monday from 5:30 – 6:30pm and in English on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6:30pm. For additional questions please contact Christa Gibson at [cgibson@dconc.gov](mailto:cgibson@dconc.gov) or at 919-560-0538. To register please sign up at <https://go.ncsu.edu/pfast2020>

Chair Jacobs stated Durham Immigrant and Refugee held a virtual Town Hall meeting to discuss Coronavirus and Beyond. She added this would be the first trilingual meeting in English, Spanish and Swahili. Those not able to attend could view the meeting online.

## **Minutes**

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the March 27, 2020 Special Session minutes, June 2, 2020 Budget Work Session minutes and May 22, 2020 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Directive: Chair Jacobs asked Keith Lane, Budget Director for an update on the Museum of Life and Science capital projects. She also requested information on how to implement a testing program at the detention center.**

## **Ceremonial Items**

### **20-0395 Durham County Main Library: 2020 AIA (American Institute of Architects) Triangle North Carolina Honor Award and Durham County Library System: 2020 Isosceles Award**

Peri Manns, Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services provided an overview of the awards received by the Main Library project team and the Durham County Library system. He thanked everyone who contributed, assisted and worked with the Durham County Library System.

Frank Jackson, Design Architect with Vines Architect stated the library was a collaborative effort and he thanked Kaitlan Phelps, Interior Design for the interior decorations of the library. Robert Thomas, Principal and Director of Design stated he was honored the library was an inclusive space for all in Durham.

Tammy Baggett-Best, Library Director thanked the citizens of Durham, Durham County Library Staff, Friends of the Durham Library, Board of Trustees, Durham Library Foundation and Vines Architecture for supporting the Main Library and helping to win the awards.

The Board thanked everyone involved with the design of the Durham County Main Library. Commissioner Reckhow inquired about the opening date of the library. Ms. Baggett-Best responded she was working with Joanne Pierce, General Manager to determine the opening date.

## **Consent Agenda**

Chair Jacobs asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda.

The Board requested to comment on the following: 20-0413 and 20-0444.

- Item 20-0413 – Chair Jacobs thanked Peri Manns, Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental and staff for the additional one (1) percent added to the overall project to address public art at the facility.
- Item 20-0444 – Chair Jacobs asked if the funds used for the contract were eligible for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Wendell Davis, County Manager replied yes, the County would apply for 75 percent FEMA reimbursement and 25 percent State reimbursement.

Hearing no additional comments, Chair Jacobs entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

\*20-0322 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for June 2020.

\*20-0373 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000015 to Recognize \$80,038 from the NC DHHS Division of Public Health Chronic Disease and Injury/Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch and Establish One Grant Funded FTE.

\*20-0411 Capital Project Amendment No. 20 CPA 000005 – Appropriate \$1,490,000 of Public School Building Capital Fund Lottery Funds for a Durham Public School's (DPS) Glenn Elementary Roof Replacement Capital Project (Lottery Funds).

\*20-0413 Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000006 – Increasing the Administration Building Refurbishment Project (4730DC137) by \$4,171,279, Reducing Budget from Multiple Completed Projects (\$1,586,869), and Budget Amendment No. 21BCC000024 – Appropriating Debt Services Fund Fund Balance (\$2,584,410), and Approving the Execution of a Change Order to the Construction Contract with Resolute Building Company for completion of Phases 3 through 5 of this Project.

\*20-0415 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for July 2020.

20-0420 Exchange of County-owned Real Property at 509 E. Umstead St.

20-0444 Award Contract for Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Sanitation Services Belfor USA Group, Inc.

Consent Agenda Item #20-0322

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings and clerical errors, etc. The attached report details releases and refunds for the month of June 2020.

