



**North Carolina  
Association of  
County Commissioners**

# Make a Difference: Lead Locally

Presentation to Leadership North Carolina

Kevin Leonard

November 3, 2022

XXVI

Maggie Stroud  
Brian Etheridge  
Mike Cole  
Kelly Turner  
Catherine Liao  
Carol Shields  
Emily Gangi  
Anne Marie Robertson  
Vicki Lee Parker  
Amy Murphy Curlis  
Michelle Ries

Arthur Salido  
Tara Campbell  
Shelley Blake  
Ventia Skahen  
Cheryl Cherry  
Marshall Cherry

Daniel Dent  
Wendy John  
Cort Bennett  
Brian Franklin  
Kevin Utsey  
Mark McIntire

Kevin Leonard  
Michael Youth  
Fatima Dean  
Sharon Hirsch  
Joseph Deehan  
McGregor Holmes

Tracey Zimmerman  
Bradley Ballou  
Joshua Lassiter  
Haley Haynes  
Laura Early  
Ricky Brown  
Julie Smith

Robert Doreauk  
Kathy Morris  
Catherine Moga Bryant  
Jinky Rosselli  
Drew Steel

Aimee Forehand  
Sherri Yerk-Zwickl  
Ryan Schwiebert  
Jim Parker  
Carmen Shaw

Christian Overton  
Steve Biggs  
Mike Mazzola  
Schumata Brown  
Jennifer Bell  
Weyling White  
Kristen Rosselli

Kyle Villemain  
Cheryl Parquet  
Meredith Switzer  
Michelle Neal



Inform. Engage. Lead.

# Setting Expectations

- We have 40 minutes together this morning
  - 30ish minute presentation
  - 10ish minute Q&A
- What does government mean to you
- Describe various functions of county government
- Focus on the locally led programs
- Q&A



"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

— Nelson Henderson



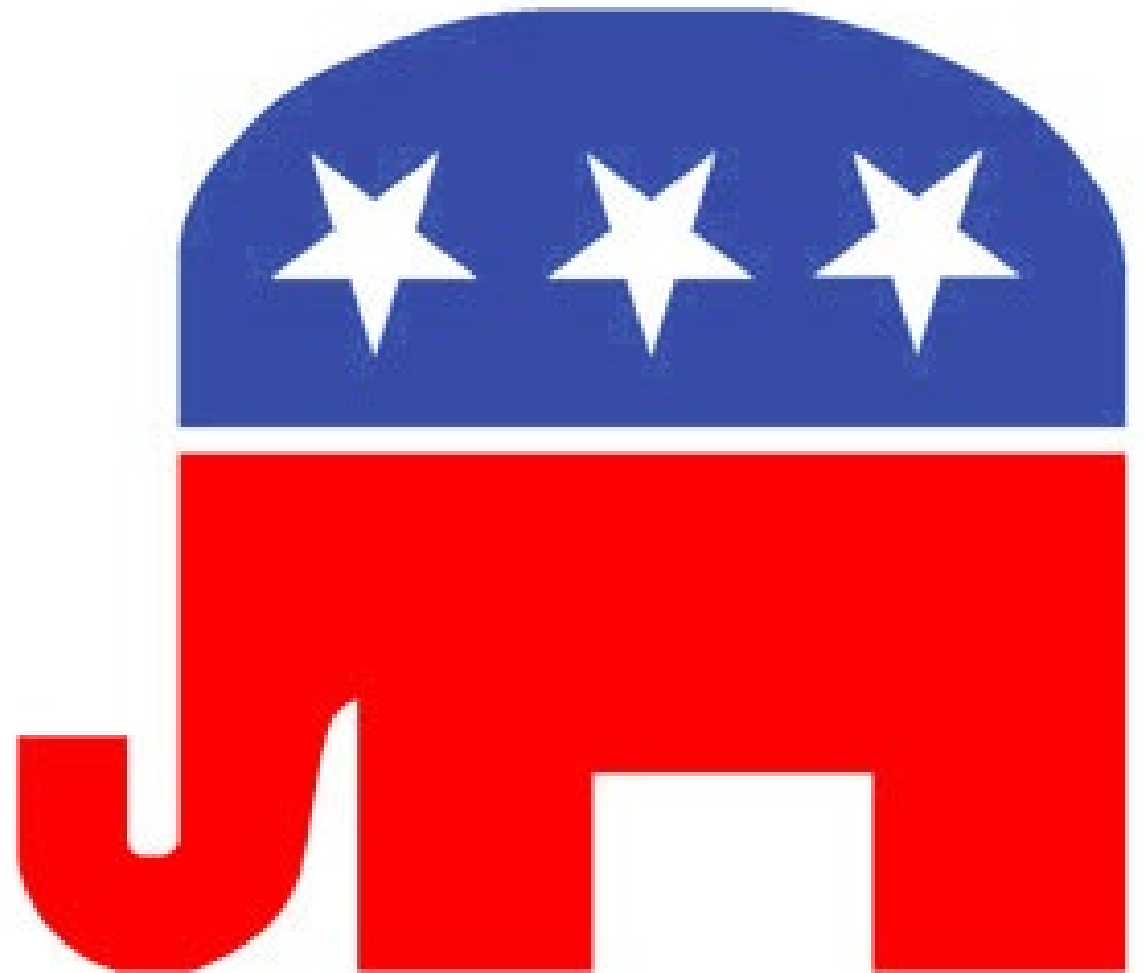
**“Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”**

How do you view government?











