

County Forms of Government: Changes at the Local Level

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Changes to County Form of Gov't: Procedures

- BOC initiates permitted structural change by adopting conforming resolution (G.S. 153A-60).
 - Resolution must be published in full.
- Plan must be submitted to voters for their approval (G.S. 153A-61).
- Referendum must occur at primary or general election in even-numbered year (G.S. 163-287).



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Changes to County Form of Gov't: Options (G.S. 153A-58)

Number of Commissioners

- Any number, but at least 3

Terms of Office

- 2-year terms
- 4-year terms
- Combination of 2-year and 4-year terms, provided
 - Odd number of members
 - Members not nominated/elected by districts
 - Chair is selected by/from BOC members

Mode of Election to BOC

OPTIONS	Seats By District	At-Large Seats
1	N/A	All county voters nominate/elect members
2	Voters nominate/elect members by district	If any at-large seats, all county voters nominate/elect members to those seats
3	Voters nominate candidates by district, but members elected by all county voters	If any at-large seats, all county voters nominate/elect members to those seats
4	All county voters nominate/elect members	N/A

Selection of BOC Chair

- Chair is selected by BOC from among its members for 1-year term.
- Chairmanship = separate office.
 - All county voters nominate/elect chair
 - Chair serves a 2-year or 4-year term

Clerk's Responsibilities

- If county is divided into electoral districts for BOC elections, map showing districts' current boundaries or written description of boundaries must be available for public inspection **in the clerk's office** (G.S. 153A-20).
- BOC resolution proposing change must be published in full (153A-60).
- Copy of BOC resolution must be filed and indexed in the ordinance book (153A-63).
- If voters approve proposed change, certified copy of BOC resolution and copy of election abstract must be filed with (1) Secretary of State and (2) Legislative Library (153A-64).

County Manager Plan **(G.S. 153A-81)**

- BOC may by resolution adopt or discontinue county manager plan.
- BOC that adopts CMP may:
 - Appoint manager to serve at its pleasure;
 - Confer manager's duties on BOC Chair or other BOC member; OR
 - Confer manager's duties on any other county officer, employee, or agent.