



*WARREN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS*

*Special Meeting
with
Warren County's Legislative Delegation
Monday, April 8, 2013 - 3:30 pm*

***WARREN COUNTY ARMORY CIVIC CENTER
WARRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA***

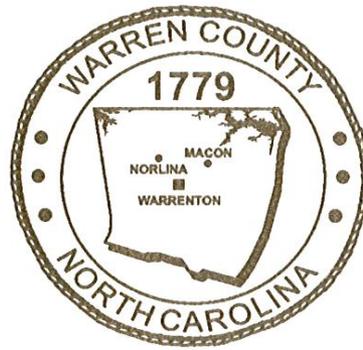
Prepared by:

***Angelena Kearney-Dunlap
NC Certified County Clerk***



Clerk Read

Notice
Of
Special Meeting



WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

602 WEST RIDGEWAY STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 619
WARRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27589

Notice

Warren County Board of Commissioners Joint Meeting With Legislative Delegation

Bertadean Baker, Chairman
Jennifer Jordan, Vice Chairman
Ruby Downey
Barry Richardson
Ulysses S. Ross

Linda T. Worth
County Manager

Angelena Kearney-Dunlap
Clerk to the Board

Notice is hereby given that the Warren County Board of Commissioners will meet jointly on Monday, April 8, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. with Senator Angela Bryant and Representative Nathan Baskerville.

This meeting will take place in the Warren County Armory Civic Center located at 501 US Highway 158 Business, East, Warrenton, NC 27589. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss with Warren County's Legislative Delegation issues of critical importance to North Carolina's counties that may be deliberated in the General Assembly's 2013 Session.

For more information contact Linda T. Worth, Warren County Manager, at 252-257-3115 or lworth@co.warren.nc.us

All citizens are invited to attend this special meeting.

**Bertadean Baker, Chairperson
Warren County Board of Commissioners**



Call Special Meeting to Order
By
Chairman or Designee

Agenda Item # 2
Moment of Silence

Agenda Item # 3
Introductions



Opening Statement

By

Chairman Bertadean Baker



Meeting Facilitator

Linda T. Worth, County Manager

Discussion of 2013 Legislative Priorities

- 1. Oppose shift of state transportation to counties**
- 2. Reinstate ADM and lottery funds for school construction**
- 3. Oppose unfunded mandates and shifts to counties**
- 4. Ensure adequate mental health funding**
- 5. Preserve the existing local revenue base**

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners

2013 Legislative Priorities

100 Counties 
One State 

UPDATED
2/18/13



Oppose shift of state transportation responsibilities

Oppose legislation to shift the state's responsibility for funding transportation construction and maintenance projects to counties. Counties cannot afford to assume costs for maintaining secondary roads and/or funding expansion projects. Unlike counties in other states, whose traditional funding responsibilities include secondary roads, North Carolina counties are responsible for the administration of local human services programs, and fund educational operating and capital expenses. The NCACC estimates that a transfer of secondary road maintenance responsibilities would cost counties more than \$500 million annually.



Reinstate ADM & Lottery funds for school construction

Seek legislation to fully reinstate the Average Daily Membership funds and Lottery proceeds to the Public School Building Capital Fund. The Public School Building Capital Fund is housed in the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and is comprised of two sources of revenue: a set-aside from the corporate income tax, known as the ADM fund, which is allotted based on average daily membership (ADM) in each county; and 40 percent of the net proceeds from the N.C. Education lottery. Counties have relied on these funds to repay debt service for public school construction and renovation.



Oppose unfunded mandates and shifts of state responsibilities to counties

Oppose legislation that establishes new or expanded state mandates without a commensurate increase in state resources to support service provision. A continuing difficult state financial status may increase the likelihood of attempts to balance the state budget by shifting more responsibilities to counties without corresponding funds.



Ensure adequate mental health funding

Seek legislation to ensure that state-funded mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services are available, accessible and affordable to all residents and that sufficient state resources fund service provision costs inclusive of sufficient crisis beds and supportive housing. While North Carolina counties largely fund social services administration and health services, the state has been traditionally responsible for mental health expenses.



Preserve the existing local revenue base

Support legislation that recognizes the importance of county revenues and ensures that the existing tax base is maintained and preserved. Previous General Assembly actions have balanced the state budget by shifting some local funds to state use, which resulted in cuts in some county programs.



Discussion of Other Legislative Hot Topics

- 1. State Budget**
- 2. Motor Vehicle Property Tax Collections**
- 3. Inmate Medical Costs**
- 4. Non-emergency Medicaid Transport**
- 5. Tax Reform**

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners 2013 Legislative Hot Topics



State Budget

Governor Pat McCrory has said that his first state budget proposal will be delivered to legislative leaders by mid-March. Once received, the General Assembly will begin to craft the state's \$20 billion annual budget for the 2014 and 2105 fiscal years. Counties have a unique partnership with the state and deliver key services on behalf of the state such as education capital responsibilities, health and human services, and justice and public safety services. Any changes made in the state budget to revenues or responsibilities in these areas could have a fiscal impact on counties. Counties benefited from a pledge made by legislative leaders to not shift unfunded mandates to counties during the past budget cycle. Counties request that this pledge continue during the next budget cycle.



Motor Vehicle Property Tax

In 2005, the General Assembly unanimously voted to combine motor vehicle registration with property tax payments. The system has been delayed several times given the complex automation systems needed for operations but is ready to go live July 1, 2013. North Carolina is the only state that collects motor vehicle property taxes after license plate registration and renewal. It is estimated that once this system is up and running, counties will reap more than \$50 million annually in currently uncollected property taxes on motor vehicles. The NCACC fully supports implementation of this program by July 2013.



Inmate Medical

Counties are obligated to provide adequate medical care to inmates incarcerated in jail facilities. Because inmates are typically in poorer health than the general population and are more likely to have chronic illnesses, costs associated with inmate medical care can be extremely burdensome. Exacerbating this fact is that counties often pay full price, or "rack rates," for inmate medical expenses, rather than discounted or negotiated network rates. The NCACC seeks legislation that would cap county reimbursement rates for in-patient medical care at that which is paid by the Department of Public Safety, Division of Adult Correction (DAC).



Nonemergency Medicaid Transport

North Carolina is recognized nationally for its coordinated system of community human services transit systems, which are largely managed by professional transit administrators under the oversight of county management. A special provision in the 2013 state budget directed the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services to develop and issue a request for proposals to privatize the management of NEMT services for Medicaid recipients. A statewide broker model is unlikely to drive down Medicaid transit costs and will likely cause client confusion and frustration, cost and trip duplication, and an added layer of bureaucracy.



Tax Reform

The General Assembly will be considering comprehensive tax reform this legislative session. Counties seek involvement in crafting reform efforts to protect local revenue streams and to ensure adequate future revenue growth and stability. North Carolina counties rely heavily on county-levied sales taxes to fund critical human services and public safety programs. Counties are required to set aside a sizable portion of the county sales tax revenues for school construction and capital needs, much of which is dedicated to school debt service. With an overreliance on property taxes to support community services (roughly 50 percent of total revenues), counties can ill afford to lose sales tax revenues or be restricted in the levy of sales taxes.





**Discussion
of
Other Issues
and/or
Concerns**



Question & Answer Period



Closing Statements



Adjourn

April 8, 2013

Special Meeting