



**NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNCIL FOR WOMEN BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
February 12, 2015**

DENR Headquarters  
217 W. Jones Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Raleigh, NC 27610

Commission Members	Commission Members	Others Present
Debbie West	Judge Robin Robinson	Gale McKoy Wilkins
Dena Barnes	Kirby Tyson	Mary Williams-Stover
Kristen Fields	Vickie Walker	Tara Minter
Brenda Formo	Kate Stahlman (DV Commission)	Jackie Jordan
Debbie Frail	Monica Awasthi	Daphne Pinto
Million Heir-Williams		Pat Vaughn
Jessica Locklear	<b>Guests</b>	
Laura Norman	Nichole Webb	
Valerie Procopio	Victoria Taylor	
Barbara B. Rawl	Nia Baskerville	

- I. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Mrs. Gale McKoy Wilkins, Executive Director, North Carolina Council for Women (NC CFW), called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m. She asked Board member Mrs. Million Heir-Williams to share with the Board about her new position. Mrs. Heir-Williams announced that she was nominated by the Onslow County Board of Commissioners at Jacksonville City Hall on Monday, January 5, 2015 and was sworn-in as the County Commissioner on January 9, 2015. Mrs. Heir-Williams noted that she is also currently serving at the Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce as Vice President & Minority Services Business Manager. Board members present and Mrs. Wilkins congratulated Mrs. Heir-Williams.

Chairwoman Debbie West thanked all Board members and staff for participating in the inaugural Legislative Day that took place this morning.

- II. **2015 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST:** Chairwoman West requested Board members to complete the forms (long or short versions) and submit changes to the Ethics Commission by April 15, 2015. She noted that it was imperative that Board members take the ethics course.

The statement of conflict of interest is as follows: *"The State Government Ethics Act mandates that at the beginning of any meeting the Chair remind all the members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire as to whether any member knows of any*



*conflict of interest or potential conflict with respect to matters to come before the board. If any member knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict, please state so at this time. "*

Chairwoman West welcomed everyone present. She requested everyone to introduce themselves. Chairwoman West acknowledged Ms. Nia Baskerville, an intern from NCCU, working with the CFW Board and DV Commission; Ms. Nichole Webb, an intern from William Peace University, working on the DV/SA/FVPSA success stories; and Ms. Victoria Taylor, an intern from William Peace University, working as a Social Media Coordinator at the CFW Raleigh office.

- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the NC Council for Women Board meeting held on October 9, 2014, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Board member Robin Robinson and seconded by Board member Dena Barnes. Motion carried.
- IV. **LUNCH (working lunch):** Lunch was served prior to the start of the meeting.
- V. **DEBRIEFING LEGISLATIVE DAY 2015:** Chairwoman West requested feedback from Board members regarding the launch of the first Legislative Day.

#### **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:**

- Board member Barnes informed everyone that emails were sent to all the offices in the Legislative building on Wednesday inviting legislators to stop by and meet members of the NC Council for Women. The latest NC CFW fact sheet was included in the email. There were technical difficulties with the server until late Wednesday evening. Hence, some legislators received the email late and others had prior meetings scheduled early the next morning (the day of the event).
- Signs needed to be placed in key locations (next to the steps and second floor hallway)
- To NC CFW members the NC CFW fact sheet was sent out along with suggested tips and facts to share with legislators.
- Board members requested that information be posted on social media. Mrs. Wilkins identified Ms. Victoria Taylor, intern assigned for social media coverage.
- Positive feedback from Board members regarding interaction with their legislators, productive use of time and meeting the legislators one-on-one was valuable.
- Grant funding details were requested by the Board members. A recommendation was made to email the revised CFW grant funding details. Ms. Jackie Jordan, Grants Administrator noted the following:

**Domestic Violence (DV) funding:** The DV appropriation is approximately \$4M. The funds are divided equally amongst all of the DV programs. Ms. Jordan noted that this was subject to change based on the 2% deduction that has been requested by the state for all agencies. DV grantees are eligible to receive an equal amount for marriage license fees and divorce filing fees. The fees are generated by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



**Sexual Assault (SA) funding:** The SA appropriation is approximately \$2M. No change in funding over the past 3-4 years. In 2006-2007 it was noted that there was a reduction in the SA appropriation. Ms. Jordan noted that the program started with 70 programs and had now increased to 98 programs. She indicated that 65% of the total appropriations of funds are for sexual assault programs only. These programs were called "stand alone". The remaining 35% of the total appropriations are divided among the domestic violence programs. Ms. Jordan noted that the stand alone programs received \$47,000, those programs that provided DV and SA will receive \$24,000. The funds are issued on a quarterly basis. She expressed that the first and second quarter funds were distributed to all of the grantees. The third quarter funds will be issued by the end of February 2015. She noted that if there is a reduction in funds it will affect the fourth quarter funding.

