



**NORTH CAROLINA
COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
QUARTERLY MEETING &
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

June 1 - June 2, 2023

Cape Fear Baptist Church

100 Indian Drive – Life Center

Fayetteville, NC 28312

WELCOME: Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chair, extended welcoming remarks and called the meeting to order at 10:19 am. He welcomed and acknowledged the guests, Commission Members, Tribal Leaders, Chiefs, State Officials, and staff.

ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA: The Chair asked a Commission member to make a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner, W. D. Baucom made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner DeVane Burnette Sr. seconded the motion. Motion carried with no objection from the membership.

INVOCATION: Ms. Helen Cook, Commission Member, Cumberland County Association for Indian People, presented the invocation and gave welcome remarks.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Danny Bell led the membership and guests in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL, JUNE 1, 2023 (Day 1):

TRIBAL AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott	Present
Coharie	Lenora Locklear	Absent
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Helen Cook	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Joshua Welch	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Carolyn West	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	Shelia Epps Wilson	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	DeVane Burnette, Sr.	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Alfred Richardson	Present
Haliwa Saponi	P. Sunshine Richardson	Absent
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Ricky Burnett	Present
Lumbee	Vernanda Oxendine	Present
Meherrin	Constance Mitchell	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D. Baucom	Present



ROLL CALL *(Continued)*

Metrolina Native American Association	Rebecca LaClaire	Absent
Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Tony Hayes	Present
Sappony	Dorothy Yates	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Danny Bell	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R. Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Nadine F. Patrick	Present

STATE OFFICIALS

President Pro Tem Appointee	Gerald Goolsby	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Craig D. McMillian	Present
Department of Administration (DOA), Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary		Present
Designee: David Elliott, Deputy Secretary		Absent
Department of Commerce/ ESC, Machel Sanders, Secretary		
Designee: Betty Marrow-Taylor, Chief Diversity Equity Inclusion Officer		Absent
Department of Environment Quality (DEQ), Elizabeth Biser, Secretary		
Designee: Sharon Martin, Deputy Secretary		Absent
Representative: Cardina Jimenez, NCDEQ		Present
Department of Health & Human Services, Kody H. Kinsley, Secretary		
Designee: Debra Farrington, Deputy Secretary Health Equity		Absent
Department of Labor, Josh Dobson, Commissioner		
Designee: Julie Ryan, Director of Govt. Affairs		Absent
Department of Cultural Resources, Advisor, John Mintz - Adhoc- Non-Voting Member		Absent
Designee: David Cranford, Assistant State Archaeologist		Absent

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

NCNAYO	Korbyn Walton (Co-Chair) - Non-Voting Member	Absent
NCNAYO	Peyten Jones (Co-Chair) - Non-Voting Member	Absent
NC NACOHE	Joshua L Richardson - Non-Voting Member	Absent

The Chair declared that a quorum existed and proceeded with the meeting.

STAFF PRESENT

- Gregory Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- Candace Lowry, Deputy Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary to the Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Supporting Undergraduate Native Students (SUNS) Program
- Pamela (Shena) Brewington, Program Director, Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
- Steven (Steve) Maynor, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Vinu Kamal, Housing Inspector, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Evelyn Simmons, Administrative Assistant, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Maria Richardson, Program Director, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Ashley Patrick, Trainee, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Tenley (Nikki) Locklear, Program Director, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program
- Elk Richardson, Program Director, State Recognition Program



OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice

OTHERS PRESENT: List is on file with the Commission.

ETHICS STATEMENT: Ms. Candace Lowry, Deputy Director read the Ethics Statement on Behalf of Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chair. She urged Commission Members to declare any conflicts of interest or the appearances of any conflicts of interest, which may exist in relation to any business matters before the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were noted.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 9, 2023, MEETING MINUTES: The minutes of the March 9, 2023, meeting was presented. Commissioner DeVane Burnette Sr. noted a minor correction on page 1, the minutes need to reflect that he was present at the March 9th meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Tony Hayes made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted correction. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby seconded the motion. The Chair asked if there were any objections to the motion. None noted. Motion carried with no objections.

Rev. Burnett, Chair requested everyone present to introduce themselves.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER:

Rev. Burnett, Chair introduced Secretary Cashwell, NC Department of Administration.

Ms. Pamela Cashwell, Secretary, NC Department of Administration (NC DOA) presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Rodney Jackson for his dedicated years of service in the leadership role in public education in North Carolina. Secretary Cashwell thanked Mr. Jackson for his continued support and advocacy for American Indian students and the American Indian communities in North Carolina.

Mr. Rodney Jackson, Principal, Cumberland County School, gave a brief overview of his thirty-two years of service. He thanked the Commission for their support. He thanked his staff for their dedication and support.

A group photo was taken.

Secretary Cashwell gave a brief overview and update on the activities of DOA and other items of interest.

- Update on NC Department of Administration building relocation.
- Update on the Tribal Council meetings held this quarter.
- Presented a brief overview on the legislative update. She noted that the American Indian Honors Bill is being heard. Secretary Cashwell discussed HB 166, HB 699, and HB 635.
- Discussed in brief the status of funds generated through the sale of the property at the Indian Culture Center in Robeson County. It noted that the funds belong to the NC Commission of Indian Affairs.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members asked clarifying questions on the NCDOA move.
- Rev. Burnett, Chair thanked Secretary Cashwell for recognizing Mr. Rodney Jackson, Indian Education Coordinator for, Cumberland County Schools, regarding retirement and accomplishments in his position.



Rev. Burnett, Chair acknowledged Mr. Lewis, Security Guard, and his grandson.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs, presented his quarterly report. The Executive Director Report was distributed in the meeting packets. The highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- Mr. Richardson thanked the guest and the Indian community for attending the meeting. He thanked the leadership of Cape Fear Baptist Church for allowing the Commission to meet in their facility.
- He complimented Cumberland County Schools for recognizing the American Indian students at the graduating ceremony in June, He noted that the Lumbee Tribe also recognizes the American Indian students at their graduations and noted that he would be attending the Coharie Tribe student graduation following the Commission meeting.
- Mr. Richardson provided an update on the legislation impacting the Commission and State Recognized Indians. He discussed HB 635, HB 699, American Indian Arts and Crafts legislation, and American Indian Graduation Bill. The details are listed in the Executive Director's Report.
- Mr. Richardson requested that all members develop a positive relationship with their elected officials both on the state and the federal level so that these elected officials can become knowledgeable of the needs of tribes and Indian communities.
- He announced that the Proclamation for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) was signed by Governor Cooper and released in May 2023. The proclamation was distributed to the Commission members, tribes, organizations, and Indian educators.
- Funding Update: (1) The Commission was approved to receive \$120,000 in funding to administer an Indian Child Welfare-Foster Care Recruitment and Training Program. The funding will be provided through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Commission and NCDHHS. (2) Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch (TPCB) Grant Funding. It was noted that the Commission is slated to receive this funding through the partnership between the Commission and the Tobacco Control Branch of NCDHHS, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, and the NC Indian Health Board. The details are listed in the Executive Director's Report.
- Provided an update on Campbell University's American Indian Leadership Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He noted that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the NC Commission of Indian Affairs and Campbell University. A copy of the MOU was distributed in the meeting packet. He also noted the purpose of the MOU is to set forth the terms, conditions, duties, and responsibilities of the Commission and Campbell University as it relates to the American India Tribal Leadership Program. Finally, he indicated that the MOU needs to be approved by the full Commission before it is executed. The Commission members requested that the MOU be distributed to the tribes and organizations before it is executed. It will give them a specific amount of time to review the MOU, comment, etc., before the MOU is executed. The Executive Director agreed to those terms and conditions. The following was discussed, details are listed in the Executive Director Report:
Expiring terms of Indian Commission members, June 30, 2023.
Expiring terms of Indian Housing Authority Members, June 30, 2023.
NC Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO) Conference, June 15-17, 2023, NC State University.



