

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Cabarrus met for a meeting with the local legislative representatives in the Multipurpose Room at the Cabarrus County Governmental Center in Concord, North Carolina at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 31, 2019.

Present - Chairman: Stephen M. Morris  
 Vice Chairman: Diane R. Honeycutt  
 Commissioners: Lynn W. Shue

Absent - Commissioners: F. Blake Kiger  
 Elizabeth F. Poole

Also present were Mike Downs, County Manager; Jonathan Marshall, Deputy County Manager; Susan Fearrington, Finance Director; Kelly Sifford, Planning and Development Director; Karen Calhoun, Human Services Director; David Thrift, Tax Administrator; Lundee Covington, Human Resources Director; Robert Furr, Cooperative Extension Director; Kasia Thompson, Communications and Outreach Manager; and Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board.

Representatives Wayne Sasser and Larry Pittman were also present.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and welcomed attendees to the meeting.

**Conduct the Meeting with the Local Legislative Delegation**

The following North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) legislative goals were generally discussed:

- Seek legislation, funding, and other efforts to expand digital infrastructure/broadband capability to the unserved and underserved areas and residents of the state.
- Seek additional revenue sources, including a statewide bond and lottery proceeds, to equitably address statewide public school and community college capital challenges.
- Support efforts to preserve and expand the existing local revenue base of counties and authorize local option revenue sources already given to any other jurisdiction to all counties. Oppose efforts to divert to the state, fees or taxes currently allocated to the counties or to erode existing county revenue streams.
- Support provision of state resources to ensure county ability to provide essential public health, behavioral health and social services, with specific consideration to the challenges of incarcerated persons, the continued county role in behavioral health governance, and programs addressing substance use disorder, throughout Medicaid transformation.
- Seek legislation to repeal the statutory authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. 115C-431(c) that allows a local school board to file suit against a county board of commissioners over appropriations to the local board of education's capital outlay fund.

The following topics were also discussed: school bonds, sales tax redistribution, charter schools, permitting fees, utility funding, Medicare reform, mental health, the Early Childhood Task Force Advisory Board, efforts on preservation of facilities at Stonewall Jackson Training School, the Frank Park rental lease, the Town of Midland's utility process, etc.

**Bills of Interest**

The following bills were generally discussed:

- House Bill 667 - A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO GIVE COUNTIES ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE LOCAL OPTION SALES AND USE TAX WITHOUT INCREASING THE EXISTING MAXIMUM TAX RATE.
- Senate Bill 650 - A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT SIMPLIFYING NORTH CAROLINA'S LOCAL SALES TAX DISTRIBUTION.
- House Bill 241 - BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ENACT THE EDUCATION BOND ACT OF 2019.
- Senate Bill 5 - A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ALLOW STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ACCESS TO FUNDING FROM THE STATE CAPITAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND TO ADDRESS CRITICAL CAPITAL FUNDING NEEDS.

- Senate Bill 522 - A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE LAWS AFFECTING CHARTER SCHOOLS.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

  
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Lauren Linker, Clerk to the Board