



## CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jim Crawford, Chairman  
Mike Cross, Vice Chairman  
Diana Hales  
Karen Howard  
Walter Petty

## COUNTY MANAGER

Renee Paschal

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## Chatham County Board of Commissioners

### **A RESOLUTION HONORING CHATHAM TRADES, INC. FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, from its beginning on November 3, 1980, when a group of concerned citizens established Chatham Trades on East Raleigh Street in Siler City, it has been a success; and

WHEREAS, Chatham Trades is the first organization in Chatham County to provide real work and training opportunities for persons with disabilities, becoming the county's first sheltered workshop; and,

WHEREAS, Chatham Trades' mission is to maximize the vocational potential of persons with disabilities within the community, thereby increasing their level of independence; and,

WHEREAS, on November 3, 1985 Chatham Trades broke ground on a new facility on Alston Bridge Road in Siler City and with the help of the community, constructed and moved into the new facility in 1986; and

WHEREAS, the new facility allowed Chatham Trades to diversify its operations and provide additional and continued employment opportunities for local people with disabilities and become the first agency in Chatham County to earn a three-year Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitative Facilities (CARF) certificate for its quality rehabilitation programs; and,

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, Chatham Trades pioneered a Supported Competitive Employment Program, employing a Job Coach to assist persons with disabilities in finding and maintaining employment outside of Chatham Trades, and established a transportation program to overcome a barrier for people to come to work; and,

WHEREAS, during the early years, Chatham Trades employees worked with its Board of Directors to develop its core strengths of contract packaging, a flexible workforce, and problem-solving emboldened by a pioneering spirit; and,

WHEREAS, in 2013, Chatham Trades achieved Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) status, demonstrating a commitment to workplace safety and health management and became the only employer in Chatham County to attain and maintain this status.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, North Carolina, that said Board, on behalf of our community, does hereby congratulate Executive Director Shawn Poe, the employees and Board of Directors of Chatham Trades for reaching this important milestone of providing thirty-five years of outstanding service for our community; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board applauds Chatham Trades for upholding the values of Accountability, Empowerment, Innovation, and Respect for all members of our community.

Adopted this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2015.

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James Crawford, Chairman  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Lindsay K. Ray, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners