

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

September 29, 2006

3:00 P.M.

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex Building located at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, for the purpose of holding a Special Called which was duly called by the Chairman and advertised.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Kipling Godwin, **Chairman**
David L. Dutton, Jr., **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie
James E. Prevatte
Sammie Jacobs
Bill Memory
Lynwood Norris

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Jimmy Varner, **County Manager**
Steven W. Fowler, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**

APPOINTEES ABSENT:

Leo Hunt, **Interim Finance Officer**

MEETING CALLED to ORDER:

At 3:00 P.M., Chairman Godwin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION:

Chairman Kipling Godwin delivered the invocation. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PURPOSE of MEETING:

Chairman Godwin made the following statements.

We are here today for a Special Called Meeting to take corrective action regarding the recently adopted revision of the Columbus County Personnel Policy Manual. This meeting is not a regular meeting and this is not a public hearing. It is a Special Called Meeting. As a result, there will be no public comment time today. I will assure you that the citizens of Columbus County have made their opinions known on this matter. Through telephone calls, e-mails, personal conversations and letters to the editor, we have heard from the public. Individuals wishing to make public comments on any topic may request to do so at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Board by following the Pubic Comment Procedures posted in the lobby of this meeting room.

Our purpose for the Special Called Meeting is to take corrective action in response to that input from the public. The Personnel Committee had review oversight for the revised policy manual, and I would like to call on Commissioner Amon McKenzie, a member of the Personnel Committee, for a recommendation or motion.

MOTION:

Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to revise the Columbus County Personnel Policy Manual as follows:

Policy #255, Retirement Benefits, Policy and Procedure: 2. Retirement Procedures, 2.6

Delete:

~~Commissioners who are elected and serve one full term will be allowed to remain on the group plan and will pay 50% of the total cost for individual coverage.~~

Replace with:

Elected County officials who serve at least one full term may continue their participation in the group health insurance plan until age 65 or Medicare eligible. The entire premium, must be paid by the individual at no cost to Columbus County”.

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Delete:

~~2.6.1 Commissioners who serve two (2) full terms will be allowed to remain on group plan and pay 25% of the total cost for individual coverage.~~

~~2.6.2 Commissioners who serve three (3) or more full terms will be allowed to remain on the County's group plan following their service until age sixty-five (65) at no cost. A Medicare Supplement shall be available after age sixty-five. Commissioners serving on the board on and after July 1, 2006 are covered by this policy.~~

This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 3:09, Vice Chairman Dutton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to the Board

KIPLING GODWIN, Chairman