



# Wake County

301 South McDowell Street  
Raleigh, NC

## Meeting Minutes Board of Commissioners

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Monday, January 6, 2020

5:00 PM

Wake County Justice Center

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### Regular Meeting

#### Meeting Called to Order: Chairman Greg Ford

**Present:** 7 - Chairman Greg Ford, Vice-Chair Vickie Adamson, Commissioner Matt Calabria, Commissioner Susan Evans, Commissioner Jessica Holmes, Commissioner Sig Hutchinson, 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; Johnna Rogers, Chief Operating Officer; Derwick Paige, Chief Community Development Officer and; Ben Canada, Assistant to the County Manager

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Invocation: Chairman Greg Ford

#### Items of Business

1. [Approval of Agenda](#)

**Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Calabria, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.**

2. [Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 2, 2019](#)

**Commissioner Calabria moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 2, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.**

3. [Presentation of Results of the 2020 Real Property Reappraisal](#)

Attachments:    [Presentation of Reappraisal](#)  
[2020 Reappraisal Results 01-06-2020 - BOC.pdf](#)

Mr. Marcus Kinrade, Tax Administrator, said that staff has been working on the reappraisal for two years. He shared that it is the process of updating real property values to reflect fair market value as of January 1, 2020. The last reappraisal in Wake County was conducted in 2016.

He said the reasons a reappraisal occurs is because of North Carolina General Statutes. North Carolina law requires all counties to reappraise real property at least once every 8 years. The reappraisal reestablishes the fairness of tax burden between properties which typically change in value at different rates by location and property type.

He shared information about the property tax base. He said that residential, commercial, and rural farm land throughout Wake County make up 85 percent of the tax base and is reappraised every four years. The other 15 percent is business equipment, vehicles, boats, aircraft, trailers, and public utilities properties. He said that those properties are appraised annually.

He shared a chart of the reappraisal review activity depicting how many were done in the office versus actual field reviews.

Mr. Kinrade shared a chart of the cost comparison contract information with changes from 2008 through 2020. He said his office has added staff due to the new reappraisal time frame.

He said the average change in property value is around 24 percent.

He shared a chart of reappraisal history spanning 28 years and pointed out that the parcel count has doubled in that time with single family residences tripling in that time.

He shared a chart of the residential change by township, residential value drivers, and residential change by township for 2020.

He shared a chart of the commercial value drivers with hotels and apartments showing the greatest increase.

He said the current real property tax base before reappraisal is \$131,317,109,000, after reappraisal the 2020/2021 real property tax base is \$162,166,413,150.

He shared a chart of the jurisdictional percent change and a chart of the Fiscal Year 2021 revenue neutral rate.

Mr. Kinrade shared that there is a tool on the Wake County Tax Assessor website that calculates at the revenue neutral rate.

He shared the North Carolina Property Tax Relief Programs which are statewide programs and include:

- Elderly or Disabled - 65 or total and permanent disability and income below \$31,000 or \$46,500 depending on the program
- Disabled Veteran - Total service-connected disability and discharged under honorable conditions (or unmarried surviving spouse)

Information can be found at [wakegov.com/tax/relief](http://wakegov.com/tax/relief) or by calling 919-856-5400. 2020 applications are due by June 1, 2020.

He shared the 2020 project schedule:

- January 14 - New values viewable on the Wake County website, notices mailed to property owners, begin informal reviews.
- February 3 - Submit pool of qualified Board of Equalization Review (BOER) candidates for Board of Commissioners review.
- February 17 - Appoint 2020 BOER members.
- April - Begin BOER hearings.
- May 28 - BOER adjourns from receiving additional appeals
- June - Adopt FY21 budget, set FY21 tax rate

He said the last day for appeals is May 28, 2020 and shared the call center and e-mail address: Wake County Tax Administration, 919-857-3800, [reappraisal@wakegov.com](mailto:reappraisal@wakegov.com), [wakegov.com/taxportal](http://wakegov.com/taxportal)

Mr. Kinrade said that staff would be available to speak with citizens about their taxes. He encouraged citizens not to fall for predatory practices that promise to lower tax values. There is no fee charged by his office to appeal.

Chairman Ford asked Mr. Kinrade to explain the appeal process. Mr. Kinrade stated that the notice citizens will receive has a form included that they can fill out and mail in, there is also an online form which is easy to use

and is the preferred method by his office as it will reduce processing costs and reduces any likelihood of misplaced forms. No independent appraisal is required. Mr. Kinrade encouraged citizens to look at the data when they receive their tax bills to be certain that the property listed is correct. He said that looking at other comparable properties will be helpful. He said informal appeals will be accepted until March 2. The Board of Equalization and Review will review appeals until May 28. He said the Wake County Board of Commissioners will not be involved in the appeals process. If a property owner is still not satisfied with result of an appeal the next step for them to take is at the State Property Tax Commission.

#### 4. [Recognition of Eleanor Oakley](#)

Attachments: [Item Summary Eleanor Oakley recognition.docx](#)

Chairman Ford said that Ms. Eleanor Oakley, Executive Director, Wake County United Arts, is being recognized.

