



# Wake County

301 South McDowell Street  
Raleigh, NC

## Meeting Minutes Board of Commissioners

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Monday, October 15, 2018

2:00 PM

Wake County Justice Center

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### Meeting Called to Order: Chair Jessica Holmes

**Present:** 7 - Chair Jessica Holmes, Vice-Chair Sig Hutchinson, Commissioner John D. Burns, Commissioner Matt Calabria, Commissioner Greg Ford, Commissioner Erv Portman, and Commissioner James West

Others Present: David Ellis, County Manager; Scott Warren, County Attorney; Denise Hogan, Clerk to the Board; Yvonne Gilyard, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Chris Dillon, Assistant County Manager; Denise Foreman, Assistant County Manager; Emily Lucas, Chief Financial Officer; Ben Canada, Assistant to the County Manager.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Invocation: Chair Jessica Holmes

### Items of Business

1. [Approval of Agenda](#)

Commissioner Portman suggested that item #6 (Resolution Reaffirming Support for the Resettlement of Refugees to Wake County) be postponed until the November 7, 2018 meeting.

**Commissioner Portman moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns, to move item #6 to the next board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, to approve the agenda with the above noted change. The motion passed unanimously.**

2. [Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2018](#)

**Commissioner Ford moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Hutchinson, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.**

3. [Retiree Recognition](#)

**Attachments:** [Item Summary 10.15.2018.docx](#)

[Lonnie Johnson.docx](#)

[Roxanne Harris.docx](#)

[Sara Hauser.docx](#)

[Jocelin McElderry.docx](#)

[Kimberly Wrenn.docx](#)

Mr. David Ellis, County Manager, recognized the following employees on their retirement.

Ms. Sara Hauser, 30 years of service, Human Services Department

Mr. Lonnie Johnson, 29 years of service, Sheriff's Office

Ms. Jocelin McElderry, 31 years of service, Human Services Department

Ms. Kimberly Wrenn, 30 years of services, Sheriff's Office

Ms. Roxanne Harris, 31 years of service, Human Services Department

He presented them with plaques commensurate to their service to Wake County.

4. [Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation](#)

**Attachments:** [Agenda Item.docx](#)

[Domestic Violence Proclamation 2018.docx](#)

Ms. Annemarie Maiorano, Human Services Deputy Director, introduced

Ms. Leigh Duque, Executive Director, InterAct, to accept the Proclamation.

Ms. Duque thanked the Commissioners for their leadership. She shared information about domestic violence and said InterAct is the only provider of comprehensive, emergency, and long-term domestic violence support in Wake County. She told a story of cross stitch in her home that is a reminder of her grandmother. She said a home should be a place of love, but that is not the case when domestic violence is an issue.

Ms. Duque shared statistics of InterAct and the services for Domestic Violence Prevention that are in place. She shared the various agencies that partner with protective orders. She said through the e-filing program, a victim is now able to apply for a protection from abuse order online from their office.

Ms. Duque thanked the Commissioners for allowing InterAct staff to work on-site at the Human Services Work First program as well as the Children and Youth office.

She said that the Family Justice Alliance for Hope International is conducting a community meeting November 27th and 28th and performing a study tour to develop a multi-agency center response. She said there will be discussions about a new multi-agency center in Wake County. She said men and women are victims of domestic violence and more individuals are seeking help than ever before.

Chair Holmes commended InterAct for their work in Wake County. She read aloud the Proclamation.

**Chair Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Calabria, that the Wake County Board of Commissioners receive a brief presentation from InterAct and proclaim the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The motion passed unanimously.**

5. [Proclamation Recognizing Capital Area Veterans Stand Down Day](#)

Attachments: [Item Summary](#)  
[Proclamation 2018.docx](#)

Mr. Frank Lawrence, South Wilmington Street Center, shared the services that will be offered at the upcoming Capital Area Veterans Stand Down event to be held on November 2, 2018 at the South Wilmington Street Center. He said this is an annual event where veterans can receive various services all in one place.

Vice-Chair Hutchinson said he attends the event each year and asked Mr. Lawrence to share the services that will be available. Mr. Lawrence said that housing, health care, food resources, and other services will be available.