Releases and Refunds – June 2020

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Personal Property | \$ 0.00 |
| Real Property     | \$ 0.00 |
| Total             | \$ 0.00 |

Releases and Refunds for 2019 Taxes

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Real Property     | \$ 0.00       |
| Personal Property | \$ 148,808.06 |
| Motor Vehicle     | \$ 0.00       |
| Solid Waste       | \$ 0.00       |
| VTs Refunds       | \$ 2,633.14   |
| Total             | \$ 151,441.20 |

Releases & Refunds for Prior Years  
2014 - 2018

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Real Property     | \$ 0.00 |
| Personal Property | \$ 0.00 |
| Solid Waste       | \$ 0.00 |
| Total             | \$ 0.00 |

Grand Total \$ 151,441.20

Consent Agenda Item #20-0373

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000015**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| <u>Category</u>     | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Increase/Decrease</u> | <u>Revised Budget</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u> |                       |                          |                       |
| <u>Expenditure</u>  |                       |                          |                       |
| Human Services      | \$88,065,130          | \$80,038                 | \$88,145,168          |

Revenue

|                   |              |          |              |
|-------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Intergovernmental | \$49,263,043 | \$80,038 | \$49,343,081 |
|-------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|

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

Approved August 24, 2020

Consent Agenda Item #20-0411

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FY 2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance  
Amendment Number 20CPA000005**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the FY 2020-21 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

| Project                           | Current Budget | Increase/ Decrease | Revised Budget |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Glenn ES Roof replacement (SH278) | \$84,000.00    | \$1,490,000.00     | \$1,574,000.00 |

Adopted this the 24th day of August, 2020.

Consent Agenda Item #20-0413

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
2020-2021 Capital Project Ordinance  
Amendment Number 20CPA000006**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2020-2021 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

| Durham County Capital Projects                          | Current Budget | Increase/ Decrease | Updated Budget |
|---|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 16 It Hardware Upgrade Project (42001910DC103)          | \$3,681,000    | (\$0.27)           | \$3,681,000    |
| Detention Center Security Modifications (43103300DC088) | \$550,000      | (\$267,192.00)     | \$282,808      |
| Multi-Dept. Radio And Tower Replacement (43203600DC003) | \$200,000      | (\$200,000.00)     | \$0            |
| Ems Station #17 Co-Location Project (44103100DC133)     | \$1,239,596    | (\$23,135.88)      | \$1,216,460    |
| Rcws Improvements Project (47302635DC142)               | \$229,958      | (\$106,462.48)     | \$123,496      |
| Rougemont Comm. Water System Ph Control (47302635DC144) | \$107,175      | (\$9,630.00)       | \$97,545       |
| Parkwood Building Upgrade (47302635DC147)               | \$337,643      | (\$337,643.00)     | \$0            |
| 07 Go Whitted Project (59105400SH227)                   | \$10,332,000   | (\$50,000.00)      | \$10,282,000   |
| Stanford L. Warren Library Upgrade (61102511DC079)      | \$50,000       | (\$42,500.00)      | \$7,500        |

|   |           |               |           |
|---|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Bragtown Branch Library (61102540DC096)           | \$55,125  | (\$35,125.00) | \$20,000  |
| Public Safety and Service Complex (47302635DC146) | \$684,180 | (\$515,180)   | \$169,000 |

Adopted this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.

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**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000024**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| <u>Category</u>                  | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Increase/Decrease</u> | <u>Revised Budget</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b><u>DEBT SERVICES FUND</u></b> |                       |                          |                       |
| <u>Expenditure</u>               |                       |                          |                       |
| General Government               | \$68,135,847          | \$2,584,410              | \$70,720,257          |
| <u>Revenue</u>                   |                       |                          |                       |
| Other Financing Services         | \$67,327,431          | \$2,584,410              | \$69,911,841          |

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

Approved August 24, 2020

Consent Agenda Item #20-0415

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings and clerical errors, etc. The attached report details releases and refunds for the month of July 2020.