He highlighted her background which included spending 18 years serving as President and CEO of the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County. He pointed out that she partnered with other regional arts councils to create the Piedmont Laureate program designating a Laureate annually who is available to organizations and libraries. He said that Ms. Oakley has driven much of Wake County's arts growth over the last two decades and partnered with other groups to highlight the importance of the literary arts. Ms. Oakley partnered with Wake County municipalities to start the Wake Municipal Murals program that financially assists cities and towns in having murals created for high visibility places in their communities, and more recently, Ms. Oakley established the Wake County Artist in Residence program in 2018, an annual appointment with a different artist and artistic discipline each year. He shared that she worked with the Wake County Public School System to expand arts offerings to public school students. Under her leadership, the Artists in Schools program grew from 108 schools in 2002 to 154 schools in 2019, reaching 130,000 children. Ms. Oakley built on this success by offering master art classes, reaching 17 high schools in 2019.

Vice-Chair Adamson said that United Arts has been a passion of hers. She presented Ms. Oakley a plaque for her service.

Chairman Ford said the board appreciates the impact of her work to Wake County. He presented her with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. He read the wording on the plaque.

Ms. Oakley said that United Arts Council staff, former staff, Advisory Board Members, and her spouse are present today. She thanked Wake County

staff and said that she looks forward to the future.

Commissioner Hutchinson congratulated Ms. Oakley.

## Consent Agenda

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

5. [Authorize Certain County Positions as Deputy Finance Officers for the Purposes of Performing Delegated Duties Imposed by the Finance Officer](#)

**Attachments:**     [12.06.19 MES revisions Signature Authority 12.02.2019 \(002\).docx](#)  
                              [Delegation of Finance Officer Authority.docx](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners approve a resolution designating the listed positions as deputy finance officers to perform duties composed by the Finance Officer related to the obligation and disbursement of public funds. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. [Review and Recommendations for Wake County Septic System Rules](#)

**Attachments:**     [Septic Rules Item Summary Sheet 2019.10.17.docx](#)  
                              [Septic System Rules Presentation 1-6-20.pdf](#)  
                              [Wake-County-off-site-proposed-2018\\_10\\_05.docx](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners provide review and refer the proposed revisions to the county's septic system regulations to the Human Services Board for adoption. The motion passed unanimously.**

7. [Amendment to Joint Use Agreements with Town of Knightdale and Wake County Board of Education for School Park at Knightdale High School and Forestville Road Elementary School](#)

**Attachments:**     [2019-12-6 BOC Agenda Item Summary - JUA Amendment](#)  
                              [1-6-2020.docx](#)  
                              [WCPSS Joint Use Agreement Amendment.pdf](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners receive this information and approve the terms and conditions of the proposed Amendment to the existing Joint Use Agreements (JUAs) as has been approved by the Town of Knightdale and the Wake County Board of Education. The motion passed unanimously.**

8. [Resolution to Modify the Garner Suburban, Furina, Alert, Ten-Ten, Hipex, Holly Springs Rural and Swift Creek Fire Insurance District Boundaries](#)

**Attachments:**    [Agenda Item - South Region Realignment 12-5-19.docx](#)  
                          [Resolution - modification of south region fire insurance districts 2019.doc](#)  
                          [South Region - both existing and proposed boundary lines.pdf](#)  
                          [South Region proposed boundary lines.pdf](#)  
                          [NCDOI Email Letter of Approval.pdf](#)  
                          [Draft Minutes November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting.docx](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution modifying the boundaries of the Garner Suburban, Furina, Alert, Ten-Ten, Hipex, Holly Springs Rural and Swift Creek Fire Insurance Districts. The motion passed unanimously.**

9. [Designation of Map and Plat Review Officer for the Town of Angier](#)

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary](#)  
                          [Resolution from Town of Angier.pdf](#)  
                          [Board of Commissioners Resolution.docx](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners adopt a Resolution designating staff from the Town of Angier as Map and Plat Review Officers. The motion passed unanimously.**

10. [Designation of Map and Plat Review Officer for the Town of Wake Forest](#)

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary](#)  
                          [Resolution from Town of Wake Forest](#)  
                          [Board of Commissioners Resolution.docx](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners adopt a Resolution designating staff from the Town of Wake Forest as Map and Plat Review Officers. The motion passed unanimously.**

11. [Designation of Map and Plat Review Officer for the Town of Wendell](#)

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary.docx](#)  
                          [Resolution from the Town of Wendell.pdf](#)  
                          [Board of Commissioners Resolution.docx](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson,**

that the Board of Commissioners adopt a Resolution designating staff from the Town of Wendell as Map and Plat Review Officers. The motion passed unanimously.

12. [NC Department of Health and Human Services \(DHHS\) Grant Award for Drug Overdose Prevention and Tobacco Use Initiative](#)

**Attachments:** [Agenda Item.docx](#)  
[Award Letter.pdf](#)  
[Budget Memo - FY 2020 Human Services.xlsx](#)

Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners accept and appropriate \$49,566 into the General Fund from DHHS for the Drug Overdose Prevention and Tobacco Use Initiative. The motion passed unanimously.