Chair Holmes said twelve percent of men in county shelters are veterans. She said the board looks forward to working with the Wilmington Street Homeless Shelter in order to meet the goal of ending homelessness by 2021.

Commissioner West said that ending homelessness is a goal of the board. He read aloud the Proclamation.

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns, that**

**the Board of Commissioners proclaim November 2, 2018 as Capital Area Veterans Stand Down Day. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. [Resolution Reaffirming Support for the Resettlement of Refugees to Wake County](#)

**Attachments:** [Refugee Resolution Item Summary.docx](#)  
[RefugeeResolution.doc](#)

This item was deferred to the November 7th meeting.

7. [Proclamation Recognizing the Month of October as Arts and Humanities Month](#)

**Attachments:** [Arts and Humanities Month Proclamation Item Summary 10-15-18.docx](#)  
[Arts Humanities Month Proclamation 10-15-18.docx](#)

Ms. Eleanor Oakley, President/CEO, United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, said that we live in a culturally rich county. She shared the number of grants awarded to schools in Wake County for art projects. She said since July 1st, the Arts Council has awarded 50 programming grants to 32 non-profit arts organizations, 8 municipalities and 10 schools. She said they have also awarded funds for 67 arts and cultural field trips for elementary schools, offered master classes at 22 high schools and provided other grants to 130 schools. She said they have implemented a mural program with Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Wake Forest, Zebulon, Knightdale and Wendell. She said once the murals are completed, they will be placed in the schools.

Commissioner Ford thanked Ms. Oakley and her staff for all their work. He said Ms. Oakley does an amazing job of promoting arts and culture in Wake County.

He read aloud the Proclamation.

Chair Holmes said that the arts celebrated every day of the year.

**Commissioner Ford moved, seconded by Commissioner Calabria, that the Board of Commissioners recognize the month of October as Arts and Humanities Month and adopt the proclamation. The motion passed unanimously.**

### Consent Agenda

Commissioner Burns asked about item #10 (Joint Resolution adopting and establishing the common boundary line between Wake County and Harnett County). He asked for confirmation that there has been resolution with the properties that border Wake and Harnett Counties in order for the children in the Wake County School District can remain in Wake County Public

Schools. Mr. David Ellis, County Manager, confirmed that any children that are currently in Wake County Schools that are affected by the boundary change can remain in the Wake County Public School System.

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.**

8. [Approve a Five-Year Agreement with Central Carolina Holdings, LLC to Provide Scrap Tire Recycling Services in Wake County](#)

**Attachments:** [Board Item Summary Scrap Tire Recycling Contract.docx](#)  
[Central Carolina Holdings Contract \(11.01.2018-10.31.2023\).pdf](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners approve a five-year agreement with Central Carolina Holdings, LLC to provide scrap tire recycling services in Wake County and authorizes the County Manager to execute contracts for these services, subject to the terms and conditions acceptable to the County Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.**

9. [Resolution of Amendment and Confirmation of Reassessment for Banks Pointe Subdivision Road Improvements](#)

**Attachments:** [Item Summary](#)  
[Amended Resolution and Assessment Roll](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners adopts the Resolution of Amendment and Confirmation of Reassessment for Banks Pointe Subdivision Road Improvements. The motion passed unanimously.**

10. [Joint Resolution Adopting North Carolina Geodetic Survey's Resurvey of the Common Boundary Between Wake County and Harnett County](#)

**Attachments:** [Item Summary](#)  
[County Line Boundaries Presentation 10-15-18.pdf](#)  
[Joint Resolution and Survey Plat of Wake/Harnett County Boundaryarnett County Line.pdf](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners:**

**1. Adopt the location of the boundary line between Wake County and Harnett County in accordance with the plat prepared by North Carolina Geodetic Survey, and adopt the attached joint resolution; and**

**2. Direct the Wake County Revenue Director to assess parcels, or**

portions thereof, that have previously been assessed in Harnett County but will now be in Wake County, in accordance with the plat prepared by North Carolina Geodetic Survey and mutually agreed to by this Board and the Harnett County Board of Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously.

