

Commission of Indian Affairs  
 Quarterly Commission Meeting  
 Raleigh, North Carolina  
 June 3, 2011  
 Approved 9/9/11

Chairman Brooks called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum present. Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Furnie Lambert

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS**

Coharie	Isabell Freeman Elliott	Present
Coharie	Charlene Jacobs	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Roy Maynor	Absent
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Barbara Melvin	Present
Eastern Band of Cherokee	Patrick Lambert	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	Ruth Revels	Present
Guilford Native American Association	Julia Phipps	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Ruth Ealing	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Jeffrey Anstead	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Furnie Lambert	Present
Lumbee	Donald Jones	Present
Meherrin	Chassidy Hall	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Earlene Stacks	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	W. David Baucum	Present
Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation	Sharn Jeffries	Present
Sappony	Shelia Wilson	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Brett Locklear	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Lila Spaulding	Absent
Waccamaw Siouan	Shirley Freeman	Present
President Pro Tem Appointee	Paul Brooks	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Faline Locklear Dial	Present
NCNAYO Representative	Deitrick Richardson	Present

**STATE OFFICIALS**

Department of Health and Human Services, Lanier Cansler, Secretary	
Designee: Maria Spaulding	Absent
Department of Labor, Cherie Berry, Commissioner	
Designee: Tiffany Lathan`	Present
Employment Security Commission Lynn R. Holmes, Chairman	

Designee: Stephanie Becoat (Check Spelling)	Present
Department of Administration, Moses Carey, Jr., Secretary	
Designee: June Michaux	Present
Department of Environment & Natural Resources, Dee Freeman, Secretary	
Designee: David Knight	Absent

**ADHOC HEALTH COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Robin Cummings - Present

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT**

LeAnn Martin, Assistant Attorney General – Present

**STAFF PRESENT**

Greg Richardson, Executive Director  
Chelsea Locklear, Administrative Secretary  
Sue Brewington, Workforce Development Coordinator  
Missy Brayboy, Director, Health Initiative  
Elk Richardson, Director, American Indian Workforce Development Program  
Sadie Barbour, Director, Community Services Program  
Kerry Bird, Program Coordinator, Teen Tobacco Use Prevention Program  
Kim Hammonds, Director, Economic Development

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Representative Charles Graham, NC House of Representatives  
Senator Michael Walters, NC Senate  
Ann Bander, Chief Operating Office, NCDOA  
Hanna Smith, Attorney General – Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian Tribe  
Zeke Creech, General Counsel to the Secretary, NCDOA  
Christy Agner, Legislative Liaison, NCDOA  
Brandi Bynum, Juvenile Justice  
Patti Long, Juvenile Justice  
Dr. Clara Sue Kidwell, American Indian Center UNC-Chapel Hill  
Brandi Brooks, American Indian Center UNC-Chapel Hill  
Danny Bell, UNC Chapel Hill

**ETHICS STATEMENT**

Greg Richardson read the Ethics Statement on behalf of Chairman Brooks. No conflicts of interests were reported.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Motion to approve: Commissioner Stacks, second Commissioner Furnie Locklear. Carried

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKERS – CHAIRMAN PAUL BROOKS**

Representative Charles Graham, NC House of Representatives, 47<sup>th</sup> District reported to the Commission as follows:

- Approval was received for the bipartisan Joint Legislative American Indian Caucus. A meeting was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the legislature. Speaker Tillis spoke during the meeting and stated that he supported the Caucus 100%. A draft mission statement has been formalized as follows: To represent the interest and to advocate for NC Indian tribes and urban organizations, to provide a voice and to help promote Indian issues to the NC legislature, and to keep the tribe and communities informed of legislative issues. Monthly meetings will be planned and everyone is welcome to be a part of the caucus meetings.

Discussed key 2011 legislative agenda items associated with the NC Commission of Indian Affairs.

- License Plate Fee – Ongoing
- Indian Child Welfare Act – Ongoing
- Others items will be discussed at a later time.