Social  
Security  
Benefits

Business  
Permitting /  
Regulation

Veterans  
Benefits

Obtaining an  
Emergency  
Passport

Navigating  
Complex  
Disability  
Applications

Human  
Service  
Benefits

Listening



# Government can make a positive difference.

From High Level Public Policy  
To

Very Detailed Issues / Specific Problems



Federal

State

Local

County / City / School Board

# Federal

# State

# Local

County / City / School Board



Where  
Things  
Happen!

County  
Government  
is the Front Door  
to Democracy





## Departments & Divisions

### ANIMAL CENTER

[Adopt a pet](#)  
[Lost & Found Pets](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

[Meeting Schedule](#)

### BOARD OF ELECTIONS

[Register to vote](#)  
[Change your address](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### BUDGET

[FY21 Adopted Budget](#)  
[WATCH Accountability Portal](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### CCBI

[Fingerprinting & Public Services](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

[News Releases](#)  
[Public Records Request](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

[Register for Emergency Notifications](#)  
[ReadyWake - Be prepared!](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

## Topics

### EMS

[Info to Know](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

[Food Safety & Facility Inspections](#)  
[Recycling & Waste Disposal](#)  
[Water Quality](#)  
[+ View more](#)

### FACILITIES DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

### FIRE SERVICES

### FINANCE

[How to do business with us](#)  
[Vendor Enrollment/Management](#)  
[RFPs & Bids](#)  
[Financial Reports](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### GIS

[iMaps](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### HOUSING AFFORDABILITY & COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

### HUMAN RESOURCES

[Apply for a job with Wake County](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### HUMAN SERVICES

[Service locations](#)  
[Apply for WIC](#)  
[Share your thoughts](#)  
[File a complaint](#)

[+ View more.](#)

## Government

## Stay Connected

### INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

[Forms](#)  
[Permitting & Plan Review](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### LIBRARIES

[Search the library catalog](#)  
[Upcoming events](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### PARKS & RECREATION

[Locations](#)  
[Upcoming events](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### PLANNING, LAND USE & ZONING

[Zoning & Subdivision](#)  
[Social Equity Atlas](#)  
[2020 Census](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### REGISTER OF DEEDS

[Apply for a Marriage License](#)  
[Search records](#)  
[+ View more.](#)

### TAX ADMINISTRATION

### SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### VETERANS & MILITARY SERVICES

[View all departments & divisions.](#)



State Mandated  
Vs.  
Discretionary Programs

\$

Limited Resources

Property Tax

Sales Tax

Fees

\$

Priority Setting

Mandated Services

Discretionary

Programs





**GOVERNMENT**



**EDUCATION**



**HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES**



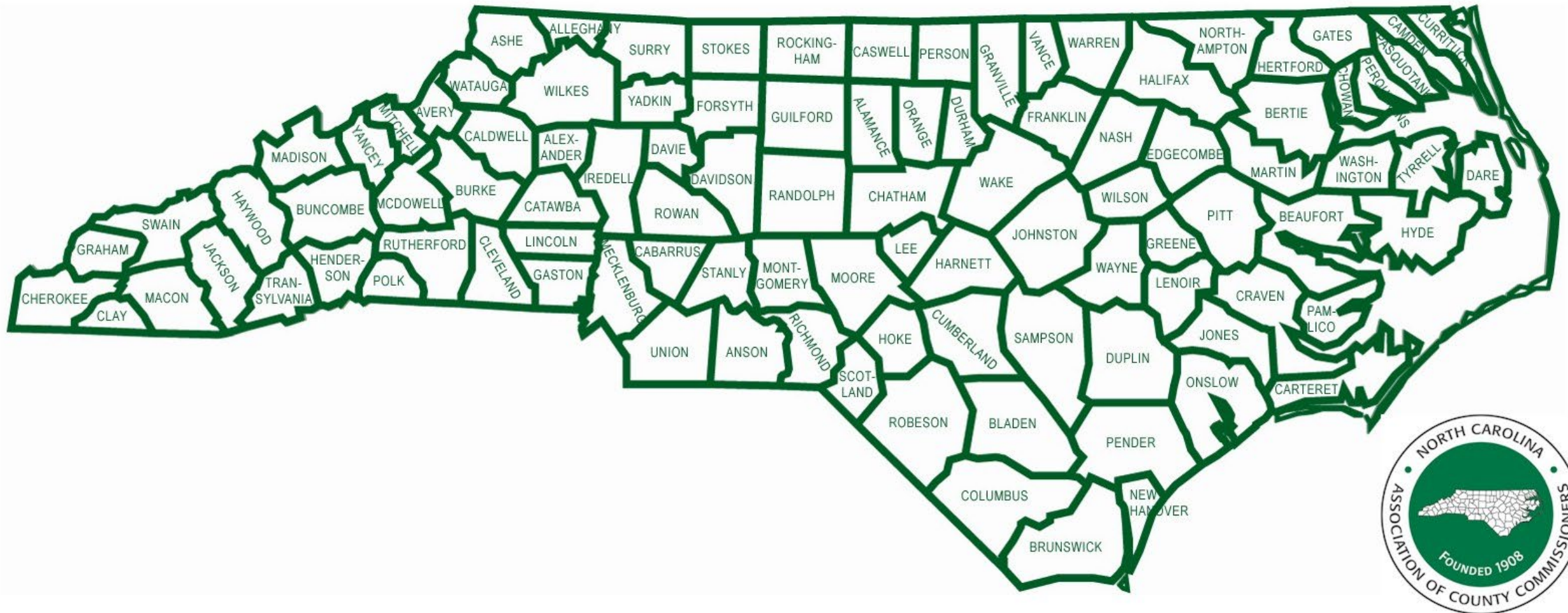
**ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**