13. [Approval of the Rural Operating Assistance Program \(ROAP\) Grant Request](#)

**Attachments:** [Agenda Item.docx](#)  
[ROAP Application 20191210.doc](#)  
[County ROAP Certified Statement 20191209.doc](#)  
[ROAP Allocation Table.pdf](#)

Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners approve a ROAP grant application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in the amount of \$669,227.22. The motion passed unanimously.

14. [Mutual Termination of the MOA with DEQ Concerning Inspection of Surface-Discharge Wastewater Systems](#)

**Attachments:** [Terminate MOA item Jan 6 ver2.docx](#)  
[MOA.Signed.Copy.2018-2022.pdf](#)  
[Aqua Letter 2019.pdf](#)

Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners approve a mutual termination of the Memorandum of Agreement to Perform a Water Quality Management Program in Wake County, North Carolina (MOA) including inspection activities on surface-discharge wastewater systems and fee collection. The motion passed unanimously.

15. [Tax Committee Recommendations for Value Adjustments, Penalty Waivers, Tax Relief Applications, Refund Requests and Various Reports](#)

**Attachments:**    [Tax Collections Item Summary.docx](#)  
                          [Tax Committee Agenda Process.docx](#)  
                          [Executive Summary 1.doc](#)  
                          [Executive Summary 2.doc](#)  
                          [January 2020 Refunds Under 500.pdf](#)  
                          [January 2020 Refunds Over 500.pdf](#)  
                          [Daily Updates For Exemptions.pdf](#)  
                          [Daily Updates For Penalties.pdf](#)  
                          [Daily Updates For Tax Relief.pdf](#)  
                          [Daily Updates For Special Situations.pdf](#)  
                          [Daily Updates For Tax Deferments.pdf](#)  
                          [Municipal Collection Report](#)  
                          [Wake County Collection Report](#)  
                          [Monthly In-Rem Foreclosure Report](#)  
                          [PFB Summary Report.pdf](#)  
                          [Gross Receipt Report 1.pdf](#)  
                          [Gross Receipt Report 2.pdf](#)  
                          [Register of Deeds Excise Tax Report.pdf](#)

**Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Hutchinson, that the Board of Commissioners approve the attached recommendations by the Tax Committee. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Public Comments**

Mr. David Ellis, County Manager, said the Firearms Education Training Center has been of interest to citizens. He thanked everyone for coming and provided an update on the issue stating that the Training Center is now formally closed to the public and that Wake County will re-open it after staff selects a new operating model for the facility. Mr. Ellis will be providing an update on the timing of the re-opening of the firearms center and options under consideration for a range operator to the Board on January 13, 2020 at their 2:00 pm Work Session. He stated that there will be no public comment during that meeting, but public is welcome to attend.

Mr. Eric Shuford said that he has been involved in the firing range since the 1990s. He said that former Commissioner Stewart Adcock was on the board. He shared the history of the range. He said that he has been a part of the range safety management. He shared the uniqueness of the range. He provided some printed materials.

Mr. Mark Valletta said that Sheriff Baker said that the range would be



closing to the public. He said that he arranged a petition that has been signed by 8,200 citizens against the closing. He shared the importance of the use of the range. He said that truthfulness, honesty, and communication is of importance. He provided a printed copy of his comments and a graphic representing the petition and results.

Mr. Lawson Safley, Jr. shared that he is an annual member of the Firearms Training Center. He said the range is owned by Wake County. He shared the history of the training center. He asked the Board to ensure continue use, revise the contract with RSM, encourage courses to the public, and define the hours and operation of the training center. He provided a printed copy of his comments and a copy of his petition with signatures.

Mr. John Neblett shared that he is an instructor and range officer at the Wake County Firearms Education and Training Center. He said that practice at the range is a valuable resource to the public. He asked that a firearms safety classes continue to be offered. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Mr. Wei Miao said the training center helps with firearms safety in the community. He spoke of robberies that have occurred. He shared the importance of the training center. He said that there are 600 families that have used the firearms center as a resource for safety. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Mr. Robert Peele said the Firearms Safety Training Center is an important public resource for the citizens of Wake County through training, target practice, and competitive leagues. He commented on the importance of safety training for anyone who owns a firearm. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Mr. Thomas G. Cherry asked the Board to keep the Firearms Training Center open. He made suggestions for keeping the center open. He provided a printed copy of his comments and suggestions.

Mr. Scott Smith thanked Board members for responding to his comments in December. He read aloud comments. He shared the benefits of the Firearms Training Center. He said that figures he has seen show that in Wake County there are approximately 650,000 registered concealed carry permit holders and while having a weapon is a start continued training is of utmost importance for continued practice and reinforcement of safe use of these firearms. He asked the board to keep the center open. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Mr. Robert K. Veeder spoke about personal protection. He said that he firmly believes in our law enforcement personnel but response time to a

911 call takes time and being personally equipped and trained to protect his family in the time it takes for an officer to respond is critical. He said that the range plays a large part in his ongoing training and that of many others he knows. He provided a printed copy of his remarks.

