



WHEREAS, Donna S. Buff began her employment with Gaston County in 2008 with the Gaston County Economic Development Commission. In March of 2012, she was appointed to the position of the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Clerk, Donna has worked to further the Commissions' overall goal of promoting citizen participation and transparency through the implementation of an online agenda environment, paperless initiatives, and video live-streaming of Commission meetings; and,

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2021, Donna completed her term as President of the North Carolina Association of County Clerks. She was elected to the Board of Directors in 2015, serving as a Director for three years and advancing to the Executive Board, holding the offices of Secretary and Vice-President before being elected in 2020 as President; and,

WHEREAS, during this time period, Donna also obtained her designation as a North Carolina Certified County Clerk in 2016, and completed the UNC School of Government Municipal and County Administration Course in 2018; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of County Clerks is dedicated to improving the professional competency of clerks, offering networking opportunities, education and training, and a nationally recognized certification program; and,

WHEREAS, as COVID-19 ushered in a "new normal" in 2020, it also hampered the ability for the Association to come together in person; however the Board of Directors were able to put together excellent educational programming for its members while ensuring the business of the Association continued without interruption; and,

WHEREAS, the Board also experienced some extraordinary circumstances that required an overhaul of many of their practices involving banking, online registrations, website hosting and virtual meeting and conference hosting; and,

WHEREAS, under her leadership, the Executive Committee held twelve (12) meetings and made strides in several new initiatives including a major revamp of the Association's bylaws, the creation of a Communications Committee, and the digitizing and archival of Association records through a cloud-based share file platform.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proudly commends

*Donna S. Buff*

upon the completion of her term as President of the North Carolina Association of County Clerks and further expresses its gratitude for her dedicated leadership during her service to this County, to the North Carolina Clerk's Association and to Clerks throughout the State.

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Tom Keigher, Chairman

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Chad Brown

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Kim Johnson

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Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chairman

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Tracy L. Philbeck

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Bob Hovis

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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 25<sup>th</sup> Day of May 2021