- Ms. Jordan made note that the NC CFW provides funding to 204 grant programs. She indicated that the NC CFW is working with a total of \$8 M this includes marriage license fees and divorce filing fees. Funds are not consistent due to the fluctuation of marriage and divorce filing fees.
- Requests were made by NC CFW Board members for the NC CFW budget to be sent to them.
- Board members requested a breakdown in funds according to counties and programs. It was recommended that Ms. Jordan would provide the updated information to the NC CFW Board.
- Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA): Mrs. Wilkins indicated that NC CFW has received federal funding of \$2.4M for FVPSA services. It was recommended that updated FVPSA grant information be provided to the NC CFW Board.
- Board members requested statistics on funding and programs to be shared with their respective legislators.
- Mrs. Wilkins noted that "Success Stories" in their respective counties would be emailed to the NC CFW Board.
- Information on E3 (Education, Employment, and Empowerment) was requested. It was noted that this matches with the mission statement and the core purpose of the division "*NC Council for Women is the state's leading voice on key issues impacting women*".
- Board members expressed that they would like to have in-depth knowledge on the topics and issues that the NC CFW is currently involved with. It was indicated that "the more informed they were, the more credible they would be to advocate on behalf of NC CFW".
- Questions on the NC CFW fact sheet for the 2015 Legislative day - Board members suggested information be compiled in a spreadsheet format, so they would be better prepared the next time they met with their respective legislators.
- One-on-one meetings were appreciated by the legislators. Follow-up to legislators was suggested.
- Mrs. Wilkins informed the Board that NC CFW staff would spend time in March 2015 with various Women's Commissions in NC (Women's Commission, Women's Resource Centers, etc.). She noted that the back of one of the handout indicated that NC CFW is a resource center for the different agencies that receive funding. Mrs. Wilkins noted that the Region Directors were tasked to provide the information.



- Contact information: It was suggested that a list of the NC CFW Board members and the DV Commission member list be provided in the information packet. Another suggestion was made to provide the NC CFW Board members with personalized business cards to be handed out to their legislators.
- It was suggested to update the green factsheet and the tri-fold CFW information sheet.

#### **COMMENTS FROM CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE WEST:**

- Requested Board members to do research in their county or surrounding county as to what agencies receive funding from the NC CFW and the DV Commission. She suggested that Board members invite their legislators to accompany them when they visit these agencies.
- It was noted that the success stories were posted on the NC CFW website "[www.councilforwomen.nc.gov](http://www.councilforwomen.nc.gov)". The icon indicates "success stories".
- Chairwoman West informed Board members to email the pictures taken during the 2015 Legislative Day to their legislators/representatives along with the success stories. She also suggested members post pictures and success stories on their Facebook/Social Media account.
- She thanked Board members Brenda Formo and Dena Barnes for drafting the letter and organizing the legislative day at the General Assembly.
- She requested the legislative sub-committee to draft bullet points on NC CFW and Domestic Violence Commission and develop a schedule for the next three months to identify what needs to be forwarded to their legislators.
- In conclusion, Chairwoman West made a recommendation to Board members to schedule site visits to their grantees and follow-up with their legislators.

**LAST ITEM ON THE AGENDA** (regarding the meeting with Secretary Daughtridge and Deputy Secretary Bill Bryan): Chairwoman West noted that Commissioner Charles Campbell, Chairman of the Domestic Violence Commission was sick and unable to attend the meeting. She indicated that she and Mrs. Wilkins were meeting with Secretary Daughtridge, Deputy Secretary Bryan and Mrs. Rhonda Todd, Legislative Liaison for the Department of Administration, this afternoon at 3 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to be proactive on behalf of the NC Council for Women to recommend that the division stay within the DOA/ Governor's office. Mrs. Wilkins expressed that the NC CFW division was scheduled to move from the DOA as recommended by Governor Pat McCrory.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairwomen West announced that Board member Marsha Prestage has resigned; she is recovering from an open heart surgery. Board member Lida Calvert-Hayes has undergone a surgery and was unable to attend the meeting. She added that Mrs. Calvert-Hayes will attend this weekend meeting in Salisbury, N.C.