11. [Lease Agreement for Fire Station on District Drive in Raleigh, NC](#)

Attachments: [Agenda Item Summary.docx](#)  
[Western Wake Lease Agreement - Final.docx](#)

Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chair to enter a lease with the State of North Carolina for 4021 District Drive, Raleigh, NC, subject to the terms and conditions acceptable to the County Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

12. [Acceptance of Sealed Bid for Property at 6301 Robertson Pond Road, Wendell, NC](#)

Attachments: [Consent Item to Accept Bid on Gehrke House.docx](#)  
[RESOLUTION BY WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.docx](#)  
[Sealed Bid\\_B.Olsen.pdf](#)

Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners:

1. Accept the sealed bid amount of \$15,000.00 and designate that amount into the Parks Recreation and Open Space unallocated account; and
2. Authorize the County Manager or his designee to execute all documentation required to effectuate that transaction. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

Ms. Karen Bearden, 1809 Lakepark Drive, Raleigh, NC, said she and her spouse are the 350 Triangle Coordinators. She said she introduced the 100 percent clean energy by 2050 Resolution to Vice-Chair Hutchinson. She said it was heard by the Growth, Land Use, and Environment Committee and then by the full board at a Work Session. She said that it is important that the board that act quickly on the Resolution.

Mr. Jihad Shawwn, 3605 Gladens Court, Raleigh, encouraged approving

the Resolution of the Resettlement of Refugees to Wake County. He said he will return on November 7 when the board provides the Resolution on the agenda.

Mr. Harry Richmond, 200 Ingreen Chase Court, Apex, thanked the Board of Commissioners for considering the 100 percent clean energy resolution. He also thanked the Growth, Land Use, and Environment Committee for bringing the Resolution forward. He shared the areas that have adopted the Resolution and asked the board to partner with the municipalities in Wake County to accomplish this goal.

Mayor Frank Eagles, Town of Rolesville, said that female veterans were not mentioned in the Veterans Stand Down presentation. He said that many female veterans are single moms and should be remembered.

## Regular Agenda

### 13. [Actions Requested to Advance Ryan Spring Affordable Housing Complex](#)

**Attachments:** [Item Summary](#)  
[Ryan Springs Presentation 10-15-18.pdf](#)  
[Ryan Spring Updated Proforma](#)  
[Public Notice](#)

Ms. Alicia Arnold, Human Services Division Director, shared the background of the Ryan Springs development. She introduced Mr. Tim Morgan, Vice-President, Evergreen Construction. She shared the information about the increased cost of the project. She shared the request for funding information. She said Evergreen Construction requested additional funding from the Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) grant, the Integrated Supportive Housing Program (ISHP) and the Town of Cary Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). She said while they all support the project, they do not have funds available at this time.

Chair Holmes asked who is charging the impact permitting fees. Mr. Morgan said the Town of Cary regulates the impact permitting fees.

Ms. Arnold shared the information about the reallocation of CDGB funds. She shared the takeaways for the request. She shared the recommendation for the request.

Commissioner West said that he supports the project. He asked who decides what population a complex will target to accommodate a request.

Ms. Arnold said that is determined by the developer.

Commissioner West asked how the mixture of median income households are determined for a new development. Ms. Arnold said it is determined by the tax credit financing rules and no units can be above 60 percent of the average median income (AMI). Ms. Arnold said that this development has 28 percent of the units at 30 percent of the AMI, which is significant. She said the developers try to serve as many population groups as possible to make it a viable project.

Commissioner Burns asked what can be done to encourage developers to build units for families with children. Ms. Arnold said the tax credit request for proposal process is being revised, which should address the issue. She said significant revisions were made last year, but more improvements will be made this year.

Commissioner Burns asked if any projects are receiving less funding to make this money available. Ms. Arnold said no other projects will be affected. She said there were projects that did not come to fruition, which resulted in the additional funding.

Commissioner Burns asked about impact fees and whether there are communities that waive the fees for affordable housing.

