

# FORSYTH COUNTY

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: MARCH 15, 2018 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 13

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF A STRATEGY FOR THE FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO EXERCISE THE POWER AND AUTHORITY TO CONSOLIDATE THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF N.C.G.S. 153A-77**

**COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:**

**SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:** See Attached

ATTACHMENTS:  YES  NO

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF A STRATEGY FOR THE  
FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO EXERCISE THE POWER  
AND AUTHORITY TO CONSOLIDATE THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE  
SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF N.C.G.S. 153A-77**

**WHEREAS**, N.C.G.S. 153A-77 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to assume the direct control of activities conducted by the Forsyth County Board of Health and the Forsyth County Social Services Board by adopting a resolution assuming and conferring upon the Board of Commissioners all of their powers, responsibilities and duties; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of a report and recommendation by Cansler Collaborative Resources, Forsyth County is considering potential restructuring options for its Human Services boards; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners may exercise the power and authority conferred by N.C.G.S. 153A-77 only after a public hearing pursuant to 30 days' notice of said public hearing given in a newspaper having general circulation in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, in the exercise of its jurisdiction over commissions, boards, and agencies, N.C.G.S. 153A-77 provides the Board of County Commissioners may:

- (1) Consolidate certain provisions of human services in the County under the direct control of a human services director appointed and supervised by the County Manager in accordance with N.C.G.S. 153A-77(e);
- (2) Create a consolidated human services board having the powers conferred by N.C.G.S. 153A-77(c);
- (3) Create a consolidated County human services agency having the authority to carry out the functions of any combination of commissions, boards, or agencies appointed by the Board of County Commissioners or acting under and pursuant to authority of the Board of County Commissioners, including the local Health Department, the County Department of Social Services, or the area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services authority; and
- (4) Assign other County human services functions to be performed by the consolidated human services agency under the direction of the human services director, with policy-making authority granted to the consolidated human services board as determined by the Board of County Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners has determined that the consolidation of the Forsyth County Board of Health and the Forsyth County Social Services Board would be in the best interests of the County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to prepare a strategy for the Board of Commissioners to exercise the power and authority to consolidate the Forsyth County Board of Health and the Forsyth County Social Services Board pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 153A-77.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

### Pathway to Human Services Consolidation

N.C.G.S. 153A-77 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to assume the direct control of activities conducted by the Forsyth County Board of Health and the Forsyth County Social Services Board by adopting a resolution assuming and conferring upon the Board of Commissioners all of their powers, responsibilities and duties.

It is also important to note the vision of consolidation also brings in Aging Services, Court Services, and Environmental programs under the purview of the Consolidated Director/Deputy Manager.

The County Manager recommends moving forward with the hiring of the DSS Director, but with a slightly modified approach. If it is satisfactory with the DSS Board, the manager would present a recommendation to the DSS Board using the "advice and consent" standard outlined in the Statutes. This would allow moving forward with filling this position, but would do so with the intent of the future Board structure.

The following is a timeline of the major elements necessary for consolidation.

	March	April	May	June	July
Board of County Commissioners adopt resolution of intent and pathway document	x				
Conduct series of lunch and learn meetings with staff to engage about consolidation		x	x		
Meet with DSS and Public Health Boards to engage with them about consolidation		x	x		
Board of County Commissioners hold a required public hearing to obtain comments from the public regarding consolidation				x	
Board of County Commissioners adopt resolution formally consolidating the two boards into a Consolidated Human Services Board with the additional required capacities included (consumers)				x	
Applications taken for unfilled CHSA Board capacities (consumers, etc.)					x
CHSA Board training					Future