Releases and Refunds – July 2020

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Personal Property | \$ 0.00             |
| Real Property     | \$ 0.00             |
| Motor Vehicle     | \$ 0.00             |
| Solid Waste       | \$ 0.00             |
| VTS Refunds       | \$ <u>10,724.14</u> |
| Total             | \$ 10,724.14        |

Releases & Refunds for Prior Years  
2014 - 2019

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Real Property     | \$ 802.37      |
| Personal Property | \$ 0.00        |
| Solid Waste       | \$ <u>0.00</u> |
| Total             | \$ 802.37      |

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| Grand Total | \$ 11,526.51 |
|-------------|--------------|

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## **Public Hearings**

### **20-0434 Public Hearing to Consider Allocating Economic Development Funds to Beam Therapeutics**

Andrew Miracle, Economic Development Officer stated the Board was requested to hold a public hearing to consider allocating a total of \$500,000 in Economic Development funds to Beam Therapeutics and authorize the Manager to enter preliminary negotiations and execute an agreement with the Company Beam Therapeutics, an innovative cell and gene therapy manufacturer, would locate their new facility in Durham County RTP, creating 201 jobs and investing \$83 million.

Commissioner Howerton inquired about the required industry experience for employment with Beam Therapeutics. Mr. Miracle responded employment required minimum experience with a similar company. Commissioner Reckhow asked when the company would start construction and hiring. Mr. Miracle replied significant investment would begin in 2021, along with the hiring of fundamental employees. Commissioner Reckhow asked if the incentive payments started after staff was hired and production had begun. Mr. Miracle responded the revenue anticipated from the investment had to double the amount of the award and would occur in 2021.

Chair Jacobs asked for the briefing sheet to be included in the contract. Mr. Miracle responded all of the information on the briefing sheet was included in the contract.

Chair Jacobs opened the public hearing.

Bryan Fox, Vice President of Public Policy, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce submitted the following comment via email:

*“Good evening Commissioners, Mr. Manager, Mr. Attorney, staff, neighbors, and friends. On behalf of the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce, we appreciate your continued support of opportunities that address global health issues AND will benefit all Durham residents both directly and indirectly. As we continue to increase access and equity across our community and specifically to our growing life science industry, your small partnership with Beam Therapeutics enables their investment in Durham to help support all of our shared priorities.”*

Chair Jacobs closed the public hearing and asked to entertain a motion.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, second by Vice-Chair Hill to allocate a total of \$500,000 in Economic Development funds to Beam Therapeutics and authorize the Manger to enter preliminary negotiations and execute an agreement with company.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Other Business**

### **20-0436 Durham County Public Heath Focused Update on the COVID-19 Crisis**

Rodney Jenkins, Public Health Director thanked the Board and County Management for their support.



Mr. Jenkins provided the following updates for Durham County:

- 6464 total cases
- 32 seven-day moving average
- 37.43 percent were African American; 14.10 percent were Caucasian; 38.78 percent were Latinx
- 27704 zip code held the highest positive cases at 31.93 percent
- 4 percent Durham infection growth rate

The Board inquired about the number of children testing positive for COVID-19. Mr. Jenkins responded children were testing positive due to generational effects and housing.

Chair Jacobs stated residents could call the Duke Health Compliance Program at 1-800-826-8109 to report students gatherings exceeding safe numbers.

#### **20-0446 2020 Census Status Update**

Deborah Craig-Ray, General Manager explained due to the Coronavirus planned community Census events were unable to take place forcing Census field workers and community leader to seek alternatives efforts to widely encourage participation and increase response rates. She highlighted some of the participation which included: the library distributing Census bookmarks, public service announcements on local radio stations and Fuel the Vote which was held on Saturday, August 29, 2020. Ms. Craig-Ray stated Roy Cooper, Governor of North Carolina joined a bipartisan coalition of Governors to extend the Census through October 31<sup>st</sup> to help ensure a complete count. She noted Durham County held a 58.7 percent response rate with a goal of 82 percent.

The Board asked if Census information would be included in the tax bills when mailed to citizens. Ms. Craig-Ray responded Census information would be included with the tax and water bills. The Board inquired about the analysis of the Census responses received. Ms. Craig-Ray replied she would get the data on the Census responses and share with the Board. The Board recommended using development staff to deliver door flyers in areas with low response rates, hand-out flyers at community events and have Social Services, Health and Sheriff staff include a Census message with any community contacts.