**ENVIRONMENT**



# Who we are





# Who we are

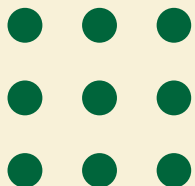


## Vision

Empowering 100 counties to work together for the betterment of one state.

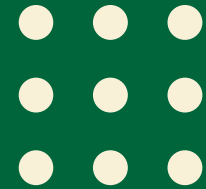
## Mission

Our Association supports and promotes the well-being of all North Carolina counties through advocacy, education, research and member services.

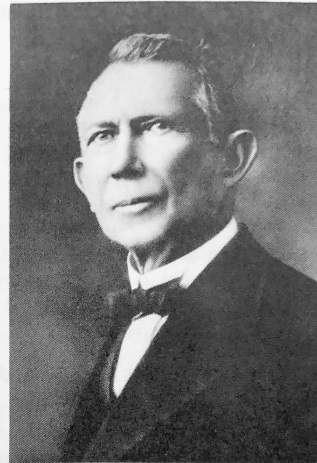




North Carolina Association  
of County Commissioners



# Who we are



C. E. FOY  
"Father" of the Association







North Carolina Association  
of County Commissioners

# NCACC Executive Committee



Tracey Johnson  
Washington  
President



Johnnie Carswell  
Burke  
President-Elect



Tare "T" Davis  
Warren  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



Wallace Nelson  
Perquimans  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



Frank Williams  
Brunswick  
Past President



Kevin Leonard  
NCACC  
Executive  
Director





*Current Initiative*  
**Connecting Counties**  
 (2022-2023) President Tracey Johnson



**100 Counties Prepared**  
 (2021-2022) Frank Williams



**Food System Resiliency**  
 (2020-2021) Ronnie Smith



**Pathways Initiative**  
 (2019-2020) Kevin Austin



**100 Counties: Helping Our Children Thrive**  
 (2017-2018) Brenda Howerton

# County Legislative Goals



## Top Five Priority Goals

### BROADBAND

- 1) Seek legislation, funding, and other efforts to expand digital infrastructure/broadband capability to the unserved and under-served areas and residents of the state.

### School Construction

- 2) Seek additional revenue sources, including a statewide bond and lottery proceeds, to equitably address statewide public school and community college capital challenges.

### Revenue Flexibility

- 3) Support efforts to preserve and expand the existing local revenue base of counties and authorize local option revenue sources already given to any other jurisdiction to all counties. Oppose efforts to divert to the state, fees or taxes currently allocated to the counties or to erode existing county revenue streams.

### Mental Health

- 4) Support provision of state resources to ensure county ability to provide essential public health, behavioral health and social services, with specific consideration to the challenges of incarcerated persons, the continued county role in behavioral health governance, and programs addressing substance use disorder, throughout Medicaid transformation.

### School Board Lawsuits

- 5) Seek legislation to repeal the statutory authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. 115C-431(c) that allows a local school board to file suit against a county board of commissioners over appropriations to the local board of education's capital outlay fund.

Why get involved?

How do I get involved?

## Advisory Boards

The [Board of Commissioners](#) relies on volunteers to meet a crucial need for Wake County. Our many volunteers serve as our eyes and ears in the community, and we value the advice they bring back to us.

[Apply Online](#)[Openings by Month](#)[Calendars](#)[View Contacts & Liaisons](#) 

### About applying for a board or commission:

- The Board of Commissioners makes appointments on the first Monday of each month.
- Apply online for an [open seat](#), and we'll notify you if you're appointed.
- All applications are public records.
- Applications remain active for one year. If you aren't appointed the first time, your application will automatically be resubmitted for any new openings until it expires.
- Members must attend at least 75% of meetings.
- The schedule for openings on boards and commissions may change. Check the [Openings by Month](#) page for the latest listings.

# A Challenge & An Offer

- When presented with a problem – think local first
- Contact the County Manager's Office / City Manager
- Call me, and I will work to connect you

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