Mr. Morgan said that impact fees from the Town of Cary are not waived and he is not aware of any community that will waive those fees. He said the type of housing is dictated by the size of the land. He mentioned a seven-acre, 42-unit track that he is looking to develop in Garner that will be family housing. He said the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency has strict requirements on sites and asked that the Commissioners discuss the revision of these requirements with the Housing Finance Agency. He said increasing the distance requirements from 1 mile to 1.5 miles would make Wake County more competitive for affordable housing.

Vice-Chair Hutchinson asked if the distance requirements were locally or federally mandated. Mr. Morgan said the Raleigh Housing Finance Agency revises the plan each year and makes amendments to the criteria as necessary.

Commissioner Portman said there must be leveraging effectiveness of funding for the public investment for affordable housing. He said the public should be able to see the return on investment figures.

Chair Holmes said that certain municipalities are more open to affordable housing.



Chair Holmes thanked Mr. Morgan and his team for partnering with Wake County on affordable housing projects and for serving on the Affordable Housing Committee.

**Vice-Chair Hutchinson moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners:**

- 1. Amend the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and the FY 2018-2019 Action Plan to reprogram up to \$750,000 of prior year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) public facilities funds to be used as acquisition for the development of affordable housing; and**
- 2. Approve up to an additional \$700,000 in Federal CDBG funds for Ryan Spring Apartments, an affordable senior housing development in Cary, NC.**

**All funding commitments are subject to terms and conditions acceptable to the County Attorney. Awards are also contingent upon the development receiving local approvals including site plan approval, all necessary permits from the local municipality and an award of tax credits from the NC Housing Finance Agency. In addition, all awards are contingent upon the basic terms as identified in the project descriptions, including funding commitments from the financial partners as identified. The motion passed unanimously.**

14. [Public Hearing on a Request for Disinterment, Relocation, and Reinterment of Approximately Two \(2\) Graves Located at 2520 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road to Oakwood Cemetery \(Petition GR-02-18\)](#)

**Attachments:** [GR-02-18 Item Summary.docx](#)  
[Grave Removal Presentation 10-15-18.pdf](#)  
[GR-02-18 Petition and Archaeological Report.pdf](#)

Mr. Keith Lankford, Planner III, said the purpose of the grave removal was to accommodate the sale of the property to allow for development by others and to move the remains to a property maintained cemetery where they will receive perpetual care. He shared the cemetery history.

- There are 2 graves marked by uninscribed tombstones.
- Three deeds for the property (1897, 1900 and 1964) contained references to a cemetery.
- The petitioner was unable to conduct any direct genealogical research due to the lack of inscribed tombstones.
- The petitioner conducted extensive genealogical research of the

previous owners of the property and identified a distant relative of one of the previous owners, but he indicated that he did not know about the cemetery and had no opposition to relocating the graves.

- No records, or historical significance, was found, and no opposition to this petition has been received.
  
- Review by other resources
  - Capital Area Preservation
  - Irene Kittinger, Wake County Cemetery Survey Group
  - Town of Apex planning staff

He shared the grave removal process.

- Under NCGS, the remains are required to be reinterred in a suitable cemetery.
- Work shall be performed by a licensed funeral director.
- Wake County Environmental Services staff will observe the disinterment.
- The petitioner (or funeral director) must record the Removal of Graves Certificate at the Register of Deeds Office after completing the reinterment.

He shared the compliance with North Carolina General Statutes.

- Legal notices appeared in the News and Observer newspaper on May 21st and 28th, and June 4th and 11th, 2018.
- The remains will be reinterred in Oakwood Cemetery at 701 Oakwood Avenue, where they will receive perpetual care.
- Planning staff posted the required notification signs at the property on October 3rd, 2018 (and ran 2 N&O legal ads).
- No opposition has been received.

He shared a map of the cemetery site. He shared the staff findings.

- The petitioner has fulfilled all of the requirements as outlined by the North Carolina General Statutes.
- Removal of the cemetery is necessary to accommodate the sale of the property for development by others.
- The remains will be reinterred in Oakwood Cemetery where they will receive perpetual care.
- No evidence of any historical significance and its removal and relocation would not be detrimental to the general welfare of the County

Chair Holmes opened the public hearing.

No one came forward.

Chair Holmes closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Ford asked about the future use of the property. Mr. Lankford said that the owners seek to sell the property to another developer.

