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Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"

Mecklenburg County [web@subscriptions.mecklenburgcountync.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:32 PM

To: sjohnston@tueforumclt.org

MECKLENBURG COUNTY GOVERNMENT



BOARD BULLETIN

An update to the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners
from the County Manager

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April 15, 2014

C.W. Williams Payment Withheld for Last Quarter

As you were advised in an email on April 2, staff received an inquiry from the *Charlotte Observer* regarding financial difficulties at C.W. Williams Health Center. A review of the audited financial statements provided from C.W. Williams for the FY14 community service grant funding application did not reveal issues that would have caused us to recommend "no funding."

However, C.W. Williams' fiscal year ended March 31, and to date we have not received audited financials for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. At this time, we are holding payment for the last quarter to C.W. Williams.

We have asked for unaudited balance sheets and the audit as soon as it is complete. I will provide an update when that information is received. C.W. Williams has made a funding request through our annual grants process; however, without up-to-date audited financial reports I will not include funding for C.W. Williams in my recommended budget.

Board members with questions can contact Assistant County Manager Michelle Lancaster at 704-336-2621 or michelle.lancaster@mecklenburgcountync.gov.

Board of Elections Campaign Finance Reports Update

The Board of Elections (BOE) is responding to the report in the *Charlotte Observer* related to auditing of campaign finance reports.

BOE staff checks for three things on campaign finance reports: timely filing, correct arithmetic, and if the name, address, employer and occupation of the donor is reflected. In the event that some information is missing, staff will contact the candidate by phone and request the missing information. However, the follow-up contact with the candidate is not documented.

Going forward, BOE will assign additional staff to the report review process to be sure that all reports receive the proper review. In addition, a new form is being created that will be used to document follow-up contact with candidates. The form will

that will be used to document follow up contact with candidates. The form will document the reason the report was deficient and request that the candidate provide a response.

Board members with questions can contact Michael G. Dickerson, director of Elections, at 704-336-2133 or michael.dickerson@mecklenburgcountync.gov.

Volunteer Recognition

Mecklenburg County celebrates its volunteers on Tuesday, April 15 with a reception in the CMGC atrium. This annual event is sponsored by Jim N Nick's BBQ, Pinckney Marketing, and Customer Service Solutions.

Volunteers, members of the Volunteer Council, and Hands on Charlotte will attend the Board of County Commissioners meeting tonight, followed by a dinner reception in the CMGC lobby.

In addition to those who volunteer directly with County departments/agencies and through the volunteer program in partnership with Hands on Charlotte, nearly 300 residents currently serve on 41 Board-appointed advisory committees.

The volunteer program is one aspect of [MeckConnect](#), Mecklenburg County's multifaceted strategy for increasing and enhancing citizen involvement. Board members with questions can contact Citizen Involvement Coordinator Sophia Hollingsworth at 980-722-2111 or via [email](#).

Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services - North Carolina Families Accessing Services through Technology (NC FAST) Update

As implementation of the state's NC FAST system continued across North Carolina, ongoing systems issues created a backlog of case processing across all 100 counties for persons receiving Food and Nutrition Services, thereby jeopardizing federal funding via directive from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Mecklenburg County DSS staff continued to work overtime and utilize temporary support staff to process Food and Nutrition Services cases, eliminating all backlog cases to ensure that eligible residents continued to receive their benefits timely.

While the implementation of the state's NC FAST system continues, the effort of Mecklenburg DSS staff to manage the backlogs has been recognized by State Director of Social Services Wayne Black.

Black recently called County DSS staff to commend them for their effort in meeting the USDA deadline. In addition, Mecklenburg DSS has been recognized by the state as a leader throughout this effort, and has hosted several best-practice sessions with other North Carolina county DSS staff, and will represent the state as a host later this month for South Carolina DSS officials interested in the NC FAST system.

DSS staff has also been invited to participate in a Pilot Users Group to provide input and assist the state in identifying solutions to ongoing system problems. Our involvement in this effort will assist in mitigating impact upon Mecklenburg residents as additional program implementation occurs.

Board members with questions regarding NC FAST should contact Assistant County Manager Michelle Lancaster at 704-336-2621, or michelle.lancaster@mecklenburgcountync.gov.

Department Directors Present Budget Requests

Last week started with County department directors and the Budget Executive Team engaged in a daylong strategic meeting to review preliminary FY2015 departmental budget requests.

Grouped by the Board's strategic priorities, department heads had the opportunity to

Grouped by the Board's strategic priorities, department heads had the opportunity to present overviews of their requests in advance for the County Manager's proposed budget, which will be presented to you May 29.

This meeting was another effort by me, along with the Office of Management and Budget, to involve more stakeholders in the budget process and for me to ask questions in order to make sound budget decisions.

I am looking forward to presenting my first budget and working with you to meet the needs of our growing, diverse community.

CALENDAR REMINDERS:

- **Tuesday, April 15, 5 pm – BOCC Regular Meeting, Informal Session, CH-14**
- **Tuesday, April 15, 6 pm – BOCC Regular Meeting, Formal Session, Chamber**
- **Tuesday, April 22, 1:45-2:45 – BOCC Intergovernmental Committee, 11th Floor Large Conference Room**
- **Tuesday, April 22, 3-5 pm – BOCC Budget Public Policy Meeting, CMGC Room 267**

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