Ms. Natalie Lew spoke about the area around RDU and Umstead Park. She is against the fence and the quarry that are being proposed and said that the land should be reserved for use by the public for park use. She urged the board to speak up against these things and asked them to keep the gun range open. She provided printed materials to the clerk.

Dr. Jean Spooner, Chair of the Umstead Coalition, asked for support of public land. She spoke against the fence and the quarry that is being proposed and proposed actions she feels should be taken. She provided a printed copy of her comments.

Mr. Hwa Huang spoke of the environmental concerns of the fence and quarry that are proposed for RDU on the Umstead Park property.

Mr. Joel King spoke of the Firearms Training Center and its importance. He thanked Mr. Ellis for his update. He said the Range Safety Management has operated the facility with care and asked the Board to reopen the facility. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Ms. Shari Forvendel said that she has been a member of the range training center for a decade. She shared the importance of the range and the value to the women of the community. She asked the board to keep the range open. She provided a printed copy of her comments.

Mr. Parrish Ketchmark thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. He asked everyone to thank an officer on January 9th, which is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. He shared the importance of keeping the range open. He said that he disagrees with the Sheriff's Office decision to close the range. He provided a printed copy of his comments and exhibits.

Mr. Kai Li shared the importance of the Firearms Training Center and the importance to the Chinese community. He cited the Second Amendment. He said there are 600 members of the Chinese community at the center who are there to utilize the training and become responsibly armed citizens. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Mr. Mark Vanek said that closing the shooting range is a mistake. He said the center is for citizens to use and makes the community safer. He pointed out that there is no other similar range (100 meters long) nearby. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Ms. Meg Kiesefer - Ladies hand gun league, spoke about the certifications that she has received by attending the shooting range. She thanked Sherry, Instructor of shooting range. She said that taking away the range takes away from the women that attend and are educated on gun safety. She asked the board to reconsider opening the range.

Mr. Kevin Jobst submitted his speech. He is a member of the Marine Corps League. He said that shooting can be therapeutic for certain health conditions and provides self confidence, accomplishment, discipline, and self improvement. He also said that for the Marines who attend, it provides camaraderie and fellowship. He said that veterans fought for their rights. He feels the range should remain open to enable continued use by all citizens.

Mr. Thomas Mull is a firearms instructor. He said that he has taught gun safety for 35 years from children to adults. He said that people need a good safe place to go for shooting their arms. He said that people come from Charlotte and said that Wake County has the best shooting range. He asked that the hours for the range be extended. He said that many of his comments have already been made. He provided a printed copy of his planned comments.

Ms. Marie Dawson, a 17 year-old high school student, said that attending the shooting range allows young people like herself exposure to the sport of marksmanship. She also pointed out the the range has booklets and advises on the NRA Marksmanship Program, which is being incorporated into her homeschool's PE program. She has learned safety, control and accuracy. She said the range has helped her older brother learn safe handling of a firearm and has help him greatly improve his accuracy which helped him perform well above his peers at his West Point Cadet Basic Training. She said that without this range she may not have discovered her love of marksmanship. She provided a printed copy of her comments.

Ms. Tammy Richards echoed Mr. Ketchmark's reminder of National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. She said that she participates in the ACTION Pistol League held at the center twice a month. She said safe handling and shooting accuracy is a "use it or lose it" skill. She asked the board to keep the Firearms Training Facility open to the public. She provided a printed copy of her comments.

Dr. Andy Evens asked that the board keep the Firearms Training Center open. He has concerns about people having concealed carry permits but feels if they are there he prefers they are well trained. He explained the historical resource perspective of which he uses his black powder gun. He said that this facility is the only one in Wake County that allows the use of his type of weapon. He said the center is dedicated to the citizens of

Wake County.

Mr. Henry Schaffer said he advocates for the training center to remain open to the public. He strongly believes in firearm safety and in order to have safety you have to have access to good training in the safe and effective use of them.

Mr. Edward Amend said that having the Firearms Training Center is a right to citizens of Wake County. He asked the board to keep the center open to the public. He provided a printed copy of his comments.

Mr. David Rogers said that he is a concealed carry instructor. He said that he is a volunteer at the Wake County Firearms Training Center. He explained the affordable prices at the center. He said that training is needed for the citizens. He said closing the center would make Wake County a less safe place.

Mr. Carl Smith said his son received a handgun for Christmas and he would like the center to remain open for the safety of the citizens of Wake County. He said that the center has had a good impact on his son's understanding of the responsibilities and how to be safe with it.

Mr. Roman Colluda said that the safety of the Firearms Training Center is paramount. He is a former law enforcement officer and said the safety of this facility is phenomenal. He thanked the staff at the center. He asked the board to consider keeping it open.

Ms. Haddie Miller said that she recently attended the Firearms Training Center. She said that her son was killed with a gun. She said education is important to the citizens of Wake County. She said that she taught her children the importance of safety and law enforcement. She said that she is willing to pay higher fees to keep the facility open for the citizens and law enforcement.