Senator Michael Walters, Hoke and Robeson Counties reported to the Commission as follows:

- More at Four/Smart Start will be taking a 20% cut in funding.
- University systems are taking a 12% cut in funding.
- The NC Indian Economic Development Initiative will be receiving \$90,000 in recurring money.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – GREGORY RICHARDSON**

The Executive Directors' Report was distributed - Summary of activities during quarter:  
(Attachment 1)

- Summer Intern Project: Goal will be to look at target communities and see how many teen deaths are occurring. Motor vehicles accidents seem to be the most prevalent in the Indian communities. Data from this project will be looked at for possible educational programs, etc., in the communities. Intern will be contacting the communities for input into the project.
- Indian Heritage Month: Scheduled for November 19, 2011, NC Museum of History, Raleigh, NC. Kerry Bird is staff support for this event.

- NC Museum of History Exhibit: Commission representatives visited the museum to look at the exhibit pertaining to the NC Indians. The exhibit contained some incorrect information, but cannot be changed at this time. Additions are planned and corrections will be made during that process. The Commission will be working with the museum on this issue.
- State Capitol Monument Advisory Committee: Ongoing – no action required by the Commission at this time.
- Section 8 Program Audit: It was determined that money would not be saved by bidding the audit. The State Auditor completed the audit and it has been submitted to HUD for review.
- Riverside Golf Course: A short term lease is in place with the Lumbee Tribe for 60 days. They are now required to maintain the property and formulate plans and specifications for the rehab of the Pro Shop.
- NC Indian Cultural Center: State Property Office has issued a letter to the Indian Cultural Center outlining requirements and timeframes to be met. If corrective action is not taken, this property will also be put out for bid.
- Personnel Matters:
  - Section 8 Housing Director – Interviews have been completed and in the process of filling the position at this time.
  - Administrative Secretary – Ms. Chelsea Locklear has been hired in a temporary capacity.
  - Educational Talent Search Counselor – Hiring packet received on May 17. Interviews will be scheduled, however, the position will not be filled until the Talent Search grant is announced.
  - Housekeeper Position – This position, outstationed in Halifax County, will not be filled at this time due to anticipated budget reductions announced in May.
- Quarterly Program Reports – Included in packet
- Action Items from March Meeting – Included in packet
- Indian Time Newsletter - Scheduled to be placed on the Commission’s webpage by the end of July.

A symposium and reception in honor of Dr. Clara Sue Kidwell, who will be retiring as director of the American Indian Center, is scheduled for June 21, 2011, Greenlaw Hall, Donovan Lounge. The Symposium of Choctaw History is from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., and the reception will follow at 5:00 p.m.

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Public Health Research Videoconference on Minority Health is scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. at the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Auditorium, UNC School of Social Work. Visit [www.minority.unc.edu](http://www.minority.unc.edu) for more information.

## Status Reports and Update on Court Cases - LeAnn Martin, Assistant Attorney General

### NC Indian Cultural Center v. NC Commission of Indian Affairs

The litigation pertaining to the NC Indian Cultural Center is fully concluded. The court has decided that the part of the legislation which states that “the Board of Directors of the ICC be appointed by the Commission” was ruled unconstitutional. They are to be selected in accordance with the corporation bylaws. The decision on what to do next in light of numerous defaults by the ICC is yet to be decided. There was discussion on placing this issue on the 2012 legislative agenda and taking the Commission’s name out of the Indian Cultural Center legislation altogether.

### Meherrin Indian Tribe v. NC Commission of Indian Affairs

The Meherrin case has not concluded. A deadline was missed in connection with the appeal. Opposing counsel filed for attorney’s fees. A conference call was held to discuss this issue and a request was filed with the Court of Appeals, asking them to “Forgive the Mistake,” which they did on May 23. Therefore, the appeal will proceed.