- Nominations needed for the North Carolina Child Welfare Family Advisory Council. The details are listed in the Executive Director's Report on page 3.
- Staff Quarterly Program Reports: Included in Board Packet

The Executive Director Report is on file and is an official part of the minutes.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Members discussed the Campbell University Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- It was noted that the following items need to be further discussed prior to moving forward: (1) Tribal Responsibility; (2) Signee on the MOU, if it will be Executive Director of Commission of Indian Affairs or Chair.
- Commission members asked if the MOU was submitted to the tribes.
- Commission members requested to change the wording on the MOU from "shall" to "recommend."
- Commission members requested that the modified MOU needs to be submitted to the tribes.
- Mr. Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice (NCDOJ), requested Mr. Richardson to include the amendments as recommended by the Commission members.
- Mr. Richardson indicated the recommendations as follows: (1) The change in wording from "shall" to "recommend"; (2) Chair Rev. Burnett and the Executive Director will sign the MOU.
- Commission members requested a ten-day timeline for the tribes to review and notify Mr. Richardson.
- **MOTION:** Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to make a motion to approve the Campbell University MOU with the corrections.
Commissioner Constance Mitchell made a motion to approve the Campbell University MOU with the corrections. Commissioner W. D. Baucom seconded the motion. Chair Rev. Burnett asked the Commission if they had any questions, any discussions, any objections. Hearing none.
The motion was conducted with no objection from the Commission.

WORK SESSION OVERVIEW:

Mr. Greg Richardson gave a brief overview on the work session as follows: Review of By-Laws, Review of General Statutes related to the Commission referenced in the By-Laws, Team building exercise, Goals, Rules, and Program Overview from each Program Director's.

United Tribes Appointment: This item is part of the Executive Director's Report.

Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that the following appointment be approved and that a letter would be sent to the United Tribe of North Carolina accordingly.

Greg Richardson, Executive Director

Candace Lowry, Deputy Director

MOTION: Commissioner Tony Hayes made a motion to approve the United Tribes appointment for Greg Richardson, Executive Director, and Candace Lowry, Deputy Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby seconded the motion. The motion was conducted with no objection from the Commission.

PROGRAM OVERVIEWS FROM PROGRAM DIRECTORS:



Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program: Ms. Maria Richardson, Program Director gave a brief overview of the WIOA Program. The following was discussed:

- Classroom Training
- Work Experience and on the job training opportunities
- Employment opportunities after completion of job training. It was noted that incentives and opportunities are offered to students.
- Discussed the 3-D Housing and Container Home Opportunity in Littleton, NC. The pay is up to \$20/hour.
- Discussed funding for the WIOA Program: \$357,960 for FY-July 2022-June 30, 2023

WIOA Program handout was distributed in the meeting packet.

Section 8 –Choice Voucher Housing Program: Mr. Stephen Maynor, Program Director, gave a brief overview of the Housing Program. The following was discussed:

- The Section 8 Housing Program administers rental assistance through an Annual Contributions Contract with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- The program serves seven counties: Sampson, Columbus, Hoke, Halifax, Warren, Person, Granville.
- The Program serves low-income families through various voucher programs, including Housing Choice, Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), Mainstream, and Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV).
- The program funding is: \$8,769,308.00 for FY 2022-2023
- Discussed relationship and partnership with landlords. Discussed incentives for landlords. Basic standard rate is \$500 to attract new landlords into the program.
- The Program issues vouchers to Homeless individuals and families, Domestic Violence, Dating violence, and Veterans.
- All other items discussed are listed in the handout.

Section 8 Housing Program handout was distributed in the Board packet.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- A question was asked if the Program Manager had any problems obtaining funding for state recognized tribes compared to federal recognized tribes for the program.
- Mr. Maynor responded that the Section 8 Program is not an Indian set-aside program and is it is open to all types of races.
- Mr. Richardson noted that in the early eighties the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the Commission as a Public Housing Agency. HUD came to the Commission and requested that we enter an Annual Contributions contract with HUD for this program.
- Mr. Richardson noted the benefits of entering the contract with HUD, created an economic boost to our Indian communities. Mr. Richardson stated that there are a lot of American Indians benefiting from the Section 8 Housing Program as landlords, as well as tenants.
- Discussion ensued on increasing the housing stock.

OTHER ITEM (Not listed on the agenda)



Commission Members and staff took a moment, surprised Commissioner Nadine Patrick, and wished her Happy Birthday.

LUNCH BREAK

Chair Rev. Burnett announced lunch break at 12:25 pm. He requested Commission member Larece Hunt to bless the food.

Lunch break, meeting reconvened at 1:22 pm.

Supporting Undergraduate Native Students (SUNS) Program: Ms. Kimberly Hammonds presented this item. She noted that her last name was incorrectly listed on the agenda. It should be read as Kimberly Hammonds. The following was discussed:

- The SUNS program was created in 2003.
- The goal of the SUNS program is to provide an educational opportunity for American Indian Students whose educational and socioeconomic background might otherwise prevent them from successfully attending and succeeding in college.
- Ms. Hammonds provided a brief overview of the SUNS program. The details of the program are listed in the handout.
- Discussed funding for the SUNS program through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)-Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). It is a block grant funding in the amount of \$55,280.00. Ms. Hammonds indicated that the grant funding for the next fiscal year 2023-2024 will be decreased by \$7,739, bringing the fund total down to \$47,541.00. The detail of the funding is listed in the handout.

Supporting Undergraduate Native Students (SUNS) Program handout was distributed in the Board packet.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members asked clarifying questions as to what the overall objective of the program is and what is the outcome for the program.
- Commission members asked clarifying questions on the funding for the program. Ms. Hammonds responded that the funding is through NCDHHS, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. The funding is provided from another state agency to Indian Affairs. The SUNS program offers economic opportunities for the students.
- A question was asked as to how much money is coming out of this year's budget. Ms. Hammonds responded it is a set amount. The funding for the next fiscal year 2023-2024 is \$47, 541.00.
- A question was asked as to how many students are supported through the program. Ms. Hammonds responded that the funding provides services to thirty-five (35) students.
- The question was asked how many students were supported through the program this year. Ms. Hammonds responded twenty-three (23) students participated in FY 2022-2023.
- A question was asked as to what the required grade point average (GPA) is. Ms. Hammonds responded with a 2.5 GPA.
- Question was asked as to what the overall objective of the program is besides providing education opportunities. What is the outcome supposed to be for the program? Ms. Hammonds responded to successfully graduate.



- Commission members asked for clarifying questions on the program. It was noted that the program is more Education than Economic Development. It was noted that the program needs to look for additional resources and information to prosper Economic Development.
- Question was asked does the program help economic development or is it more for education. It was noted that this topic needs to be brought from the administration into the committees to discuss economic development. A title change was suggested. Discussion ensued.
- Question was asked on the benefits aspect to the tribes and organizations to help with economic development.
- Commission members suggested that the program needs to provide jobs and opportunities to succeed.
- Commission members suggested looking for other grant opportunities. Suggestion was proposed to look for an Economic Development Initiative for students and tribes.

Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault/ Human Trafficking (DV/SA/HT) Program – Ms. Tenley (Nikki) Locklear, Director of Victim Services presented the following:

- Ms. Locklear provided a brief overview of the program.
- She noted that the program has three grants. The program has four advocates, they provide direct services to victims in tribal communities (Lumbee, Sapony, Haliwa Saponi, and Waccamaw Siouan tribe). The list of services provided are as follows: Safe Housing; Support to Victims (various); Action Plans with Victims; Safety Plans with Victims; Housing; Jobs; Healing Services; and many other services.
- The program partners with different agencies with each of the communities listed above.
- The Human Trafficking grant provides direct services to human trafficking victim that come from a tribal community. The HT Program creates awareness of human trafficking. Ms. Locklear discussed difference between human trafficking, prostitution, and sex worker. She noted that people often do not understand that they have been a victim. The program has prepared outreach material to distribute in the communities.
- It was noted that the Program Director submitted a new grant in the amount of \$378,000 to the Governor's Crime Commission.
- Other grants related to DV/SA/HT have been submitted.
- Items discussed are listed in the handout.

The DV/SA/HT Program handout was distributed in the Board packet.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members asked for the Program to be inclusive of all tribes and not just a selected few. Ms. Locklear indicated that the program provides services to all tribes even though they are not listed.
- The question was asked how the program gauges its success. Ms. Locklear responded that the program monitors how many victims they are seeing, and this will gauge how the program is succeeding. She provided examples of HT victim challenges.
- Mr. Richardson indicated that if members know of victims or would like the DV/SA/HT Program to get involved to contact staff members. He noted that staff can get the required help from the community.



