

Item Title: Memorandum of Understanding between the Wake County Board of Elections and the County of Wake

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the Memorandum of Understanding Between Wake County and the Wake County Board of Elections regarding the defined roles and responsibilities of each entity.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners approves all Memoranda of Understanding with other governmental entities.

Background: The Wake County Board of Elections is an independent governmental entity established pursuant to Article 4 of Chapter 163 of the North Carolina General Statutes. State law charges the Wake County Board of Elections (BOE) with the responsibility of conducting all elections within the County. While the BOE is part of County government, it administers elections independently under the guidance and oversight of the State Board of Elections.

The Board of Commissioners is responsible for funding BOE's operations. Wake County and the BOE have maintained a longstanding partnership to define and coordinate their respective roles and responsibilities. The existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), originally executed in 2005, formalized this relationship.

The Board of Elections has recently reviewed the MOU and is proposing updates, specifically to clarify the Board's role regarding performance evaluations of the Director of Elections. The proposed revision states that the Wake County Board of Elections will conduct annual performance evaluations of the Director of Elections at its discretion and will recommend any related salary adjustments to the Board of Commissioners for approval, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 163-35(c).

Strategic Plan: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: This action has no specific financial impact.

Additional Information:

The current Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the Wake County Board of Commissioners on May 16, 2005, and subsequently approved by the Wake County Board of Elections on June 21, 2005, at which time it became effective.

Attachments:

1. Current 2005 Memorandum of Understanding
2. Proposed 2026 Memorandum of Understanding