Commissioner Ford said he is of the opinion that a final resting place is permanent. He said that he opposes the proposal due to his beliefs.

Chair Holmes said that morally she disagrees with the proposal but respects that on occasion, changes must be made since it is a legal action.

Commissioner West asked if this type of request has been denied in the past. Mr. Scott Warren, County Attorney, said that years ago, a request was denied because of the possibility that an African American Cemetery was located on the property.

Commissioner Ford asked if perspective owners are notified that a cemetery was located on the property when they make a purchase. Mr. Warren said that an attorney should identify this on a title search and real estate agents should disclose this information.

Commissioner Ford said that he recently visited Oakwood and was impressed with their perpetual care.

**Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners approve the disinterment, relocation, and reinterment of approximately two (2) graves from a 13-acre property located at 2520 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road to Oakwood Cemetery. The motion passed by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Holmes, Vice-Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Burns, Commissioner Calabria, Commissioner Portman, and Commissioner West

**Nay:** 1 - Commissioner Ford

15. [Reconsideration of Town of Morrisville Extra Territorial Jurisdiction \(ETJ\) Request](#)

Attachments: [Item Summary](#)

Mr. Tim Maloney, Wake County Planning Director, said that staff would like to move this item to the November 19, 2018 meeting to allow the Town of Morrisville time to secure the sewer connection to the property in question.

Mr. Maloney said there has been progress made, but the project is not completed.

**Vice-Chair Hutchinson moved, seconded by Commissioner Calabria, that the Board of Commissioners defer this item and continue the public hearing at the November 19, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

16. [Resolution Endorsing the Goal of Achieving 100% Clean Energy by 2050](#)

**Attachments:** [Clean Energy Item Summary.docx](#)  
[Clean Energy Slides 10-15-18.pdf](#)  
[Clean Energy 2050 Resolution.docx](#)  
[BOC Worksession Presentation 2050 Clean Energy.pdf](#)

Mr. Dave Goodwin, Director, General Services, shared information about why clean energy is being discussed. He said the Growth, Land Use, and Environment committee and the full board had discussed the goal and resolution in a recent Work Session.

He shared information on the process and the objectives of the initiative.

The GLUE Committee (Growth Land Use and Environment) recommends the endorsement of a **100% clean energy by 2050 goal**

- Objective to:
  - Embolden Wake County's commitment to sustainability and energy conservation
  - Reduce effects of climate change and benefit low-income communities affected by fossil fuel pollution
  - Improve local economy through the creation of green jobs
- Full Board Reviewed @ October 8, 2018 Work Session
- Today: Consideration of Approval of Resolution

He shared the way county operations would support 100% clean energy for county departments.

County Operations transition to 100% Clean Energy Sources through:

- On-site Solar
- Off-site Solar

- Electric / Fuel Cell Vehicles
- Efficiency
- New Innovative Technologies

He shared how the resolution supports county actions. He said this board of commissioners has encouraged the clean energy conversion process.

- Strengthens County's commitment to sustainability and energy conservation.
- Supports investment in clean energy systems
- Aligns with County Energy Guidelines
- Provides an aspirational goal to guide staff and Energy Advisory Commission

He introduced staff and others present that assisted with the process. Mr. Robert Hinson, Chair, Wake County Citizens' Energy Advisory Commission; Mr. Kevin Witchger, Wake County Energy Manager; Ms. Kelli Braunbach, Deputy General Services Director; Mr. Mark Dubois, Physical Plant Director; Mr. William Hamilton, Senior Facilities Engineer; and Mr. Jeffrey Merritts, Facilities Engineer.

He shared the board action.

- Endorsing this goal authorizes the County to advance clean energy where:
  - Technically feasible
  - Organizationally feasible
  - Economically feasible
- Using the Board adopted Energy Guideline thru:
  - Design & Management
  - Pilot Projects
  - Emerging Technology Development

Chair Holmes thanked Commissioner Burns for chairing the Growth, Land Use, and Environment Committee.