Mr. Stanley Stangle said that the Wake County Firearms Training Center is important to the community. He asked the board to keep the center open and said there are ways to keep it open. He said that citizens will find a way to shoot their guns and having this facility will increase the ability for safe use.

Mr. Greg Jones encouraged the board to maintain the Wake County Firearms Training Center, to keep it open and suggested opening a few more throughout the county.

Mr. Greg Zarnsorf shared that there is a \$100,000 feasibility study for the Firearms Training Center and another Law Enforcement Training Center.

He said that the closing of the center has been in the plans for a year and a half. He asked the board to look at the fiscal issues behind the closing of the center.

Mr. Matthew Abrams said that years ago there were safe places to shoot weapons outside. He said those open spaces just are not there still. He said he joined the Wake County Firearms Training Center ten years ago. He said it is an amazing facility and has introduced many friends to it and it contributes to public safety. He asked the board to keep the center open for the citizens of Wake County.

(Printed Materials provided by citizens are attached in the informational items #29)

A break was taken by the board. The meeting recessed, and then reconvened.

## Regular Agenda

### 16. [Public Hearing and Other Actions to Proceed with Amendment to Crooked Creek Subdivision Road Improvements](#)

**Attachments:**    [Report Crooked Creek final resolution amendment.docx](#)  
                          [Crooked Creek Petition Presentation 1-6-20.pdf](#)  
                          [Crooked Creek amendment map.jpg](#)  
                          [Crooked Creek Petition Summary 1-6-20.pdf](#)  
                          [preliminary amendment signed.pdf](#)  
                          [Final Assessment Resolution Amend- crooked creek.docx](#)

Ms. Terry Nolan, Wake County Planner III, said the amendment will fill the road gap previously maintained. She shared the background presenting a map with 7 lots being added shaded in yellow.

- All public roads within County's planning jurisdiction is NCDOT maintained
- NCDOT accepts roads into its system once a certain % of subdivision is built out
- Sometimes developers fail to turn the roads over to NCDOT
- Deteriorated "orphaned" roads must be brought up to NCDOT standards before the state will accept them

She shared the initial petition.

- Petition was submitted to the County in July 2019

- Excluded 7 lots from initial scope
- BOC approved project October 7, 2019
- 5 additional owners signed
- Petition meets statutory requirements
  - Signed by 78 percent of the property owners who represent 75 percent of the lineal frontage of road

She shared the financing terms stating that the cost estimate has not changed from what was presented in October. The addition of about 400 feet of roadway was minimal so there are not anticipated changes to the scope of the project with an estimated project cost of \$211,300.

She shared the special assessment information which includes a 3 year payment term and a cost of approximately \$6,600 assessed to each property owner.

- The total project cost is spread equally among all property owners
- Assessment starts at the completion of the project
- Property owners can pay the assessment up front without finance charge or finance over a three (3) year term
- Assessments stay with the property during land transfer unless paid at closing
- If a financial hardship can be demonstrated, alternate payment arrangements may be considered by the Revenue Director

She shared the staff findings.

- The minimum 75% petition requirements per NCGS has been met
- Alternate solutions to repair the roads are not viable/reasonable
- Today's public hearing was advertised and each property owner mailed a notification letter

Chairman Ford opened the public hearing.

No one came forward.

Chairman Ford closed the public hearing.

Ms. Nolan said that staff recommends approval of the amendment.

**Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner West, that the Board of Commissioners hold a public hearing to consider the petition from property owners in the Crooked Creek Subdivision and the Preliminary Assessment Resolution adopted on December 2, 2019 and adopt a Final Assessment Resolution for County financing by special assessment to improve the subdivision roads for acceptance into the NC Department of Transportation Maintained Highway System. The motion passed unanimously.**

**17. [Public Hearing and Consideration of a Business Development Grant Agreement for Microsoft Corporation](#)**

**Attachments:**    [MicrosoftDraftAgendaItem 01-06-20.docx](#)  
[Microsoft Business Development Grant Presentation 1-6-20.pdf](#)  
[MicrosoftGrantAgreementDraftv1.2.docx](#)  
[WakeCountyEconomicDevelopmentPolicySeptember2019Final.pdf](#)

Mr. Chris Dillon, Wake County Assistant County Manager, shared information on the Microsoft Corporation.

- The Microsoft Corporation is a worldwide leader in software, services, devices and solutions.
- The Company employs approximately 141,000 people worldwide (approximately 84,000 in the United States) and has operations in 122 countries.
- The Company ranked #7 on Fortune's Best Global Companies to Work For and has large-scale employee programs promoting diversity, charity, well-being, and many other areas beneficial to overall employee happiness.

He shared information about Project Kirk

- Location of software engineering and development facility.
- Creation of 500 new jobs.
- Average salary of \$125,000 annually.
- Estimated \$50 million in new investment.