VI. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mrs. Gale McKoy Wilkins, Executive Director for the Council for Women, presented the following division report:

**Human Trafficking Roundtable:** The event will be held in Greensboro, NC. U.S. Congressman Mark Walker will be present. The invitation-only event will commence at 10



a.m. until 12 p.m. Approximately 15 people have registered, each person on the panel will be given an opportunity to speak on their concerns and share their level of expertise concerning human trafficking. North Carolina is ranked in the top ten states most likely for human trafficking to occur. The results of the event will be presented to members of the Domestic Violence Commission on February 27th, during the quarterly Board meeting led by Commissioner Charles Campbell II, Chairman. NOTE: This meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Mrs. Wilkins noted Ms. Rene Elmer's bill on human trafficking for Homeland Security/Border Control dealing with issues related to public health.

Mrs. Wilkins announced that the "State of Things" event regarding issues related to human trafficking is scheduled for March 18, 2015 from 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the DENR HQ Building, ground floor training room. There will be a panel of forty people from N.C. to discuss case studies regarding human trafficking. Commissioner Christopher Swecker will be the keynote speaker for this event. Mrs. Wilkins requested Board members that are interested in attending this event to inform her due to limited space. Mrs. Wilkins noted that she will email the details of the event to the forty participants.

- **Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative:** The event is at the Livingston College in Salisbury, N.C. on February 13-14, 2015. Mrs. Wilkins is one of the keynote speakers along with Dr. Hope Williams, Executive Director of the N.C. Independent Colleges and University (NCICU) and Board member Mrs. Lida Calvert-Hayes. The event will focus on students learning about leadership, courage, developing entrepreneurship skills, and developing careers. Young women of diverse backgrounds from Davidson College, Duke University, Salem College and Saint Augustine's University will also have an opportunity to participate in similar programs this year as part of the new Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative. The WEE initiative is an inaugural partnership between the NC Council for Women and the NC Independent Colleges and Universities.

**Intern's working at NC CFW:** Mrs. Wilkins introduced Ms. Nia Baskerville, NCCU graduate. She noted that Ms. Baskerville will email a questionnaire to be completed by each Board and Commissioner member. The due date to submit the form is February 20, 2015. Her assignment is to study the NC CFW Board and DV Commission. Her email address is nbasker3@eagles@nccu.edu.

**2015 Women's Summit (Women in Business):** Mrs. Wilkins informed the Board that the sub-committee is looking at tentative dates for this event (late October or beginning November 2015). It will be an all day event from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

She discussed the following:

- The event will host 400-500 guests
- There will be several keynote speakers
- There will be breakout sessions: Topics will include financial literacy, retirement and health.



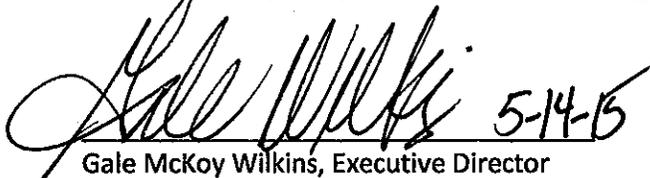
Mrs. Wilkins requested the NC Council for Women Board for approval to host this event. She expressed that the idea came from the 2011 NC Governor's Conference for Women that the NC Council for Women division hosted.

**Go Red Event:** The NC Council for Women will host the second annual event on February 18, 2015, for Heart Awareness during the month of February. The event will be held at the NC General Assembly Legislative Building in Raleigh. Heart disease is the number one killer of women. The NC CFW is proud to partner with a host of state agencies and non-profit organizations to build awareness of prevention strategies to help women avoid heart disease and stroke and maintain heart-healthy habits. NOTE: This event has been rescheduled to March 31, 2015, due to inclement weather.