Commissioner Burns thanked Vice-Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Calabria, and Ms. Karen Bearden, Citizen Advocate for the earth and environment, for bringing this forward to the Growth, Land Use, and Environment Committee. He thanked Mr. Goodwin for his help and support with the resolution. He said clean energy is an issue that needs to be addressed soon to avoid disastrous effects from global climate change. He

asked the board to support the Resolution and requested staff lobby the state government to work with Duke Energy to allow public entities to benefit from the cost saving measures for converting to solar power and to purchase more solar power.

**Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford to amend the last paragraph of the resolution to read "that the Wake County Government will commit itself in its own operations, policies, and guidelines to continuing its efforts towards clean energy, sustainability, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency, and the reduction fossil fuel use."**

Vice-Chair Hutchinson said this is an important issue. He commended staff, the Citizens' Energy Advisory Commission, and the GLUE Committee for their work and for making the first step toward this goal.

Commissioner Portman said that he is proud of the board for pursuing this effort. He thanked the people that live in Wake County for adapting and exploring opportunities to grow the economy.

Commissioner Calabria commended staff and the GLUE Committee for a workable, feasible, wise and practical work toward the clean energy efforts. He said the proposal was not easy but moves Wake County forward. He said the threat of global change is real and needs to be addressed.

**Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners adopt a Resolution endorsing the goal of achieving 100% clean energy by 2050 and 80% clean energy by 2035. The motion passed unanimously.**

17. [Resolution Supporting Increased Use of Native Plants on Wake County Government Projects](#)

**Attachments:** [Native Plants Item Summary.docx](#)  
[Native Plants Presentation 10-15-18.pdf](#)  
[Native Plants Resolution.docx](#)  
[Native Plants-BOC Work Session-100818-FINAL.pdf](#)

Mr. Eric Staehle, Facilities, Design and Construction Senior Project Manager, shared information about the native plant species initiative. He said the purpose of the initiative is to increase the use of native plants in Wake County projects.

He shared the benefits of using native plants.

- Encourage stewardship of the land
- Celebrate natural diversity
- Provide food and shelter for wildlife
- Create a sense of place
- Reduce water and maintenance needs
- Restore native / regional landscapes
- Withstand regional weather extremes
- Provide an educational opportunity
- Create a model for other development

He shared the contributors to the process and the resources used in the process.

#### Contributors

- NC Botanical Gardens
- Landscape Architect Summit (10)
- Wake County Planning
- Wake County GSA Field Services
- Campus Landscape Architects (2)
- Landscape Nurseries (5)
- Landscape Contractors (3)

#### Resources

- Wake County Documents
- USDA-NRCS Plants Data Base
- NC Native Plant Society
- NC Botanical Gardens Lists
- NCSU Cooperative Extension
- NC Invasive Plants Council
- College Campus Design Guidelines
- Municipal Ordinances

He shared the unified development ordinance recommendations.

- Include and reference the most current invasive species list per NC

## Invasive Plants Council

- Include and reference the most current noxious weeds list from NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Require design professionals to indicate native species on all required landscape plans
- Provide specific references for native plants / invasive lists
  - USDA, NC Native Plant Society, NC Botanical Gardens
  - NC Invasive Plants Council, NC Dept of Ag and Consumer Services
- Increase use of native plants by establishing a minimum percent of native plants required for each project
- Include native grasses in landscape plans
- Require design professionals to indicate native species on all submitted landscape plans
- Provide improved soil specifications
- Include educational signage for each project

He shared the suggested pilot project for the new Fuquay-Varina Library.

- Increase native plant species to 70% minimum
- Provide educational signage
  - Use of native plants on site and storm water wetlands

He shared a summary of the board resolution.

Wake County Board of Commissioners will review and revise the Wake County UDO and the Wake County Design Guidelines and Standards ensuring that Wake County government projects use Native Plants to the greatest extent possible.

Vice-Chair Hutchinson recognized Mr. Tom Earnhardt, Host, Exploring North Carolina, for his guidance on this initiative. He said there are more native species in North Carolina than any place on the planet. He said there is diversity and Wake County needs to celebrate the uniqueness of natural infrastructure as well as the built infrastructure. He said that it is important to bring this forward to WCPSS, private developers, nurseries, golf courses, and private homeowners.