- Commission members requested an outreach program on a regular basis in the Meherrin community and other communities to inform people of the services. It was noted that materials need to be distributed in the tribal community.
- It was stated that Secretary Cashwell Community meetings do highlight all the programs of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs. These meetings are hosted for information and Q & A purposes.

Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP): Ms. Pamela Brewington, Director, Low Income Energy Assistance Program, presented a brief overview of the LIEAP program as follows:

- It was noted that LIEAP is an outreach program that serves tribal communities. Counties include Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Halifax/ Warren, Harnett, and Sampson. The program informs tribal communities of the types of services offered through LIEAP.
- The program is designed to provide information about low-income resources for eligible American Indian families especially elderly, disabled and families with young children. through the local Department of Social Services.
- The program collaborates and partners with elderly, disabled, Veterans, and community organization to strengthen and expand services for eligible clients.
- Ms. Brewington noted that she attends community events, Pow Wow's, and other meetings to advocate for LIEAP services.
- The program is funded by the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Division of Social Services (DSS) in the amount of \$87,736.00.

The LIEAP Program handout was distributed in the Board packet.

COVID-19 Program Update This item was moved to the next day.

State Recognition Program: Mr. Elkton Richardson, Program Director presented the following:

- Provided a brief overview of the State Recognition Program.
- Discussed the following Statutes: Process; Procedures for requesting state recognition; Definitions; General Statutes; and Rules pertaining to State Recognition.
- He read items 9 and 10 of NCGS 143B-406, to provide clarity regarding state recognition.
- He presented a handout regarding Chapter 15, Section .0200, Rules - Legal Recognition of American Indian Groups. Topic discussed are as follows: American Indian Tribe; Membership Roll; Petition; Splinter Group; Groups Eligible for Petitioning Process; Groups Ineligible for Recognition; Commission Assistance to Petitioner; Seats on the Commission; Notice of Intent to Petition for Recognition; Recognition Committee; Procedure for Recognition; etc. He discussed each item as they were presented.
- Items discussed are listed in the handout.

Chapter 15-Section .0200 – Legal Recognition of American Indian Groups handout was distributed to the Board and is on file at the Commission.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commissioner Tony Hayes thanked Mr. Elk Richardson for his presentation and detailed explanation on Rules for State Recognition.



REVIEW OF COMMISSION LEGISLATION: Mr. Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice presented the following:

- Mr. Teague provided a brief overview of the Part 15 North Carolina State Commission of Indian Affairs. A handout was included in the Board packet for members to review and study following the meeting.
- He read excerpts and discussed the General Statutes 143B-404 through 143B-411, established in 1977.

The handout Part 15 North Carolina State Commission of Indian Affairs was distributed in the meeting packet and is on file at the Commission.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Commission members asked clarification on 143B-406, item 6, To review all proposed or pending State legislation and amendments to existing State legislation affecting Indians in North Carolina.
- Commission members asked for clarification on the process of a legislative bill or dispute on a bill. Mr. Teague noted that Department of Administration has the agency Legislative Liaison that brings the legislative bill to the attention of the Division Director and Legislative Committee to review and vote on the bill. It was stated that individual Commission members can petition their individual legislators to get bills introduced.
- The Executive Director noted that the Commission has a Legislative Committee and a Chair to the Legislative Committee. The agenda items are collected throughout the year and submitted in January of the following year. Part of the items may go on the Governor’s agenda. The other items can be submitted to the General Assembly legislative for introduction. Individual Commission members can petition their individual legislators to get support for the legislative items.’ Teague provided examples such as license plate bill, and a few other items got adopted through this process.
- Commission member Tony Hayes, Legislative Committee Chair noted that the Committee needs to produce a better strategy to restructure and obtain better results so bills can be processed and passed.
- It was pointed out that Commission of Indian Affairs Director or staff cannot lobby at the General Assembly.
- Commission members asked for clarification on 143B-407 and requested that information regarding the Meherrin Tribe be corrected on the Commission’s website. Mr. Richardson noted that he will get the correction made.

Review of Commission By-Laws – Group Work Session (Continued)

The following recommendations were discussed:

Table of Contents: It was noted that this will be revised as per the revisions of the By-Laws. If the Commission adds or deletes a section, the table of contents will need to reflect the changes.

Page 1 - Article I – Name (G.S. 143B-404)

Name should stay the same. North Carolina State Commission of Indian Affairs



Page 1 - Article II – Purposes (GS 143B-405)

Mr. Mark Teague, Attorney, North Carolina Department of Justice (NCDOJ), Legal Counsel, indicated that all statutory provisions need to be deleted. He noted that there is no need to track the statutes.

Page 1 - The Purposes of the Commission:

It was noted that Item “d” and “h” must be in the by-laws.

Footnote for letter “d” insert, “that will allow the Commission to adopt Rule’s and Provisions for Land and Trust.”

Keep a, b, c, e, f, g,

Page 1-Page 2 - Article III – Duties; (GS 143B-406)

Keep the same.

Page 3- Page 4 – Article IV – Membership; (G. S. 143B-407)

This section stipulates the number of Commission for each tribe and organization. Page 3, Section 1, Numbers and Terms: Change “32” members.

Page 4, (c) Delete ex-officio; change Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, to NC Department of Environment Quality (NC DEQ)

Page 4, add (e) Two additional non-voting members shall represent the following:

- (1) Member from the American Indian Heritage Commission
- (2) Member representing State Archaeology

Page 4, Section 2, Vacancies:

Insert – Letters required from each Tribes and Organizations.

Page 4, Section 3, Members in Good Standing:

Insert – Members may be considered not in good standing upon three consecutive absences.

Mr. Mark Teague noted that the Commission cannot suspend a member. He indicated that the By-Law can be amended to read “If a member misses more than three meetings the Chair has the authority to send a letter to the Tribe/ Organization notifying the appointed member is a “no show” at the following meetings (list the meeting dates). Please consider encouraging the member to attend the meeting or you may replace the member.”

It was noted that G.S. 143B-407 does not give the authority to the Commission to suspend or terminate a member. To amend the General Statutes the Commission would need to get the legislation amended.

Page 4, add Section 4, Statement of Economic Interest (SEI)

Requirements, Statement of Economic Interest (SEI), all Commission members need to comply with the SEI requirement in accordance with the State Ethics Commissions requirements, which applies to all elected officials. The SEI’s must be completed by April 15 of each year calendar year. Additionally, Commission members must participate in Ethics Training every two years.

Mr. Mark Teague announced the statutory reference the statute. I.

GS 138A-22 Statement of Economic Interest; Filing required.

Page 5, Article V – Officers – No Change



Page 5, Article VI, Duties of the Officers

Duties and Authority of the Chairperson. Mr. Richardson read an excerpt from the By-Laws. He indicated the By-Laws need to be revised.

The following was discussed:

Section 1 Duties of the Chairperson - Recommendations

Insert “and signs such records, vouchers or other documents connected with work of the Commission requiring such signature.”

Insert “send out notifications to tribe’s organizations concerning members with lack of participation in meetings and absences.”

Section 1: No Treasurer position needed (keep as is)

Section 2. Duties of the Vice-Chairperson

The Vice Chairperson is decided by a majority vote of the Commission members present at the annual meeting of the Commission. (First meeting following June meeting).

Changing Vice-Chairperson shall assume all the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson and preserve order during the meeting in the absence of the Chairperson.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- The question was asked if the Vice-Chairperson duties can be broader. It was noted that the duties need to be specified to support the Chairperson.
- Mr. Richardson noted to amend the By-Law to include the recommendation to assign additional duties to the Vice-Chairperson.

Section 3, Duties of the Secretary

The secretary is elected by a majority vote of the Commission members at the annual meeting each year. Change “oversee” to “ensure.”

Remove/ strike out the wording from “shall send each member of the Commission a copy of the signed and approved minutes of each meeting and shall be the custodian of and shall maintain the minutes of the Commission. The secretary shall keep complete records on the attendance at Commission meetings.”