He shared the incentives

- Wake County Economic Tier 1 (Super Jobs)
  - 50% of new tax growth over 8 years
  - Total Wake County incentive grant of \$1,441,400

- Other partners include:
- NC Department of Commerce JDIG program
- Town of Morrisville
- North Carolina Community College System
- Capital Area Workforce Development Board
- Wake County Economic Development

Chairman Ford opened the public hearing.

Mr. Steven Horn questioned the tier one Super Jobs description and salary requirements when compared to the information in the grant requirement documents.

Mr. Dillion said the agreement is a draft and if there is a discrepancy that it will be corrected before it is signed.

Chairman Ford closed the public hearing.

**Commissioner Hutchinson moved, seconded by Commissioner Evans, that the Board of Commissioners hold a public hearing and approve a Business Development Grant Agreement with Microsoft Corporation, subject to the terms and conditions acceptable to the County Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.**

**18. [Resolution Consenting to Refugee Resettlement within Wake County under Presidential Executive Order 13888](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary refugee EO resolution.docx](#)  
                          [RefugeeResolutionEO.docx](#)  
                          [Executive Order 13888.pdf](#)  
                          [RefugeeLetterEO.docx](#)

Mr. Dillon introduced Mr. Scott Phillips Field Office Director for the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants.

Mr. Dillion explained that this is a resolution consenting to refugee resettlement within Wake County under Presidential Executive Order 13888. He said that on September 26, 2019 President Trump signed this executive order and the intent states that as part of the reception and placement program, a refugee relocation program where the refugees are vetted through the State Department and they have been chosen to come to the United States for resettlement, Federal agencies will cooperate and consult with State local governments to make sure they want to continue this program in their community.



He said the Governor has signed a letter and that local governments are required to consent. He said the field office has directed the order.

Chairman Ford asked what impact the order has to the municipalities.

Mr. Phillips said the executive order would be like signatures at the county level and they would like the municipalities to sign the order as well. He said 80-89 percent of the refugees who come into Wake county are located in Raleigh.

Chairman Ford asked if there had been any communication with the City of Raleigh. Mr. Dillon said that they were informed by the City Manager that the Mayor had signed it.

Vice Chair Adamson said the refugees are lovely neighbors and she is honored to support this resolution.

**Vice-Chair Adamson moved, seconded by Commissioner West, that the Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution consenting to refugee resettlement in Wake County and authorize the County Manager to respond to federal agencies on behalf of the Wake County Board of Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously.**

## Appointments

### 19. [GoTriangle Transit Citizens Advisory Committee](#)

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary Go Triangle Citizen Advisory Committee.doc](#)  
[GoTriangle Transit Citizens Member List.doc](#)  
[GoTriangle Transit App Roster .xlsx](#)  
[Gotriangle Transit Citizens Advisory Committee Applicants.pdf](#)  
[Gotriangle Citizens BD Choices.xlsx](#)  
[GoTraingle Transit Advisory Committee Attendance 2018-19 \(Wake\).xlsx](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Mr. Jerome Brown, Mr. Daniel Coleman, Mr. Gabe Talton and Ms. Tolulope Omakaiye for reapppointment.

### 20. [Historic Preservation Commission](#)

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary Historic Preservation.doc](#)  
[HP Member List.doc](#)  
[HP Applicant Roster .xlsx](#)  
[Historic Preservation Applicants.pdf](#)  
[HP Board Choices .xlsx](#)  
[HPC Attendance 2019.xlsx](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Ms. Peggy Beach, Mr. Jeffrey Hastings, Ms. Camille Morrissey, and Ms. Frances Williams for reappointment. She nominated Ms. Nora Bambier, Ms. Brendan Feters, and Mr. Lee Tippet for appointment.

**21. [Juvenile Crime Prevention Council](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary JCPC.docx](#)  
                          [JCPC Member List.doc](#)  
                          [JCPC Applicant Roster .xlsx](#)  
                          [JCPC Applicants.pdf](#)  
                          [JCPC Board Choices .xlsx](#)  
                          [JCPC attendance 2019.xls](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Mr. Nicholas Allen (United Way/Nonprofit representative), Ms. Lori Christian (Chief District Court Judge designee), Ms. Ann Goodwin (Health Director designee), Ms. Carla Huff (Commissioner Appointment), and Mr. Eric Johnson (Director of Mental Health designee) for reappointment.

**22. [Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary Nursing Home CAC.doc](#)  
                          [NH CAC Member List.doc](#)  
                          [NHCAC App Roster .xlsx](#)  
                          [Nursing Home CAC Applicants.pdf](#)  
                          [NH Board Choices .xlsx](#)  
                          [NH CAC Jan-Dec 2019 attendance record OFFICIAL \(with Q4 info\).xlsx](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Ms. Megan Douglas, Ms. Joan Port and Mr. Corneilis J Van Dijk for reappointment.

**23. [Town of Fuquay-Varina Board of Adjustment](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Item summary FV BOA.doc](#)  
                          [FV BOA Recommendation Letter 2019.pdf](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Mr. Dan Miller for reappointment and Ms. Michelle Braxton for appointment.