**Vice-Chair Hutchinson moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns, that the Board of Commissioners approve a Resolution endorsing the increased use of Native Plants for Wake County Government projects.**



**The motion passed unanimously.****18. [Motion to Call for Citizen Commission to Suggest Election Method and District Reforms for the Wake County Board of Commissioners](#)**

**Attachments:** [Comm Portman Request-Item Summary.docx](#)  
[Comm Portman - Redistricting.pdf](#)

Chair Holmes noted that Commissioner Portman asked that the item be added to the agenda. He said that the public needs to be aware of the issues that occurred that changed the terms of commissioners in Wake County. He shared information about the lingering on uncertainty from legislation. He shared maps of residency districts that are on a two-year term instead of a residency basis. He spoke of the state-wide gerrymandering that has occurred. He shared the votes of the House and Senate.

- In a 50D /50R state we have
- A 77%/23% congressional house delegation
- A 70%/30% state senate
- And a 62%/38% state house

He shared information about the gap. He shared a map of the county commission races.

Commissioner Portman said that Wake County is the second largest in the state. He shared information on the make-up of other county election methods. He said only three percent of the counties in the state elect commissioners on district only. He shared a map of how county boards are elected state-wide. He asked the board to consider that local control be respected. He said that voters should elect the board, the board should not elect its voters. He said that the process does not need to be partisan and gerrymandered. He suggested forming a bipartisan task force to evaluate the pros and cons and bring a recommendation back to the board. He said that when he served on the Cary Town Council, they followed the same process. He said that staggered election terms should be returned as well as four-year terms.

Commissioner Burns thanked Commissioner Portman for raising the issue. He said that the 2020 Census will dictate action. He expressed concern with the timing since the prime mover will be in office until January. He said having staggered terms is the only efficient way to operate this county. He asked Commissioner Portman if it is his desire action be taken today. Commissioner Portman said he would defer to the will of the board.

Commissioner Burns said that more discussion may be needed by the

board and suggested a future Work Session may be needed on the issue.

Commissioner West expressed his concern about the timing, distractions, and unintended consequences of moving forward at this time. He said that there was a resolution adopted and discussion made by the board in 2015. He said there were 72 responses by citizens at that time. He agrees with the staggered terms and further discussion may be needed. He echoed Commissioner Burns comments to discuss this action and lay out a plan to move forward for continuity, sequence, and integration.

Commissioner Ford agreed with the high importance and said the General Assembly and the state have a hold on the process. He is open to discussion on the item, but the timing and next steps is important.

Mr. Warren said tabling the issue and consideration at a later meeting is in order.

Commissioner Burns agreed to revise the motion to table the issue.

Commissioner West said that looking at road blocks is important. He asked whether legal action is necessary before discussion is made.

Chair Holmes said a timeline showing the next option to re-district would be helpful.

Mr. Warren said the board can act at any time. He said no finality can be made until the legislature takes the issue up before 2020 or the Wake County Board of Elections moves forward with the issue in court to redraw districts.

Commissioner Portman said that it is unknown what will happen in 2020 and his recommendation is for the board's strongest review and a recommendation for resolution be brought forward. He said what is not urgent today is important, but may become urgent. He said he wanted to bring forward discussion.

Commissioner Calabria said the issue is worth highlighting and the legislature has created uncertainty. He said that Wake County is the only county that has no control of electoral process by 2022. He said that the last decision was made too quickly for discussion. He said discussion should occur and a thoughtful approach is needed.

A brief recess was taken for a press conference for 100 % Clean Energy and Native Plants.

**Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Ford, that the Board of Commissioners table the matter for discussion at a later date. The motion carried by the following vote.**

- Aye:** 6 - Chair Holmes, Vice-Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Burns, Commissioner Calabria, Commissioner Ford, and Commissioner West
- Nay:** 1 - Commissioner Portman

The meeting went into recess and then reconvened.