**Directive: The Board recommended using development staff to deliver door flyers in areas with low response rates, hand-out flyers at community events and have Social Services, Health and Sheriff staff include a Census message with any community contacts.**

#### **20-0365 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000025 to Appropriate \$470,250 of General Fund COVID Reserve and Contract Approval for Home Delivered Meals for Food Insecure Families during the COVID Crisis from Local Durham Restaurants**

Donna Rewalt, County Extension Director explained the Food Insight Group (FIG) proposal would address the need for home delivered family meals, providing food to both the children and adults in a household, requiring significant coordination, by continuing to utilize Durham restaurants to provide family meals each week and supporting restaurant workers and their families. She added FIG would leverage the new program to coordinate additional community food resources when available, to increase the amount of food delivered to families.

Kelly Warnock, Nutrition Program Manager, stated the program would work to identify and support children and families who were experiencing food insecurity that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis. She continued to say along with significant barriers to accessing site-based meal programs, children and families would benefit most from the home delivery program.

The Board asked if the identified families would be supported and remain in the program for the four (4) month duration and if they would receive information on learning center opportunities, technology assistance and other available programs. Ms. Rewalt responded yes; the families would remain in the program. With regards to receiving information, Ms. Warnock replied the main source of assistance would be offered from the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Public Health. The Board expressed concern about the 1500 children and families on the waiting list and the decision to serve five (5) meals a week to families and not two (2) meals a week to serve more families. Ms. Warnock responded the program was seeking additional funds, adding children learned more with five (5) meals a week instead of two (2) meals a week.

The Board asked the Manager to provide an overview on the total amount of funding disbursed since March 2020. County Manager Davis responded he would provide the overview at the September 8, 2020 Work Session. The Board asked where the funding would be coming from. County Manager Davis replied the funds would come from the COVID Reserve. The Board asked for the remaining amount in the COVID Reserve and recommended the funding amount be identified in the text of the item.

Commissioner Carter moved, second by Commissioner Howerton to appropriate \$470,250 of General Fund COVID Reserve and contract approval with the Food Insight Group (FIG) for home delivered meals to food insecure families from September 1 through December 31.

The motion carried unanimously.

The Board stated the DSS staff had identified food insecure families and recommended FIG partnering with DSS. Keith Lane, Budget Director stated \$1,825,000 was remaining in the COVID Reserve. The Board asked for an update on possible funding available at the September 8, 2020 Work Session. County Manager Davis responded he would work with General Managers and staff to provide information to the Board.

**Directives:**

- **County Manager Davis to provide an overview of the total amount of COVID related funding and expenditures disbursed since March 2020.**
- **County Manager Davis to provide possible COVID funding sources available at the September 8, 2020 Work Session.**

**20-0456 Durham Hope Learning Centers Proposal**

Jodi Miller, General Manager shared the *Durham Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Update* which highlighted the following: Round One (1), Round Two (2) and Total and Important Deadline Dates.

Keith Lane, Budget Director share the *Durham Hope Centers Proposal* which highlighted the following: Full Cost for Nine (9) Weeks, Full Cost for Semester (14 Weeks), Minimum and Maximum County Request and Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Allocation.

The Board stated the learning centers should target at-risk students and students that resided in housing complexes. They asked if schools would be used as learning centers and if transportation would be provided. Forrest Perry, Regional Vice President, YMCA of the Triangle replied Dr. Pascal Mubenga, Durham Public Schools (DPS) Superintendent would be the best person to provide that answer. The Board asked if new teachers and staff would be hired for the learning centers. Alexander Zagbayou, Executive Director, Student U responded DPS would use current teachers and staff and hire additional staff as needed. The Board asked if the learning centers would provide mental health programs for the students. Ms. Zagbayou replied the learning center would be able to refer those students as needed.

The Board asked how students would be selected for the learning centers. Ms. Zagbayou responded students who qualified for free or reduced meals, students at home alone and students affected by COVID were considered candidates for the learning centers. The Board inquired about using the libraries for learning centers. Tammy Baggett-Best, Library Director replied the libraries were not able to serve as learning centers, although the libraries could support the community with learning materials.