**24. [Town of Fuquay-Varina Planning Board](#)**

**Attachments:**    [FV Planning and Zoning Item Summary.doc](#)  
                          [FV Planning Board Letter of Recommendation.pdf](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Ms. Barbara Marchioni for reappointment.

**25. [Wake County Housing Authority](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Item Summary Housing Authority.doc](#)  
                          [Housing Authority Member List.doc](#)  
                          [Housing Authority Applicant Roster .xlsx](#)  
                          [Housing Authority Applicants.pdf](#)  
                          [Housing Authority Bd Choices .xlsx](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Ms. Tiffany Davis for appointment.

**26. [Wake County Water Partnership](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Water Partnership Item Summary.doc](#)  
                          [Water Partnership Member List.doc](#)  
                          [Water Partnership App Roster .xlsx](#)  
                          [Wake County Water Partnership Applicants.pdf](#)  
                          [Water Partnership Board Choices .xlsx](#)  
                          [Water Partnership Attendance.xlsx](#)

Vice-Chair Adamson nominated Mr. Ben Mills (Town of Morrisville Representative) for appointment.

**Vice-Chair Adamson moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, to accept the appointments by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.**

**27. [Upcoming Vacancies for February](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Upcoming Vacancies for February 2020.docx](#)

**28. [Wake Transit Update](#)**

**Attachments:**    [Wake Transit Manager Report Jan 6 Agenda.docx](#)  
                          [Transit Presentation 1.6.20.pdf](#)  
                          [Wake County Annual Report 2019.pdf](#)  
                          [2019 GoT CAFR.pdf](#)

Ms. Nicole Kreiser, Wake County Assistant County Manager, shared the background of today's presentation.

- GoTriangle, CAMPO, and Wake County are parties to the Wake Transit ILA which guides the funding and implementation Wake Transit projects.
  - Transit ILA requires an "Annual Wake Transit Report" which "should include information regarding meeting strategic public transit objectives and includes the performance achieved, strategies being followed, and

key milestones for capital projects and operating services.”

- Board of Commissioners have provided input on key initiatives funded through annual Wake Transit Work Plans
- The Board also approves cost share agreements for projects that cross county jurisdictional boundaries.
  - Example: BOC approved amendment to cost share agreement for Commuter Rail January 2019.
- Today’s requested Board action
  - To receive an update from staff and partners on the FY 2019 Wake Transit Annual Report and next steps for Wake County Transit Plan Implementation

She shared a chart of the process to develop the Wake Transit Plan. The process began in the spring of 2015 with community input, technical and financial work, and elected officials input. She said in the fall of 2015 staff created an advisory committee and had a core design retreat. From these efforts a recommended transit plan was produced in the winter of 2015 and, in November of 2016 the referenda was approved.

She shared a chart of the four big moves which included connecting the region by building a 37 mile commuter rail system and regional routes, connect all Wake County communities by expanding bus service, provide frequent reliable urban mobility by implementing Bus Rapid Transit increasing frequent network, and enhancing access to transit by community funding and increased rural "on demand" trips.

She shared the 2019 BOC Wake Transit Objectives and Initiatives.

**Objective:** Guide the implementation of the Wake County Transit Plan.

**Initiatives:**

1. Monitor and oversee the deliverables and processes established by the transit governance interlocal agreement.
2. Encourage best development practices and create affordable housing opportunities in areas identified for transit improvement.
3. Expand opportunities and implement strategies to address affordability of transit services and the needs in vulnerable communities and rural areas.
4. Identify and recommend multi-modal transportation opportunities supporting the Wake County Transit Plan.

She shared the revenues and expenditures. She said that Wake County

continues to work in partnership with transit stakeholders on implementation of the Wake County Transit Plan. FY 2019 marked the second full year of Wake Transit implementation. The first year of the plan implementation focused on adding increased mid-day and Sunday services; those changes alone grew ridership by 7 percent. The second year of implementation continued those investments but at a larger scale.

Ms. Kreiser shared the January 2019 expansion of transit services in the past ten years which included new Southeast Raleigh and Northwest Transit routes, 16 route miles previously not served by transit, and creation of fourth frequent bus route (service every 15 minutes) along Martin Luther King Boulevard, Poole Road, and Sunnybrook Road. She said that ridership increase on this last route was greater than 60 percent over the prior year, showing when there is increased frequency you will gain ridership.

She shared a chart of the Fiscal Year 2019 second straight year of ridership increases which over the past two years cumulatively is at about 14 percent.

She shared information about the bus rapid transit that is underway. Ms. Kreiser explained that the City of Raleigh has submitted the first Bus Rapid Transit Corridor, New Bern Avenue, for federal funding consideration. Design for this corridor has begun; the first design kick-off meeting for the New Bern Corridor was in June, and subsequently the City has been updating those designs during this fall and holding various engagement sessions. GoTriangle is working with the counties of Wake, Durham, Orange and Johnston, the CAMPO and DCHC Metropolitan Planning Organization. She said the North Carolina Railroad Company continues work on the Commuter Rail Project, including additional analysis of service scenarios, refining conceptual level cost estimates, refining project timetables, and updating ridership projections using the federal S.T.O.P.S model for the original project and for any proposed expansions.