Add/insert after minutes “shall collect and maintain flower funds.”

Clarification: It should now read as follows “The secretary shall ensure the production and accuracy of the minutes of the Commission, shall sign the official copy of the minutes, shall collect and maintain flower fund.”

The NC State Commission of Indian Affairs is the custodian of the meeting minutes. A copy of the approved minutes shall be posted on the official website, after the meeting minutes is adopted.

The Executive Director will assign staff to support the Commission Committees and submit a transcription of the Committee meeting minutes.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members noted that the Treasurer is not mentioned in the By-Law.
- Mr. Richardson confirmed that the Secretary is not the Treasurer. The Secretary only maintains the flower funds.



Add/ Include “Duties of the Parliamentarian”

“Shall assist chairperson with preserving order and parliamentary procedures during the meetings.”

Mr. Teague, Attorney, DOJ, referenced GS 143B-410 – Fiscal Records

Commission members asked clarifying questions if the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) falls under this category. Mr. Teague responded no.

Recommendation was made that the September meeting can be named as the “Annual Meeting.” New and returning members are sworn in during this meeting.

Page 6, Article VII, Meetings

Discussed Order of Business. (Section 7 in Article VII)

- Mr. Richardson noted that Commission members can discuss and recommend the changes in the Order of Business for the meetings.
- Mr. Richardson indicated that public comments can be included in the By-Law if members choose to list Public Comments (2 minutes) at the regular meetings.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members noted that the presenters take up a lot of time during the first half of the meeting. It was suggested that presenters be moved to a later section of the agenda and business items be moved to the first half of the meeting.
- Mr. Richardson responded that sometimes the speakers such as the Governor, and others need to be at the beginning of the meeting. s.

Page 7, Page 8, Page 9 Articles VIII, Standing Committees

Mr. Richardson noted that the list of Commission Committees is not consistent with the By-Laws. He noted that this will be discussed at the break-out sessions.

Mr. Richardson indicated that the duties of each committee be discussed in the break-out session.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission member requested that there needs to be a discussion regarding quorum at the Committee meetings.
- Mr. Teague, Attorney, NC DOJ noted that the GS 143B-408 addresses the quorum. He noted that the specifics are listed on page 9, Section 5 “Quorum”. Mr. Teague indicated “Roberts Rules.” Discussion ensued.

Page 9, Section 2, Membership and Terms: No change.

Page 10, Article IX, Staffing

It was noted to include/ add Deputy Director: Duties and Responsibilities. (Need to be added here)

Page 10, Section 4, Discharge

Mr. Richardson read the excerpt from the By-Laws. He noted that the Commission does not have authority to discharge staff. He noted that the responsibility of staffing is the responsibility of the Executive Director. He noted that staff falls under the State Personnel Act and that all hiring, disciplinary and promotions are the responsibility of the Executive Director.



COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members asked clarifying questions on the process for filling vacancies. He noted job vacancies must be filled through DOA-Human Resources and are subject to the state personnel act.

Day-1, June 1, 2023, Work Session ended at 4:12 pm. Work Session to be continued tomorrow, June 2, 2023, at 8 a.m.

ATTENDANCE, JUNE 2, 2023 (Day 2):

Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. He opened the floor for Mr. Greg Richardson.

Remembering Dr. Jim Jones: Mr. Richardson requested members to observe a “Moment of Silence” for Dr. Jones who passed away two weeks ago. He stated Dr. Jones was an outstanding physician, leader, and Chair of the Family Practice Association. He was an icon at East Carolina University (ECU) and was instrumental in the establishment of the medical school. He was Mr. A. Bruce Jones’s brother, the former Executive Director of the Commission.

Acknowledgement: Mr. Richardson acknowledged that Deputy Secretary Debra Farrington, with the NCDHHS and Commissioner Shelia Wilson has attended the meeting.

Recap and Rules for Work Session: Mr. Richardson recapped Day-1 Session of yesterday. He noted that the Commission covered By-Laws and General Stature 143-B. Day-2, the Commission will continue reviewing the By-Laws and General Statutes. He noted that Commission members will break out into five breakout sessions for twenty minutes. Staff will aid and help with note taking. Staff will assist with reports based on the discussions from the breakout sessions and report on the work of each working group.

ROLL CALL: A roll call was not taken. The following is a list of members present on Day-2 of the meeting.

TRIBAL AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott	Present
Coharie	Lenora Locklear	Absent
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Helen Cook	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Joshua Welch	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Carolyn West	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	Shelia Epps Wilson	Present
Guilford Native American Association	DeVane Burnette, Sr.	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Alfred Richardson	Present
Haliwa Saponi	P. Sunshine Richardson	Absent
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Ricky Burnett	Present
Lumbee	Vernanda Oxendine	Present
Meherrin	Constance Mitchell	Present



ROLL CALL *(Continued)*

Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D. Baucom	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Rebecca LaClaire	Absent
Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Tony Hayes	Present
Sappony	Dorothy Yates	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Danny Bell	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R. Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Nadine F. Patrick	Present

STATE OFFICIALS

President Pro Tem Appointee	Gerald Goolsby	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Craig D. McMillian	Present
Department of Administration (DOA), Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary		Present
Designee: David Elliott, Deputy Secretary		Absent
Department of Commerce/ ESC, Machelles Sanders, Secretary		
Designee: Betty Marrow-Taylor, Chief Diversity Equity Inclusion Officer		Absent
Department of Environment Quality (DEQ), Elizabeth Biser, Secretary		
Designee: Sharon Martin, Deputy Secretary		Absent
Representative: Cardina Jimenez, NCDEQ		Present
Department of Health & Human Services, Kody H. Kinsley, Secretary		
Designee: Debra Farrington, Deputy Secretary Health Equity		Present
Department of Labor, Josh Dobson, Commissioner		
Designee: Julie Ryan, Director of Govt. Affairs		Absent
Department of Cultural Resources, Advisor, John Mintz - Adhoc- Non-Voting Member		Absent
Designee: David Cranford, Assistant State Archaeologist		Absent

The Chair declared that a quorum existed, therefore, the meeting can proceed.

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

NCNAYO	Korbyn Walton (Co-Chair) - Non-Voting Member	Absent
NCNAYO	Peyten Jones (Co-Chair) - Non-Voting Member	Absent
NC NACOHE	Joshua L Richardson - Non-Voting Member	Absent

STAFF PRESENT

- Gregory Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- Candace Lowry, Deputy Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary to the Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
- Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Supporting Undergraduate Native Students (SUNS) Program
- Pamela (Shena) Brewington, Program Director, Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
- Steven (Steve) Maynor, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Vinu Kamal, Housing Inspector, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Evelyn Simmons, Administrative Assistant, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Maria Richardson, Program Director, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Ashley Patrick, Trainee, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Tenley (Nikki) Locklear, Program Director, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program
- Elk Richardson, Program Director, State Recognition Program



Kearston Page Freeman, Program Coordinator, COVID-19 Program

OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT: List is on file with the Commission.

Roll call was taken yesterday, June 1, 2023.

Facilitator for Breakout Sessions: Ms. Candace Lowry, Deputy Director

Breakout Sessions Announced:

Table 1 – Article I, II, III

Table 2 – Article IV

Table 3 – Article V

Table 4 – Article VI

Table 5 – Article VII

Rules: Each table will examine the By-Laws and General Statutes. It was noted that each group will discuss, edit, and noted any recommended changes. Staff Support at each table will make note of the changes. One person from each table will report on the discussions and changes made. Discussion Time was 20-minutes. Presentation time to the whole Commission is 10-minutes per table.

Reporting:

Table 1 reported the following:

Article I: Name: The name should stay the same.

Article II: Purpose: Insert 1-6 of GS 143B-405.

- Footnote: For letter d, which will allow Commission to adopt Rules and Provisions for land and trust.

Article III: Keep the same. Recommendation is to add/ include the footnote GS 143B-406 B.

- It was noted that “Native Americans” need to be replaced by “American Indians” in the By-Laws.