The Board inquired about the City's contribution. Megan Gonzales-Smith, Executive Director, DPS Foundation responded the City would discuss funding at the August 27, 2020 Council meeting. The Board recommended outreach to the Durham Housing Authority and the Department of Social Services to ensure needy students were able to fill the seats and asked to be provided with the list of students that filled the 338 open seats. Ms. Zagbayou replied the information would be provided to the Board.

Commissioner Carter moved, second by Commissioner Howerton to appropriate \$405,500 of funding for the 338 seats for the Durham Hope Learning Centers.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Directive: The Board recommended outreach to the Durham Housing Authority and the Department of Social Services to ensure needy students were able to fill the seats and asked to be provided with the list of students that filled the 338 seats.**

#### **20-0433 Board of Elections Update on November 2020 General Election Preparations**

Phillip Lehman, Durham County Board of Elections Chair stated extensive planning and preparations were executed to ensure voting would be safe, accessible, efficient and secure.

Derek Bowens, Durham County Director of Elections shared the *Board of Elections Preparations Update* which highlighted the following: COVID-19 Polling Place Preparations, Sample Polling Place Diagram, Early Voting Preparations, Absentee-By-Mail Preparations, Election Day Preparations, Outreach Initiatives and Financial Impacts of Covid-19.

The Board inquired about absentee ballot errors. Mr. Bowens responded staff would determine if an absentee ballot was valid or rejected. He added staff would contact voters about deficiencies and allow the voter to cure the ballot if curable, otherwise a new ballot would be issued. Mr. Lehman added

absentee ballots had to be returned by mail to the Board of Elections or returned in-person at the early voting sites.

### **20-0442 Update on Community Health Ambassador Program Funding Request**

Katie Galbraith, Durham Recovery and Renewal Co-Chair shared an overview of the updates on the Community Health Ambassador Program Funding. It was noted the purpose of the Community Health Ambassador program was to address the impact of COVID in the communities of LatinX and people of color. The workers would be trusted community partners and they would support the work being done by the Durham County Health Department.

The Board asked if the County could support the program by providing Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and color printers. Jodi Miller, General Manager replied the County would not receive Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement for any funding spent on the Community Health Ambassador Program. She added the County could use the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) until December 31, 2020.

The Board inquired about the Community Health Ambassador Program duplicating work already being done in the community. Dr. Kurt Ribisl, Professor at UNC Gillings School of Public Health responded the Community Health Ambassadors would spend their days visiting businesses to listen and understand their needs and challenges. He added the ambassadors would work with essential workers to observe current practices and to partner with establishment owners/managers to identify and remove barriers to compliance that could reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission among employees and customers.

#### **First Motion:**

Commissioner Carter moved, second by Vice Chair Hill to extend the meeting until 11:30 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Second Motion:**

Commissioner Reckhow moved, second by Commissioner Carter to appropriate \$318,244 of the General Fund COVID Reserve and move some cost to the Coronavirus Relief Fund if possible.

Ayes: Carter, Hill, Jacobs, Reckhow  
Nays: Howerton

The motion carried.

### **Board and Commission Appointments**

Lowell Siler, 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.

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee

**Dawn Y. Baxton** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

**Melinda Thompson-King** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Durham County Women's Commission

**Patrice High** (Carter, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Joyce T. Tyler (Hill)

Courtney Kelly (Howerton)

Homeless Services Advisory Committee

**Renee Vaughan** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Library Board of Trustees

(i)**Mrinmay Biswas** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

**Katie Kaefer** (Carter, Jacobs, Reckhow)

(i)**Luis Olivieri-Robert** (Carter, Hill, Jacobs, Reckhow)

(i)**Camilla Meek** (Carter, Hill, Jacobs, Reckhow)

Marian Dillahunt-Andrews (Hill)

**Closed Session**

Chair Jacobs stated the board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4).

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to adjourn into the Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Reconvene to Open Session**

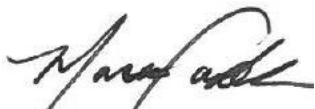
Chair Jacobs announced the Board met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 11:29 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton  
Deputy Clerk to the Board

DRAFT