### Budget Reductions Per Legislative Action - Ann Bander, COO for the Department of Administration

Mrs. Bander noted that the process followed for budget planning this year was very challenging. Departments were asked to identify areas of duplication and underperforming programs, reducing layers of management and administration, streamlining programs and services, reducing operating funds, etc. The Department proposed a 7% reduction and did not recommend any Commission cuts. The final percentage, however, did include reductions to the Commission.

The Department’s Human Resources Division is working with all employees affected by the cuts. Each individual has been assigned a personal contact to help with the process.

### 2011 Legislative Agenda - Christy Agner, Legislative Liaison, NC Department of Administration

Ms. Agner distributed copies of a packet that was submitted to the legislators during the budget process. She noted that the Commission will be looking at new grants to offset the reductions that have occurred in order to continue the needed services in the Indian communities.

There was much discussion on the budget cuts and the impact on the Commission and its staff. It was noted that plans are in process for those affected by the cuts, and also plans on how the mandates of the Commission will be continued.

## **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING/RETURNING COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Chairman Brooks presented Certificates of Appreciation to those Commission members whose terms will expire at the end of June. Those honored were: Ruth Revels, Sharn Jeffries, Larece Hunt, Sheila Wilson, Earlene Stacks, Lila Spaulding. Eagle Feathers were also presented to

Earlene Stacks, for her service as Vice Chairman of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs and for 25 years of service to the Commission where she represented the Metrolina Native American Association; Mrs. Lila Spaulding, for her service as Secretary of the Commission and also for her representing the Waccamaw-Siouan Indian Tribe on the Commission for many years. Dr. Clara Sue Kidwell, Director of the American Indian Center, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was also honored for her service to the Commission as Co-Chair of the Indian Child Welfare Committee.

**ACTION FOR CHILDREN NORTH CAROLINA - BRANDY BYNUM, PATTI LONG, DAVID HUTCHINSON**

Presenters introduced a new program from the Action for Children network. The problems facing youngsters in Eastern North Carolina, and how to ensure they have the opportunities and resources available to other young people, are all part of a new initiative — “Communities for a Better Tomorrow.” Under the direction of Action for Children North Carolina, the newest Communities for a Better Tomorrow collaborative encompasses Halifax, Northampton, Bertie and Hertford Counties. Communities for a Better Tomorrow’s Juvenile Justice Treatment Continuum plan to ensure that the individual needs of at-risk young people and their families are met without duplicating services. Efficiency and effectiveness are the program’s foundation. The key to this success is said to be teaching providers to provide services while working with other community agencies to identify at-risk youngsters’ mental and social deficiencies and to customize a plan to meet the individual needs of the youngsters and their families.

They would like to get this information to the Indian communities for possible collaboration. The Commission will be working to get this effort moving forward.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY – COMMISSIONER BRETT LOCKLEAR, CHAIR**

The committee did not meet this quarter. Commissioner Locklear did meet with Commission staff to discuss fundraising possibilities, sponsorship levels, etc. More detailed information will be forthcoming. The fund now has \$1,100 in the account. The tribes and organizations have been asked to offer resolutions of support for the event. A logo has been developed and plans are underway to develop a website.

Commissioner Revels proposed the following: 1) framed pictures of Commission chairs; 2) framed pictures of executive directors. These pictures would be unveiled at the November Commission meeting and then in the Commission offices. She committed to assist with the fundraising for this effort. The committee will discuss this issue during their next meeting.

Commissioner Revels motioned, seconded by Commissioner Ealing, to approve the proposed 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo. Motion carried.

**ADHOC LAND TRUST – COMMISSIONER FURNIE LAMBERT, CHAIR**

Committee did not meet this quarter. No action required at this time.

**ADHOC LEGISLATIVE – COMMISSIONER ROY MAYNOR, CHAIR**

Items for the 2011-2012 legislative agenda should be submitted to the Executive Director each quarter, September 1 and November 1, in preparation for the next legislative session.

