



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Wake voters call for redo on chair election

Raleigh, N.C. – 62% of Wake County voters think that the County Commissioners should have another vote for chair of the board at a time when all members can be present, after the Republican minority elected one of its own last week while one Democrat was sick and another was in the bathroom.

82% of Democrats, 56% of independents, and even 34% of Republicans support having a second election.

66% of voters in the county say they disapprove of the manner in which Tony Gurley was elected as chair to just 24% who think it was appropriate. That includes 40% of Republicans, 62% of independents, and 83% of Democrats.

The board election episode could have negative consequences at the ballot box next year for the three Republicans standing for reelection. 56% of voters say the way it was handled makes them less likely to vote for GOP commissioner candidates, compared to only 22% who said it made them more likely to do so.

Overall 45% of voters in the county say they plan to vote Democratic in the commissioner races next year to 36% who express an intention to vote Republican. Independents give Democrats a 35-26 advantage.

“Wake County’s been trending more and more in a Democratic direction,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “That alone might make it hard for Republican commissioners to win reelection, but the way they’ve handled the chair election has turned off independents and made it an even tougher proposition.”

PPP surveyed 628 Wake County voters from December 12th to 13th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.9%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Generally speaking next year do you think you will vote Democratic or Republican for Wake County Commissioners? If Democratic, press 1. If Republican, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Democratic..... 45%
Republican..... 36%
Not Sure..... 19%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the recent actions of the Republican Wake County Commissioners? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 26%
Disapprove..... 46%
Not Sure..... 29%

Q3 A majority of Wake County Commissioners are Democrats. Earlier this week the Republicans elected one of their members as chair of the board while one Democratic Commissioner was sick and another was in the bathroom. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Republican County Commissioners elected one of their members as board chair? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 24%
Disapprove..... 66%
Not Sure..... 11%

Q4 Does the way the Republican County Commissioners handled the election of a new board chair make you more or less likely to vote for them next year? If more likely, press 1. If less likely, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Likely 22%
Less Likely..... 56%
No Difference..... 22%

Q5 Do you think the Wake County Commissioners should have a new election for board chair at a time when all members can be present? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 62%
No..... 29%
Not Sure..... 9%

Q6 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 38%
Obama..... 54%
Someone Else/Don't Remember..... 8%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 18%
Moderate..... 49%
Conservative..... 33%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 54%
Man..... 46%

Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 48%
Republican..... 30%
Independent/Other..... 22%





Q10 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 76%
African-American 19%
Other..... 5%

Q11 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 9%
30 to 45..... 31%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 16%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
County Commissioner Generic Ballot				
Democratic	45%	9%	75%	18%
Republican	36%	76%	7%	39%
Not Sure	19%	14%	18%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
GOP Commissioners Approval				
Approve	26%	49%	8%	34%
Disapprove	46%	19%	68%	20%
Not Sure	29%	32%	24%	45%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Chair Vote Approval				
Approve	24%	46%	8%	28%
Disapprove	66%	39%	86%	49%
Not Sure	11%	15%	6%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Chair Vote Impact				
More Likely	22%	41%	8%	26%
Less Likely	56%	22%	81%	40%
No Difference	22%	36%	11%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
New Election for Chair				
Yes	62%	35%	82%	50%
No	29%	50%	13%	41%
Not Sure	9%	15%	5%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
County Commissioner Generic Ballot				
Democratic	45%	82%	53%	14%
Republican	36%	8%	23%	70%
Not Sure	19%	10%	24%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GOP Commissioners Approval				
Approve	26%	6%	17%	49%
Disapprove	46%	70%	55%	19%
Not Sure	29%	24%	28%	32%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Chair Vote Approval				
Approve	24%	3%	18%	44%
Disapprove	66%	90%	74%	40%
Not Sure	11%	7%	9%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Chair Vote Impact				
More Likely	22%	5%	16%	39%
Less Likely	56%	85%	62%	30%
No Difference	22%	10%	21%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
New Election for Chair				
Yes	62%	88%	69%	37%
No	29%	8%	23%	50%
Not Sure	9%	4%	8%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
County Commissioner Generic Ballot			
Democratic	45%	53%	36%
Republican	36%	30%	43%
Not Sure	19%	17%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GOP Commissioners Approval			
Approve	26%	17%	36%
Disapprove	46%	49%	41%
Not Sure	29%	34%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Chair Vote Approval			
Approve	24%	18%	31%
Disapprove	66%	73%	57%
Not Sure	11%	10%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Chair Vote Impact			
More Likely	22%	16%	29%
Less Likely	56%	63%	47%
No Difference	22%	21%	24%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
New Election for Chair			
Yes	62%	72%	50%
No	29%	20%	41%
Not Sure	9%	8%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
County Commissioner Generic Ballot				
Democratic	45%	76%	3%	35%
Republican	36%	11%	83%	26%
Not Sure	19%	13%	13%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GOP Commissioners Approval				
Approve	26%	10%	52%	24%
Disapprove	46%	65%	17%	42%
Not Sure	29%	25%	31%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Chair Vote Approval				
Approve	24%	10%	44%	25%
Disapprove	66%	83%	40%	62%
Not Sure	11%	7%	15%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Chair Vote Impact				
More Likely	22%	13%	39%	19%
Less Likely	56%	77%	19%	59%
No Difference	22%	10%	42%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
New Election for Chair				
Yes	62%	82%	34%	56%
No	29%	13%	54%	31%
Not Sure	9%	4%	13%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
County Commissioner Generic Ballot				
Democratic	45%	40%	72%	26%
Republican	36%	43%	12%	25%
Not Sure	19%	18%	16%	49%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
GOP Commissioners Approval				
Approve	26%	29%	12%	21%
Disapprove	46%	41%	63%	49%
Not Sure	29%	30%	25%	30%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Chair Vote Approval				
Approve	24%	25%	18%	21%
Disapprove	66%	64%	74%	65%
Not Sure	11%	11%	8%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Chair Vote Impact				
More Likely	22%	24%	15%	21%
Less Likely	56%	51%	75%	47%
No Difference	22%	25%	10%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
New Election for Chair				
Yes	62%	58%	74%	66%
No	29%	32%	19%	29%
Not Sure	9%	10%	7%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
County Commissioner Generic Ballot					
Democratic	45%	61%	45%	45%	39%
Republican	36%	28%	35%	35%	44%
Not Sure	19%	11%	20%	20%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GOP Commissioners Approval					
Approve	26%	39%	24%	22%	31%
Disapprove	46%	22%	49%	50%	40%
Not Sure	29%	39%	27%	28%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Chair Vote Approval					
Approve	24%	44%	21%	19%	31%
Disapprove	66%	39%	69%	72%	58%
Not Sure	11%	17%	11%	9%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Chair Vote Impact					
More Likely	22%	33%	19%	17%	36%
Less Likely	56%	44%	57%	61%	45%
No Difference	22%	22%	24%	23%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
New Election for Chair					
Yes	62%	61%	57%	66%	59%
No	29%	39%	33%	24%	30%
Not Sure	9%	-	10%	10%	11%