Table 2 reported the following:

Article IV: Membership

Section 1. Numbers and Terms:

- Change 30 to 32 members (It was noted that due to the two non-voting members listed below).
- Section 1. (c) Delete ex-officio; Delete “Environment and Natural Resources” and change to “Department of Environment Quality (DEQ).”
- Add (e) Two additional non-voting members shall represent the following: One member from the American Indian Heritage Commission (AIHC); One member representing State Archeology

Section 2: Vacancies

- Insert “need appointment letters from each Tribes and Organizations.”

Section 3: Members in Good Standing:

- Members may be considered **not** in good standing after missing three consecutive meetings.



Section 4 (**Add**): Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) – Requirements for Commission members.

- All members must comply with SEI requirement in accordance with the State Ethics Commission General Statutes and Policies. The due date to complete is April 15 of each year. It was noted that new members must complete their SEI requirement before the member is sworn into the Office. Mr. Richardson clarified that the notification to complete SEI requirement is mentioned in the “Term end” letter, which is sent to each tribe and organizations as well as to each commission member. The letter provides a website link to the Ethics Commission, where the SEI rules and filing requirements are stipulated. He also noted again that new members cannot be sworn-in without completing the SEI requirement. It was noted that non-voting members do not have to complete the SEI requirement. Discussion ensued.
- It was indicated that Section 1 needs to be 28-members in accordance with the legislation. In addition to these members, the Commission can also have non-voting members and list them. Discussion ended due to time limit.
- Chair Rev. Burnett stated that these discussions and changes are preliminary, the Commission will need to revisit the changes several times before implementation of the revised By-Laws.

Table 3 – reported the following:

Article V: Officers

Section 1: No Treasurer Position needed (keep as is).

- Secretary in charge of Flower Fund
- Commission has no direct budget.

Section 3: Vice-Chairperson and Secretary are elected by a majority vote of the Commission members at the Annual Meeting (first meeting following the month of July meeting).

- New Members are sworn in at this meeting as well.

Table 4 – reported the following:

Article VI – Duties of the Officers

Section 1. Duties and Authority of the Chairperson: Remove/delete “and sign such records, vouchers, or other documents connected with the work of the commission requiring such signature.”

Add/ include “send out notifications to tribes organizations concerning members with lack of participations and absences.”

Section 2. Duties of the Vice-Chairperson: Recommendation was to assign additional duties to Vice-Chairperson.

- Change wording to read as “The Vice-Chairperson shall assume all the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairman.”

Section 3. Duties of the Secretary:

- Delete “of the” it is indicated twice.
- Change/ remove the word “oversee” and replace it with “ensure.”
- Remove/ delete the following “shall send each member of the commission a copy of the signed and approved minutes of each meeting and shall be the custodian of and shall maintain the minutes of the Commission. The secretary shall keep complete records of the Commission meeting attendance.”



- Add the following after minutes, insert “shall collect and maintain flower fund.” Funds shall not be deposited in a DOA or state account.

Section 4 (**Add**): Duties of Parliamentarian: Add/include the following working: “Shall assist Chairperson with preserving order and apply parliamentary procedures during meetings.”

Mr. Elk Richardson noted that “Parliamentarian” needs to be added in Article V: Officers.

Secretary Cashwell clarified that “Parliamentarian” needs to be added in Section 1 and Section 3 of Article V: Officers.

Table 5 – reported the following:

Article VII – Meetings (Page 6)

Section 7. Order of Business – Talk about order of business and how to conduct the business.

- (a) Call to order and roll call.
- (b) Approval of agenda
- (c) Approval of minutes
- (d) Unfinished business
- (e) Director’s Report
- (f) Committee Reports
- (g) New Business
- (h) Public Comments (limit 2-minutes). It was noted that before beginning the public comment, a motion to close the meeting needs to be conducted. It will be a listening session just to listen to the community. The discussion among the Board can be had later. It was reiterated that public comment is just a listening session. Participants will need to sign up for public comment at the registration table. If there are participants that signed-up and did not get to speak, they will need to submit in writing (up to half page).

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION:

- Members noted that they were not in favor of the public comments/ listening session. It was noted as representative of tribes, the tribes and community need to present their issues to the Commission representatives. The Commission representatives will address the comments from their community at a proper time.
- Members also noted if the Commission does opt to listen to public comments, the sign-up should not be on the day of the meeting. The public needs to email their request to be on the agenda at least two days prior to the meeting and provide a summary of what will be presented.
- Members noted that guest speakers were not listed. It was suggested that guest speakers need to be listed on the agenda with a specific time limit as well.
- Mr. Greg Richardson noted that the above list gives a broad parameter of the sequence of items and that in accordance with the By-Laws, The Chair sets s and approves the agenda.
- Commission member reiterated that the order of items on the agenda needs to be discussed.
- Chair Rev Burnett indicated that this is just the beginning draft of the By-Laws, there will be time to discuss and edit them in the future.

Robert’s Rule of Order: Parliamentarian, Commissioner W D Baucom presented the following:

- Discussed vote, make a motion, seconded by, discussion, then the Chair must call for the vote and announce the vote or action.



- Discussed the “right to speak-up” on matter of vote, whether one agrees or disagrees. Members can have time to discuss.
- Mr. Greg Richardson noted that Article VII, Section 8 (page 7) of the By-Laws indicates “Rules of Order”. G.S. 143B-408.
- Mr. Richardson indicated that Robert’s Rule of Order needs to be on the agenda for further discussion. He stated that having a Parliamentarian was important.
- Members requested a copy of Robert’s Rule of Order. Deputy Secretary, Candace Lowry noted she will email a copy to the Commission.

Agenda Item: Continued

Rep. Jarrod Lowery, house Deputy Conference Chair Republican, District 47, NC General Assembly. Chair Rev. Burnett announced that Mr. Lowery is unable to attend, he is out of town.

Breakout Sessions:

Strategic Plan Creation for Fiscal Year July 2023-June 2024

Ms. Candace Lowry, Deputy Director, requested members to take the By-laws, and continue working on the creation of mission, vision, and goals statements discussed at the last work session in July 2022, by Dr. Priscilla Maynor. A handout was distributed. It was noted that members need to discuss the mission statement and vision statement at each of the breakout sessions. It was stated that the values will be discussed at the end.

Ms. Lowry noted that the mission statement and vision statement will be voted on at the end of the presentations. She indicated that the mission statement needs to be a statement that flows well, and everyone can remember.

Table 1

Mission: No change. The group approved the mission statement.

It was noted that the group took all three statements listed in the handout and combined it as follows:

Vision –To protect tribal sovereignty, improve the quality of life for American Indians by enhancing social, financial, health, and educational attainment.

Table 2

Mission: No Change

Vision: #1 (Include, but not limited) To protect tribal sovereignty, improve the social and economic well-being of American Indians and their communities.

Table 3

Mission: Advocate for and lift the voices of North Carolina’s American Indian population.

Vision: To protect tribal sovereignty while creating improved physical and mental health, enhancing social, financial and education attainment.

Table 4

Mission: The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs (NCCAI) is to protect tribal sovereignty, and advocate on behalf of North Carolina American Indian population to address the needs and improve the quality of life through effective, efficient, and equitable program and services.

Delete the note section at the bottom.



Vision: American Indian Community have improved quality of life, health, wellbeing, enhanced social, economic, and educational opportunities.

Table 5

Mission: Insert “state” it should read as “North Carolina **state** Commission”

Vision: Insert “to be.” It should read as North Carolina American Indians to be healthier, wealthier, stronger, and recognized.

Ms. Lowry noted that table 1, table 2, and table 5 agreed on the Mission Statement. Table 5 added “state”. Discussion ensued.

The following was noted:

Rewritten: Ms. Candace Lowry read each of the following mission statements.

Mission Statement: (1) The mission of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is to advocate for and lift the voices of North Carolina’s American Indian Population to address needs and improve the quality of life through effective, efficient, and equitable programs and services. (2) The North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is to protect tribal sovereignty and advocate on behalf of North Carolina’s American Indian population to address the needs and improve the quality of life through effective, efficient, and equitable programs and services. (3) As is on paper (handout provided). It reads as “The mission of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is to advocate on behalf of North Carolina’s American Indian population to address needs and improve the quality of life through effective, efficient, and equitable programs and services.”