**CULTURAL/RELIGION – COMMISSIONER SHIRLEY FREEMAN, CHAIR**

Committee did not meet this quarter. No action requested.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – COMMISSIONER RUTH REVELS, CHAIR**

Kim Hammonds reported that the SUN’s program continuation grant has been submitted, and she is awaiting notification. The annual workshop was held in May with 18 of the 34 participants in attendance. Six students graduated this cycle with two pending graduation as of today.

Elk Richardson reported the grant planning process has been completed. There are seven Indian WIA grantees in the state, LRDA, Cherokee, Metrolina Native American Association, Guilford Native American Association, Cumberland County Association for Indian People and the Commission - \$1.67 million dollars. The Commission services the balance of the state which includes the Coharie, Waccamaw Siouan, Sappony, and Meherrin tribal communities.

The Commission’s WIA offers sponsorships to Indian students in community colleges providing books and tuition up to \$1500 per semester. The Commission also provides core services, such as uniforms/equipment for nursing students, etc. Carolyn Crocker and Sue Faircloth work with local Job Link Career Centers in the areas served, collaborating to provide the most efficient services for clients.

Tony Hayes gave a report on the NC Economic Development Initiative. As a result of the DOT Outreach meetings, the DOT has agreed to utilize more American Indian business in their projects.

Technical Assistance and Training Sessions are still being held. A session was held in the Whiteville area which included the Waccamaw Siouan community.

The Initiative continues to assist Indian contractors with training to get certifications in order to do businesses with lead construction companies in the state.

**EDUCATION - COMMISSIONER EARLENE STACKS – CHAIR**

Met by teleconference on May 19, 2011 (Attachment 2)

The State Advisory Council on Indian Education continues to focus their work on completing the annual report.

Interviews will be conducted soon to fill the vacant Talent Search Counselor position with the Commission.

Brooke Spaulding and Elena Hunt were Gates award recipients this year.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual NCNAYO conference was held June 13-16, 2011 at NC State University, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Commissioner Stacks commented that she would miss attending the commission meeting. She noted that she has missed one meeting since being appointed to the Commission.

### **HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES – DR. ROBIN CUMMINGS – CHAIR**

Kerry Bird gave the report for the committee. The committee met on June 1, 2011. Items of discussion during the meeting included the following:

Impact of budget cuts on programs serving American Indians in North Carolina, specifically the Community Services Program of the Commission - The committee made a motion that the Commission recommend to the NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Lanier Cansler that local DSS offices be required to collect data on American Indian clients and provide quarterly reports to the Commission on how many American Indians are being served. Action: Develop and send letter to current clients of the Commission Community Services Program to inform them of the change of service. Identify a point of contact with the Commission to address any concerns they may have with the continuation of services local provider. Also, ask clients to provide feedback on services received and to make the Commission aware of any issues related to service delivery.

The Committee also made the following recommendations: 1) Current clients served by the Commission should continue to be served by the local service provider. They should not have to reapply, 2) The Commission should serve as a liaison between the local service provider and the tribe in the area where services are provided to ensure clients continue to get care, 3) Data on American Indian clients should be collected so we can determine how many Indians are receiving services. Include American Indian designation in all data collected by NC DHHS and local DSS offices, 4) Current Commission employees in the field should be considered for employment by the local service provider to continue the service delivery to current American Indian clients.

The House and Senate budgets call for abolishing the Health & Wellness Trust Fund (HWTF) which provides funding for the American Indian Teen Tobacco Use Prevention Program operated by the Commission. Program elimination will mean the loss of two full time staff and, additionally, mini-grant funds to tribal communities would be lost. The Haliwa-Saponi Tribe and Lumbee Tribe both receive funding thru HWTF for tobacco prevention programming. These programs would also be eliminated. Budget cuts have already impacted other community health programs funded by the HWTF in tribal communities. Additionally, the Maya Angelou Center at Wake Forest University would lose HWTF consulting funds. Overall, the health of American Indians will be impacted by the loss of these health programs.

Kerry reported that the Office of Minority Health, also facing budget cuts, is developing an American Indian cultural competency curriculum and has a meeting set with Commission staff for Thursday, June 2.