- VII. **SUB COMMITTEES (BREAK OUT MEETINGS):** The NC Council for Women Board members and staff participated in the sub-committee discussions.
- 2015 Women's Summit (Women in Business)
  - Women & Girls Initiative
  - Legislative Committee

The sub-committee report from the Committee members and NC CFW administrative staff is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** With there being no further items to discuss, the meeting officially adjourned at 1:58 p.m. The next NC Council for Women Board meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2015, at the DENR HQ Building.

Handwritten signature of Gale McKoy Wilkins, dated 5-14-15.

Gale McKoy Wilkins, Executive Director  
Division of Council for Women, Raleigh, NC  
(Sign & Date)

Handwritten signature of Daphne Pinto, dated 5-14-15.

Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary  
(Sign & Date)

**NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN BOARD MEETING  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA  
&  
LEGISLATIVE DAY**

**AGENDA**

Thursday, February 12, 2015

**8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

DENR Headquarters, 217 W. Jones Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Raleigh, NC 27610

I	<p>Meet at the Legislative Building in the 1300 courtyard area (8 am to Noon) and conference room 2023 (8 to 11 am) to pick up packets for Legislative Day to advocate for NC CFW.</p> <p>Address: NC General Assembly, 16 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601</p> <p>There is a visitor (\$) parking lot across the street from the General Assembly building on Jones Street.</p> <p>for info on parking and directions: <a href="http://www.ethicscommission.nc.gov/library/pdfs/SEI/2015%20No%20Change.pdf">http://www.ethicscommission.nc.gov/library/pdfs/SEI/2015%20No%20Change.pdf</a></p> <p>map: <a href="http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/graphics/downtownmap.pdf">http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/graphics/downtownmap.pdf</a></p> <p>Scheduled meetings as of 2-9-15              8 am Senator Michael Lee (New Hanover 9) Robin Robinson              9 am Representative Dan Bishop (Mecklenberg 104) Debbie Frail              9:30 am Senator Don Davis (Greene, Lenoir, Pitt, Wayne 5) Barbara Rawl              10 am Senator Bob Rucho (Mecklenburg 39) Debbie Frail &amp; Vickie Walker              10 am Representative Ron Raven Valerie Procopio              10:30 am Senator Tamara Barringer (Wake 17) Valerie Procopio              11:30 am Representative Jean Farmer-Butterfield (Pitt, Wilson 24) Barbara Rawl</p> <p>Noon General Assembly convenes</p> <p>If you were not able to schedule an appointment with your Representative or Senator we will need you to "woman" the courtyard and conference room for folks that may stop by for info.</p> <p>Kathy Hartsell, Sen. Trudy Wade's assistant will send out a notification about the date and location of our Legislative Day for the Council for Women and Domestic Violence Commission. It is best to invite your representative/senator personally if possible and if they can't make it introduce yourself (if you don't know them personally) as a resource for them to use.</p>	8:00 am – 12:00 p.m.
II	<p><del>Call to order of NC CFW at DENR Headquarters 5<sup>th</sup> floor</del></p>	<del>12:30 pm</del>

	<p>The State Government Ethics Act mandates that at the beginning of any meeting the Chair remind all the members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire as to whether any member knows of any conflict of interest or potential conflict with respect to matters to come before the board. If any member knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict, please state so at this time.</p> <p>2015 Statement of Economic Interest <b>due</b> by April 15, 2015  <a href="http://www.ethicscommission.nc.gov">www.ethicscommission.nc.gov</a></p>	
III	Approval of Minutes from the NC CFW Meeting for August 14, 2014	12:35 – 12:40 p.m.
IV	Lunch (working lunch	12:40 – 12:55 p.m.
V	Debriefing Legislative Day 2015	12:55 – 1:25 pm
VI	<p>Executive Director's Report/ Update – Gale McKoy Wilkins, N.C. Council for Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Go Red Event</li> <li>- AFI/HT meeting March 18, 2015</li> </ul>	1:25 – 1:30 p.m.
VII	<p>Sub-Committee breakout meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2015 Women's Summit (Women in Business)</li> <li>- Women &amp; Girls Initiative</li> <li>- Legislative Committee</li> </ul>	1:30 – 2:00 p.m.
IX	Adjournment	2:00 p.m.

***Next CFW Board Meeting: May 14, 2015***

X	Gale, Debbie and Charles meeting with Secretary Daughtridge, Deputy Secretary Bryan, Rhonda Todd	3:00 p.m.
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