## Committee Reports

### 19. [Transit Committee](#)

Vice-Chair Hutchinson said Bus-Rapid Transit (BRT) was discussed at the October 8th Transit Committee meeting. He said the BRT is a new 20-mile transit method that was made possible with the 1/2 cent tax increase last year. He said there is a comprehensive plan to review all four of the corridors. He said reaching out to the Federal Transportation Organization for grant funding in the beginning of 2019 will be important. He said creating fare strategies is complicated by the number of service providers. He said that fare strategies will be coordinated for vulnerable communities. The Youth Fare Program has been successful. He said the first mile/last mile was discussed and all options are being considered. He said there was discussion about a partnership with the City of Raleigh for a new ADA compliant facility. He said funding was not approved for the triangle bikeway and improving the project to reduce the cost will be later discussed at a future Work Session.

### 20. [Human Services Committee](#)

Commissioner West said Chair Holmes, Commissioner Ford, and Vice-Chair Hutchinson attended the recent meeting held October 11th. He commended Vice-Chair Hutchinson and Dr. Stuart Levin, Chair, Population Health Task Force, for their input on the Population Health Task Force report. He shared the staff that prepared guidance toward the completion of the report. He said integration of the Community Needs Assessment was discussed and key questions were asked. He said exploring existing strategies is important. He said a presentation was given by the Human Services Board. He said a staff process will occur by the Human Services Board that will come before the full Board of Commissioners. He said it was a productive meeting and working together is important.

## Other Business

Commissioner Burns thanked staff for the "Imagine A Day Without Water" event that was held last week.

Vice-Chair Hutchinson said he attended the Water Partnership Meeting last week. He shared the four sub-committees that have been formed by the Water Partnership. He said the sub-committees focus on education and outreach, comprehensive planning, coordination and green infrastructure. He said there is a groundwater study being completed for the first time. He said A Day Without Water was discussed in order to highlight clean water. He commended Commissioner Burns and Commissioner Calabria for their work on the GLUE Committee. He said there was discussion regarding well regulation rules to ensure county well water is safe.

Chair Holmes commended the Communications Department for their work toward the recent State of the County event at the NC Museum of Sciences.

Chair Holmes said the Elected Officials Build Day was held this past Saturday and thanked officials for their support. She thanked Habitat for Humanity for working with county officials. She commended all local officials who participated. She said the legislative delegation was included this year for the first time and thanked Ms. Gale Adcock, Senator Jay Chaudhuri and Senator Tamara Barringer for their participation.

Commissioner West commended Chair Holmes for the State of the County presentation.

21. [Informational Items for the Board of Commissioners](#)

**Attachments:** [Informational Items for the Board of Commissioners 10-15-2018.docx](#)  
[October Pension Spiking Reports.pdf](#)  
[August Financials 2018.pdf](#)  
[CIP Transfers Report October 2018.pdf](#)

### **Closed Session**

Attorney Warren said there is a need for a closed session to receive advice from the county attorney as to IC File No. 14-027609; further to consider the amount of compensation and other material terms of employment contracts for the manager, attorney, and clerk pursuant to GS 143-318.11 (3) & \*5).

**Commissioner Ford moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Hutchinson, to go into Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Closed Session**

The meeting went into recess and the meeting reconvened.

Commissioner Burns left during the closed session at 7:20 pm, but the rules of procedure state that his vote counts in the affirmative.

**Commissioner Ford moved, seconded by Commissioner Calabria, to approve a settle in Industrial Commission file #14-027609 in the amount of \$110,000 subject to the terms and conditions acceptable to the county attorney. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Calabria moved, seconded by Commissioner Portman, that the County Manager be given an annual merit increase of 5 percent; and the Clerk to the Board be given an annual merit increase of 5 percent; and the County Attorney be given an annual merit increase of 5 percent and that these adjustments and terms for all three positions be effective October 1st, 2018; and that the Chair is authorized to enter into and sign a current employment contract with the County Attorney consistent with this motion and the prior contract for him. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Adjourn**

**Commissioner Ford moved, seconded by Commissioner West, to adjourn. the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:**           6 - Chair Holmes, Vice-Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Calabria, Commissioner Ford, Commissioner Portman, and Commissioner West

**Absent:**       1 - Commissioner Burns

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Hogan, NCMCC  
Clerk to the Board  
Wake County Board of Commissioners