She shared the commuter rail major investment study (MIS).

- The MIS:
  - Reviewed Peer Commuter Rail Systems
  - Created Evaluation Framework
  - Examined Station Areas
  - Reviewed Service Scenarios
- It found:
  - CRT is competitive with auto commuting and faster than bus;
  - Some station areas stand out for transit support;

- Many station areas need connectivity improvements
- Ridership is not necessarily responsive to faster running times and less stops

She shared the Youth GoPass information. This program has been wildly successful.

- 460,000 total trips in Wake, Durham, Orange
  - 200,000 trips in Wake
  - 4,000 + passes in first year
  - Most popular routes:
    - Route 15 (Wake Med)
    - Route 1 (Capital)
    - Route 7 (South Saunders)
  - 22% of all trips from Broughton and Enloe students

Ms. Kreiser shared the Fiscal Year 2020 Work Plan that is underway. She said there are not routes along I-540 and connections to all communities. Seniors 65 years and older ride free on all transit providers, bus stop improvements have been made, and staff has selected a developer for the Raleigh Union Station facility with construction to begin in late 2020.

She shared information about the Fiscal Year 2020 work that continues to simplify the process to be more rider friendly. Staff has selected a vendor for mobile ticketing. She said that fare capping will be implemented so fares are equitable with a daily rider paying the same per day as someone with a month pass. She said these new systems are targeted to deploy in mid 2020.

She shared the BRT timeline and public engagement opportunities with a chart showing public meetings or an open house for the equitable development planning phase, New Bern Avenue design phase, and the Western Boulevard Corridor Study planning phase.

She shared information about the commuter rail study, it was a cost shared study with:

- Participation from:
  - Orange, Johnston, Wake, Durham counties
  - DCHC and CAMPO
  - NCRR and NCDOT
- Updated:
  - Service Scenarios
  - Capacity Constraints and Improvements

- Capital and Operating Cost Estimates
- Ridership and Revenue Estimates

She shared a chart of the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Study preliminary results. She said the Durham to Clayton and Hillsborough to Clayton results are not back yet and that to be eligible for federal funding, a project must score a Medium or higher rating based on various factors. She said that these details will be presented in more depth in February.

She shared the further information to be shared with the board in the upcoming February work session.

- FY 2021 Wake Transit Draft Work Plan Proposed Projects
- Next Steps for Commuter Rail, including Memorandum of Understanding and Cost Share Discussions
- DOT S-Line Presentation

Commissioner Hutchinson said that Ms. Kreiser is a professional at this level. He complimented her attention to detail at every level. He also reiterated the point that if you increase frequency and routes you will have increased usage and stressed how important affordability is citing the Youth Go Pass and senior free plans. He said that he spoke with Congressman David Price, chair of the Transportation and Housing Committee and he is very excited about these projects. He announced for those who were not aware Scott Sailor, CEO of North Carolina Railroad, will be retiring in July and we appreciate his service to our community and look forward to how we can continue to work with North Carolina Railroad.

Chairman Ford said Ms. Kreiser's leadership is outstanding and thanked her for the presentation. He said he was excited about the increased ridership and mobile ticketing. He said the regional approach is outstanding. He asked about the updated MOU and cost share.

Ms. Kreiser said staff are looking at drafts and plan for the MOU to cover the first year of activities and spend the year, now that they are entering the federal pipeline exploring the cost share and what would be the MOU for that. In February, she said staff plans to bring to the work session a one year frame of activity that lets them get things in place for when there is an application to the federal government.

Commissioner Adamson said that the Census placards will be appearing on the buses.

**Vice-Chair Adamson moved, seconded by Commissioner West, that the Board of Commissioners receive the FY 2019 Wake Transit Annual**

**Report.****Other Business**

Commissioner Holmes said that Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is coming. She noted that there was a profile in service on Commissioner West in the County Quarterly magazine. She acknowledged Commissioner West's legacy of uplifting vulnerable populations and his history with civil rights movement.

Commissioner West said that the efforts were teamwork and he said that there is no greater affirmation than that from your peers and he has a great sense of pride for the work that they are doing together.

Chairman Ford complimented Commissioner West for his recognition in the County Quarterly.

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

**Attachments:**    [Informational Items Item Summary 1-6-20.docx](#)  
                              [October 2019 Financials.pdf](#)  
                              [November 2019 Financials.pdf](#)  
                              [Citizen comments and letters 1-6-2020.pdf](#)

**Closed Session**

Attorney Scott Warren said there is a need for a closed session to consider the performance of the board's appointed employees and material terms of employment contracts for the manager, attorney, and clerk pursuant to GS 143-318.11 (a) 5 & 6.

The meeting went into recess, and the meeting reconvened.

No action was taken by the board.

**Commissioner Hutchinson moved, seconded by Commissioner Evans, to go into closed session. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Adjourn**

**Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Calabria, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**



Respectfully submitted,

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