The American Indian Health Board submitted a grant proposal to the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation. As funding becomes available, the AIHB hopes to hire an Executive Director. Bylaws are in place and the board is moving forward as planned. A website has been established.



Kerry reported on a potential funding opportunity for a Substance Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program to serve the American Indian community in the state. The N.C. Department of Health & Human Services' Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (DMHDDSAS) included American Indians in their federal substance abuse prevention block grant application. DMHDDSAS and the Commission have held discussions regarding a pilot substance abuse prevention program in the Haliwa-Saponi and Lumbee tribal communities. The program would utilize an evidence-based substance abuse prevention curriculum approved by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The curriculum would be provided in other tribal and urban Indian communities in subsequent years. In conjunction with the program, an American Indian Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition would be developed. The coalition would be comprised of members from each of the tribal and urban Indian communities with additional representatives from related organizations. Anticipated funding is \$175,000. DMHDDSAS may have an additional \$40,000 available for expenditure by August 31, 2011. These funds would be used to plan and conduct an American Indian substance abuse prevention summit. The summit would bring together representatives from each of the tribal and urban Indian communities for training on the evidence-based substance abuse prevention curriculum to be used.

It was suggested that the Committee serve in a grant review and recommendation capacity. As such, members will be asked to help identify potential funding opportunities and serve as proposal reviewers if needed.

Kerry reported that the abstract entitled "State Support for Addressing Tobacco Use Among American Indian Youth," submitted for the American Indian/Alaska Native strand at the American Association of Public Health Annual Conference, October 30 - November 2, Washington, DC, was accepted for presentation in their poster category. Additionally, an abstract entitled "Reaching Us All: Encouraging Diversity in Community-Based Youth Tobacco Prevention," submitted by the Health and Wellness Trust Fund, was also accepted. This abstract focuses on the work of the Diversity Work Group, and Kerry was included as a co-presenter.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES – COMMISSIONER RUTH EALING, CHAIR**

The Committee did not meet this quarter. No action requested.

#### **INDIAN CHILD WELFARE – COMMISSIONER JULIA PHIPPS, CO-CHAIR**

The Committee met via teleconference on June 2, 2011. The committee will be holding a training session on ICW issues with both tribal community and local DSS representatives to begin to develop understanding of the responsibilities of the community and the DSS in the welfare system.

There was discussion on ensuring that the membership of the committee consists of Indian Child Welfare tribal representatives.

Julia Phipps will take over the Chair position of the Committee in August, 2011. Dr. Kidwell is retiring and returning to her home.

#### **RECOGNITION – COMMISSIONER LARECE HUNT, CHAIR**

The Committee did not meet this quarter. No action requested.

**VETERANS – COMMISSIONER FURNIE LAMBERT, CHAIR**

The Lumbee Warriors Veterans Ball is scheduled for June 25. Retired Marine Corp Major, Ron Oxendine, will be the guest speaker. Mr. Oxendine has been through the AA Certification and is working with the Lumbee Tribe to get their AA Certification.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Deitrich Richardson asked Commission members to help sponsor students to attend the NCNAYO Youth Conference at NC State University. Commissioner Brett Locklear made a motion to sponsor a table at the conference at \$200. Commissioner Larece Hunt seconded the motion and it carried.

Commissioner Revels announced the 2012 Unity Conference to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina at the Renaissance Suites Hotel. Room rates will be \$105 per night. You will not be able to call the hotel and hold rooms for this conference. Rooms must be reserved by names and credit cards.

July 2, 2011 – Annual Haliwa Saponi 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration, Hollister, NC

July 2, 2011 – Lumbee Homecoming Parade, Pembroke, NC

September 9-10, 2011 – Coharie Annual Powwow, Clinton, NC

**ITEMS AND ADJOURNEMENT**

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 9, 2011
- November 18, 2011

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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Lila Spaulding, Secretary/Treasurer