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION:

Discussion:

- It was noted that the clear distinction between 1 and 2. It should either be “advocate for” vs “advocate on behalf of”. It was clarified that if it is “advocate on behalf of” then the wording will be like (2).
- Next adding tribal sovereignty.
- Ms. Lowry noted that members need to vote on one of the three missions’ statements. A question was asked if it was going to be discussed after the vote. Ms. Lowry indicated that members would vote and then the mission statement would be distributed in a draft document of the strategic plan. It will be approved and adopted at the next Commission meeting. The mission statement will be part of the strategic plan.

MOTION:

Ms. Candace Lowry requested members to make a motion to adopt one of the mission statements listed above.

Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to make a motion.

Commissioner Gerald Goolsby made a motion to adopt one of the missions’ statements listed above.

Commissioner Nadine Patrick seconded the motion.

Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to raise their hands if they are in favor of the motion, after each mission statement is read. Ms. Lowry read each of the mission statements again:

- The first mission statement, four hands were raised.
- **The second mission statement, nine hands were raised.**
- The third mission statement, four hands were raised.



Ms. Lowry indicated the second mission statement received the most votes. It was noted that mission statement #2 will go into the draft By-Laws. The draft mission statement will be approved and adopted at the next meeting.

Commissioner Dorothy Yates noted that in front of mission statement #2, it should indicate “The mission of”. Ms. Lowry agreed.

Motion carried with the Recommendation of Mrs. Yates, with no objection from the membership.

Vision Statement:

Ms. Lowry announced that she will proceed to read the vision statements from each of the five groups/tables.

The vision statement from each of the table/groups listed above was read to the Commission.

It was noted that the vision statement for table #3 was incomplete. Ms. Lowry requested Ms. Page, Note taker for table #3 to rewrite the vision statement in its entirety. She noted that the vision statement will be read after lunch break.

Mr. Greg Richardson introduced and welcomed Mr. Will Hendricks, with the NC Conservation Network.

LUNCH BREAK

Chair Rev. Burnett announced lunch break at 11:47 am. He requested Commission member Dorothy Yates, Vice Chairwoman, to bless the food.

After the lunch break the meeting reconvened at 12:42 pm.

Vision Statement: Continued

Ms. Lowry read the vision statements from each table again as follows:

- Table #1: Vision – To protect tribal sovereignty, improve the quality of life for American Indians by enhancing social, financial, health, and educational attainment.
- Table #2: Vision - #1 (Include, but not limited) To protect tribal sovereignty and economic wellbeing of American Indians and their communities.
- Table #3: Vision: To protect tribal sovereignty and create tribal unity, improve physical and mental health, enhancing social, financial, and educational attainment.
- Table #4: Vision: American Indian Community have improved quality of life, health, wellbeing, enhanced social, economic, and educational opportunities.
- Table #5: Vision: North Carolina American Indians to be healthier, wealthier, stronger, and recognized.

It was noted that the vision statement selected will be distributed as a draft to members. The draft vision statement will be approved and adopted at the next meeting.

It was noted that at the next meeting the Commission will have the strategic plan, mission statement and vision statement.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION:

Discussion:



- Commission members requested clarification on the word recognized from Table #5.
- It was noted that the term “recognized” means “included” such as federal and state recognized tribe, that they are recognized/ acknowledged as American Indian legally.
- It was suggested to clarify the mission statement vs vision statement. It was noted that the two statements are closely aligned but there is a different purpose between the two statements. It was stated that it will be helpful to know the purpose in each of the statements before taking the vote.
- An excerpt of the definition of the mission statement and vision statement read as follows: (1) A mission statement is a definition of an entity or business communicating the purpose of the organization (who and what it does are the objectives and how to approach/ reach those objectives). (2) A vision statement is the description of the desired future state of that entity (provides insight into what the organization strives to accomplish).
- It was reiterated again as follows: A vision statement is what drives the organization or what one is trying to get accomplished. Whereas a mission statement is what the organization is going to do to achieve its objective.
- Ms. Lowry noted that the draft copy of the two statements will mirror each other.

No handout was distributed on the definition of the mission statement and vision statement.

MOTION:

The Chair asked for a motion and to raise hands to express their support for each vision statement by number.

Commissioner Gerald Goolsby made a motion to adopt one of the visions statements listed above. Commissioner Craig McMillian seconded the motion. With the Aye’s being a majority, the motion to adopt one of the visions statements listed above was accepted by unanimous consent. Motion carried.

The vote count for each of the vision statement listed above are as follows:

- First vision statement: four counts
- Second vision statement: four counts
- Third vision statement: one count
- Fourth vision statement: three counts
- Fifth vision statement: five counts.

Chair Rev. Burnett indicated that vision statement #5 received the most votes. It was noted that vision statement #5 will go on the draft vision statement will be approved and adopted at the next meeting. Motion carried with no objection from the membership.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS ONLY

Environmental Justice Committee:

Water Quality Synopsis on Hayes Pond and Lumbee Cultural Center - Dr. Ryan Emanuel, Duke University presented a PowerPoint presentation as follows:

- Dr. Ryan provided a brief overview of NC DEQ Maxton Pond and Gum Swamp Water Quality Analysis Report.
- It was noted that a report was initiated by the Lumbee tribe to sample two bodies of water in Robeson County or the Lumbee community.



- The NC Division of Water Resources, the Intensive Survey Branch plans to conduct a water quality assessment of two impoundments owned by the Lumbee Tribe of NC, Maxton Pond (Hayes Pond) and Country Club Lake (Lumbee Cultural Center Lake).
- It was noted that the information gathered by the Intensive Survey Branch staff will inform the Lumbee tribe and community members of potential surface water quality issues.
- Topics discussed were as follows: Site information; maps showing the location of Maxton Pond monitoring station and the location of Country Club Lake monitoring station; Water Quality (Physical, Chemical, and Biological); Sample location for Physical (conditions of water); Chemical (chemicals present nutrients, metals, organics); and Biological (living in the water, bacteria, viruses, algae) monitoring; Water Quality Parameter Measurements and Frequency; Methods, and Results.
- Dr. Ryan concluded by providing his recommendations as follows:
It is important to collect baseline data. Additional work is needed. Repeated samples need to be taken to determine if there is a long-term trend or cause of concern.
Bacteria samples must be analyzed sooner.
Metals must be analyzed using different equipment.
NCCIA and Tribes should have PFAS/ PFOA experts review report and discuss impacts of these levels to humans and non-humans.

The handouts of the PowerPoint presentation “Water Quality Synopsis on Hayes Pond and Lumbee Cultural Center” were distributed and are on file as an official part of the minutes.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSOIN MEMBERS:

- The question was asked how to transport the samples without contamination. Dr. Ryan responded to keep it frozen or in a cool box and transport immediately for analysis.
- A follow-up question does it have to be a state inspector. Dr. Ryan responded that the analysis must be certified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- It was noted that DEQ and Wildlife conducted testing of Cape Fear River, mercury levels were high. An advisory notification/ recommendation from DEQ will be issued for consumption of fish (should or should not eat fish) in the surrounding counties.
- It was noted that the testing was conducted in February and the results were received last week (end of May 2023).
- The question was asked if the analysis report will be presented to the tribes.
- It was noted that recommendations will be brought back to the Environmental Justice Committee. The tribes will be invited to attend the meeting.

PROGRAM REPORT (Continued)

COVID-19 Pandemic Report: Ms. Kearston Page Freeman, Program Director

Ms. Freeman noted the program ends June 30, 2023. She presented an overview of her final report as follows:

- It was noted that surveys were sent to the communities.
- Discussed Objectives (identify, demonstrate, establish and progress)
- Discussed Pre-existing COVID disparities.
- Discussed the findings and health ratios and disparities.
- Presented a graph that showed the effect COVID-19 had on the American Indian Communities.



- Discussed the funding allocations that the government provided to the tribes and organizations.
- It was noted that 176 survey responses were received. The deadline to complete and submit the survey is June 17, 2023.
- Discussed the challenges regarding obtaining COVID-19 data results and information on American Indians (testing, vaccinations, and other related information) from government entities. Discussion ensued.
- Discussed checking the “American Indian” box for tribal recognition.

