

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Wednesday, October 18, 2023
3:00 P.M. Closed Session – Emergency Called Meeting

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and time at the Columbus County Commissioners Chamber, 127 West Webster Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose of conducting an Emergency Called Meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ricky Bullard, **Chairman**
 Lavern Coleman, **Vice Chairman**
 Giles E. Byrd
 Scott Floyd
 Barbara Featherson
 Brent Watts

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Eddie Madden, Jr., **County Manager**
 Amanda B. Prince, **Attorney**
 Gail Edwards, **Assistant County Manager**
 Jana Nealey, **Clerk to the Board**

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Chris Smith

Agenda Item #1: EMERGENCY CALLED MEETING CALLED to ORDER:

At 3:00 P.M. Chairman Ricky Bullard called the emergency called meeting to order.

Agenda Item #2: INTERNATIONAL PAPER:

Economic Development Director Gary Lanier discussed the recent developments with International Paper. A decision from the corporate office to shut down one of the machines in the Riegelwood location which would result in the layoff of 200 positions. In response, County Administration contacted Dr. English at Southeastern and came up with a plan to help the citizens that are laid-off by proposing a Job Fair and offering resources for job applications and training.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Coleman made a motion to recess regular session and enter into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #3: CLOSED SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(A)(3) ATTORNEY –CLIENT PRIVILEGE and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (6) PERSONNEL.

RECESS CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE and resume EMERGENCY CALLED SESSION

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Coleman made a motion to recess closed session and enter into emergency called session, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Attorney Amanda Prince gave the General Account as follows:

The board discussed possible future litigation.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the General Account, seconded by Vice Chairman Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #4: EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT:

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Laverne Coleman made a motion to \give notice of cancelation of the contract to the Nakina Fire Department; seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #5: **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION:

At 3:54 P.M., Commissioner Watts made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Floyd The motion unanimously passed.

JANA NEALEY, Clerk to the Board

RICKY BULLARD, Chairman