No handout was distributed. However, the report is on file with the Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Chair Rev. Burnett announced that due to limited time; he requested action items only, each presentation five minutes time slot.

American Indian Culture and Religion Committee: Commissioner Danny Bell, Committee Chair, read the action items as follows:

- Action Item #1: Committee recommends that “Institutions that want to develop programs for American Indians should include American Indians and the formation of these programs.”
- Action Item#2: Committee recommends that “Events like the 250th anniversary of this country include American Indian participants, history, and stories in the planning stage.”
- ActionItem#3: Committee recommended developing a standard “Land Acknowledgement Statement.”

MOTION:

Committee Chair Bell made a motion to support the three items presented. Chair Rev. Burnett stated that coming from the Committee requires no second is required. He asked if the Commission would like to discuss the motion brought before the Commission. Chair Rev. Burnett opened the floor for discussion.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION

- The Executive Director asked Commissioner Bell, Committee Chair what the timeline is for requesting comments from Commission members with regards to the Land Acknowledgement Statement. Chair Bell responded one month. The comments will be discussed at the next Culture Committee meeting and brought back to the full Commission for approval.
- The question was asked if it is a universal statement. Mr. Bell responded yes, noting that it is for the Commission, state government, and others to utilize as an example.
- Chair Burnett noted all in favor of this motion to respond “Aye.” Motion carried by unanimous vote.

MOTION:

- Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to say “Aye” if they are in favor of approving the action items presented by the AI Culture and Religion Committee. With the Aye’s being the majority, with no correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

The handout illustrating the Action Items from the American Indian Culture and Religion Committee is on file and is an official part of the minutes.



American Indian Housing Committee: Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs, Committee Chair, requested Mr. Stephen Maynor, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Program to present the action item. He presented the recommendations for Indian Housing Authority appointments and reappointments as follows:

- Coharie Indian Tribe; Vivian Carter Maynor, Reappointed
- Metrolina Native American Society; Jerry Sanders, first choice; and Dr. Kathryn Johnson, second choice; Replacing Rebecca Jones LaClaire.
- Sappony Tribe; Charlene Martin, first choice; and Dorothy Stewart Yates, second choice; Replacing Larry Jones (deceased).
- Meherrin Tribe; Dorothy McAnuly,
- Triangle Native American Society; Wanda Burns Ramsey, first choice; and Larry Morgan Jr., second choice; Replacing Clarice Dial.
- Occaneechi Band of the Sappony Indian Tribe; Edward Sanders, Reappointed

Mr. Greg Richardson stated that the statutes indicate that two names be recommended. He is waiting for the Meherrin Tribe and Occaneechi Band of the Sappony Indian Tribe to submit the second name.

Chair Rev. Burnett asked the Commission if they had any questions. A Commission member asked if the vote includes the other names not listed. Mr. Greg Richardson said yes if that is the desire of the Commission.

MOTION:

- Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to say “Aye” if they are in favor of approving the action items presented by the American Indian Housing Committee. With the Aye’s being a majority, with no correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

No handout was distributed.

Economic Development & Employment and Training (ED & ET) Committee: Commissioner Craig McMillian, Committee Chair presented the May 17, 2023, Committee meeting recommendations. Chair McMillian read the highlights from the ED & ET Committee meeting minutes handout, dated May 17, 2023, to approve a motion to adopt the MOU between NCDOT and NCCIA with the components listed in the Action Item #1 handout. The handout was distributed to the Commission.

MOTION:

- Committee Chair motioned to adopt the MOU between NCDOT and NCCIA with the components listed in the Action Item #1 handout from ED & ET Committee.
- Chair Rev. Burnett stated that coming from the Committee requires no second. He asked if the Commission would like to discuss the motion. Chair Rev. Burnett opened the floor for discussion. None noted.
- Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to say “Aye” if they are in favor of approving the action items presented by the Economic Development & Employment and Training (ED & ET) Committee. With the Aye’s being a majority, with no correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried by unanimous consent.



The handout of the Action Items from the Economic Development & Employment and Training (ED & ET) Committee is on file and is an official part of the minutes.

Environmental Justice Committee: Committee Chair Craig McMillian noted no action item. He requested the Commission to provide the list of names and locations of bodies of water that need to be tested and evaluated in their communities.

Adhoc Land Trust Committee: Committee Chair Vee Oxendine presented this item as follows:

- It was noted that the Lumbee tribe is the only tribe that has placed a land and trust request before the Commission.
- The Committee Chair stated that the Committee contacted John Lowry, Chair of Lumbee Tribe, regarding their request to place land into trust and to provide information about how the land would be utilized. Presented a letter on PowerPoint to the Commission. Committee Chair Vee read excerpts from the letter as follows: (1) Land and trust for conservation; (2) Preservation of tribal land; (3) Land and trust from Economic Development of Tribal Nations. It was noted that this is the request from the Lumbee Tribal Chair.
- Committee Chair Vee requested the Commission to provide direct next steps in placing land into trust.
- Mr. Steve Maynor reiterated the same and noted that the Committee needs a response from the Commission and DOA regarding this matter. He pointed out that this is not an action item, but the Committee needs to know how best to respond to the letter.
- Mr. Maynor noted that if members would like to receive a copy of the letter as presented, he will be happy to email it to them.
- Mr. Greg Richardson noted that a follow-up discussion needs to be held with the Deputy Secretary of Administration, Counsel from Administration, and Lumbee tribal representatives.
- A question was asked as to which department makes the decision on this matter.
- Mr. Richardson responded that land and lease questions go to the Counsel for the North Carolina State. It was noted that the Counsel of State must approve any land transactions.
- Chair Rev. Burnett concurred with Mr. Richardson, noting that a follow-up discussion needs to be held with the Deputy Secretary and General Counsel at DOA.

No handout was distributed.

Discussion on Commission Committee Reports and Consolidation and Completion: Ms. Candace Lowry, Deputy Director, Commission of Indian Affairs, presented this item. A handout, "NCCIA Proposed Committee Consolidation," was distributed.

- Ms. Lowry stated that she provided the attachment "Proposed New Committee List" along with the "Proposed Committee Consolidation" and only received fourteen responses.
- Ms. Lowry read the Committees and their Sub-Committees to the Commission.
- It was noted that the NCCIA Proposed Committee Consolidation list indicated members who had signed up previously for the various Committees. The list of names from the subcommittee groups, staff support, and Ad Hoc members, are listed under the proposed New Committee Titles.
- Ms. Lowry requested that members look at the New Committee Structure. The details of the subcommittee are listed on the Proposed New Committee list.
- It was noted that some members did not volunteer to be on some of the Committees.



- Ms. Lowry noted that this was the time for members to change to a different Committee or remove themselves from Committees. Discussion ensued.
- Ms. Lowry indicated that if members adopt this new proposed Committee Consolidated list, this will be the list moving forward. She expressed that members need to be enthusiastic about the Committee they sign up for and need to participate and attend the Committee meetings.
- Ms. Lowry noted that the State Recognition Committee had only senior members listed under this Committee.
- Ms. Lowry stated that since the subcommittees are consolidated, each of the newly proposed committees will have the same Chair and Vice-Chair for the subcommittees.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION

- Commission members noted that certain members were not senior members (Sunshine Richardson and Joshua Rory Welch) listed under the State Recognition Committee. Ms. Lowry indicated that she would remove the junior members from the list. She said it was listed in error, and that she will make a note of the changes.

MOTION:

- Chair Rev. Burnett requested a motion to adopt the NCCAI Proposed Committee Consolidated list with the corrections. Commissioner Craig McMillian seconded the motion. Chair Rev. Burnett asked if the Commission would like to discuss the recommendation brought before the Commission. None noted.
- Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to say “Aye” if they are in favor of approving the action items presented by Deputy Director Lowry. With the Aye’s being a majority, with no further correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

WORK SESSION (Continued)

Members were requested to look at each Committee and use sticky notes to list their name and the committee’s name they wish to sign up for.

SPECIAL REPORT (Not on the agenda)

Secretary Cashwell gave a brief update on the Robeson County funds. It was noted that after a lengthy discussion with Robeson County Officials, Secretary Cashwell indicated that the funds were returned to the Commission. She expressed that currently, the funds are kept in a separate account at the Department of Administration-Commission of Indian Affairs. At some point, the Commission will need to vote on how the funds will need to be utilized. Organizations.

Commission members thanked Secretary Cashwell for her support and effort to resolve this matter.

WORK SESSION (Continued)

Strategic Plan Creation for FY July 2023-June 2024:

Ms. Lowry, Deputy Director, stated that she will have the Strategic Plan for FY 2023-2024 ready by the next Commission meeting. She noted that the handout for the NC Commission of Indian Affairs Strategic Plan Draft was distributed.

The handout indicated the following: Topic; Strategic Goal; Strategic Initiatives; Projected Timeline; Responsible Individuals; Responsible Committee; Resources Needed; Key Performance Indicators; Methods of Measurements; Data Collected; and Outcome. A SMART cheat sheet was provided to assist with the strategic planning.



It was noted that members need to refer to the Bylaws, mission, vision, goals, and SMART cheat sheet to complete the form. The group needs to plan the (1) Work for this fiscal year; (2) Accomplishments, and (3) Outcome.

Members were requested to get into their respective work groups (a total of five groups) and work on the draft Strategic Plan for FY 2023-2024. A twenty-minute time slot was allocated for the group activity. Ms. Lowry noted that she would need the work sheet the members worked on at each table.

The draft notes from each table were collected and submitted to Ms. Lowry. Few members read their messages. Ms. Lowry said she would compile the notes and list them in the Strategic Plan for FY 2023-2024. She indicated that members could email Greg and her if they thought of any innovative ideas. The draft Strategic Plan will be brought back to the full Commission for adoption.

WRAP-UP AND CLOSING REMARKS

Chair Rev. Burnett thanked Commission members and staff for attending the two-day work session. Mr. Greg Richardson acknowledged his staff and thanked them for helping to plan and organize the meeting and work session.

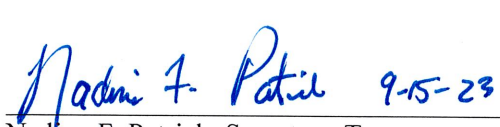
Vice Chairwoman Dorothy Yates announced that the State Advisory Council for Indian Education (SACIE) Report is approved and will be posted on the Department of Education website. She requested members to share the information in their communities.

PHOTO SESSION

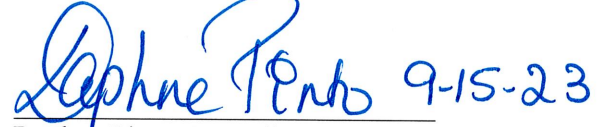
A group photo was held at the end of the two-day work session.

ADJOURNMENTS:

With there being no further items to discuss, Chair Rev. Burnett adjourned the meeting. He requested Commissioner Baucomb to recite a short prayer and lead the Commission meeting to dismissal. The meeting adjourned at 3:34 pm. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2023, Location to be announced.




 Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer
 NC Commission of Indian Affairs
 (Sign & Date)

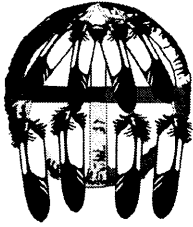


 Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary
 NC Commission of Indian Affairs
 (Sign & Date)

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs on September 15, 2023.



 Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer
 NC Commission of Indian Affairs
 (Sign & Date)



**N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING
AND WORK SESSION**

Cape Fear Baptist Church
100 Indian Drive – Life Center
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28312
(Parking at Life Center and at Cape Fear Baptist Church)

Thursday, June 1, and Friday, June 2, 2023

AGENDA

Thursday, Day 1 - Work Session, June 1, 2023	
Registration – Cape Fear Baptist Life Center	9:45 am
Call to Order	10:00 am
Adoption of Meeting Agenda	Ricky Burnett, Chairman
Invocation Welcome Remarks for Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Helen Cook, Chair, Cumberland County Association for Indian People, and Commission Member
Pledge of Allegiance	Danny Bell, Commission Member
Roll Call	Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary
Ethics Statement	Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
Approval of March 9, 2023, Minutes	Ricky Burnett
Introduction of Guest Speakers: Pamela Cashwell, Secretary, NC Department of Administration	Ricky Burnett NC Commission of Indian Affairs Office Relocation Update and Other DOA Updates
Business Item	Ricky Burnett
Executive Director’s Report	Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Expiring Terms of Commission Members Expiring Terms of Indian Housing Authority Members United Tribes of North Carolina Appointment Quarterly Reports from Program Directors	
Update on current legislation impacting the Commission and the Legislative Process Going Forward	Wes Kyatt, DOA Legislative Liaison
Commission Work Session Overview	Greg Richardson
LUNCH	12:00 Noon

Program Overviews from Program Directors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIOA – Director Maria Richardson • Section 8 – Housing Director Stephen Maynor • SUNS – Director Kimberly Maynor • DV/SA/HT – Director of Victim Services Tenley Locklear • LIEAP – Director Pamela Brewington • Recognition – Director Elkton Richardson 	Presentations During Lunch
Overview of Commission Work Session Goals	Greg Richardson
Review of Commission Legislation	Mark Teague, Attorney, NCDOJ
Review of Commission By-Laws - Group work session	Greg Richardson, Executive Director
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity Session Comparing Legislation to By-Laws • Delete contradictory Bylaws that aren't aligned with Legislation. Vote on edits	
Review of Commission By-Laws - Group work session Continued	
Robert's Rule of Order	Parliamentarian – WD Baucom
(5:00pm) Break for dinner	
(5:30pm) Dinner & Dialogue	
(6:30pm) Closing comments and recap of the day	
Friday, Day 2 - Work Session, June 2, 2023	Breakfast - 8:00 am
Review of the previous day	8:30 am Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Ice Breaker – and Activity	Stephen Maynor, Housing Director and Nikki Locklear, Director of Victim Services
16 Personality Test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can knowing your personality type help you as a Commission member? Utilize your strengths and work on your weaknesses	Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
Mission Statement Discussion – Gathered from Precious Work session – Vote Needs to be Finalized	Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
Vision and Goals Discussion– Gathered from Precious Work session – Vote Needed - Vote Needs to be Finalized	Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
Lunch	12:00 Noon

Introduction of Luncheon Speakers: Rep. Jarrod Lowery, House Deputy Conference Chair Republican - District 47 NC General Assembly	Ricky Burnett Legislative Briefing
Program Overviews from Program Directors (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 – Coordinator Kearston Page Freeman 	
Committee Reports and Action Items Only	
American Indian Culture & Religion Committee - Action Item	Danny Bell, Chair
American Indian Housing – Action Item	Elton Ray Jacobs, Chair
Economic Development & Employment Committee	Craig McMillian, Chair
American Indian Child Welfare	Dorothy Yates, Chair
American Indian Education	Dorothy Yates, Chair
Legislative 2023 Legislative Agenda Update	Tony Hayes, Chair
Adhoc Land Trust – Action Item	Vernanda (Vee) Oxendine, Chair
State and Federal Recognition Work Sessions to Review State Recognition Procedures	Larece Hunt, Chair
Environmental Justice Water Quality Synopsis on Hayes Pond and Lumbee Cultural Center	Craig McMillian, Chair Dr. Ryan Emanuel, Duke University
Discussion of Commission Committee Reports and Consolidation and Completion	Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
Committee Assignments and Work Session	Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
Strategic Plan Creation for Fiscal Year July 2023- June 2024 (Use edits to Bylaws, and creation of mission, vision, and goals to create a live strategic plan with deadlines) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOU with all tribes and organizations NCCIA Conference (Stand Alone Conference) Coordination of Commission meetings around the state to consider all Commission members’ travel and time. Building State department/agency relationships. Such as NCDOT, NCDEQ, NCDPI, NC Commerce, NC Community College System, NC University System, etc. Develop meaningful relationships with Private industry businesses. 	Ricky Burnett, Chairman Candace Lowry, Deputy Director Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Wrap–Up and Closing Remarks	Ricky Burnett, Chairman
Adjournment	3:30 pm
2023 Commission Meetings	September 1, 2023, Location, TBD December 1, 2023, Location, TBD