

THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened for a Recessed meeting on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center, Wadesboro, NC.

Commissioners present: JD Bricken, Chairman
Robert Mims, Vice-Chair
Jarvis Woodburn
Priscilla Little
Jamie Caudle
Lawrence Gatewood

Staff members present: Leonard Sossamon, County Manager
Denise Cannon, Clerk to the Board

Also present: Scott Forbes, County Attorney

(Chairman Bricken read the State Government Ethics Act, G.S. 138-A statement.)

Budget Amendments

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year (FY) 22/23 year-end budget amendments, seconded by Vice-Chair Mims. Motion carried unanimously.

FY 2023/2024 Budget Ordinance and Fee Schedule

County Manager Sossamon provided a brief outline of the proposed FY 2023/2024 budget, including changes requested by the Board. Board members discussed fee schedules, which included raising the hazmat fees paid during spills and other incidents. Commissioner Caudle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gatewood, to increase the fines for hazmat incidents to include doubling the hazmat fees for each incident or offense charged to an individual

or company upon a hazardous spill or event and doubling each time thereafter for each subsequent event. This would be payable to the county, in addition to any other fees assessed by the state. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to approve the FY 2023/2024 Budget Ordinance and Fee Schedule with the exception of removing certifications from the budget. Seconded by Commissioner Woodburn, motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session:

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Mims to go into closed session to Consult with the Attorney: North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(3) to consider and give instructions concerning a potential or actual claim, administrative procedure, or judicial action. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Mims made a motion to come out of closed session, seconded by Commissioner Gatewood, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Bricken pointed out that there are some visual difficulties, but noted the audio is working.

In open session, Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to resolve the Paylocity issue by directing the County Manager, Mr. Sossamon, and HR Manager, Mrs. Ingram, to forgive excess vacation time taken for all affected employees and reset their hours to "zero". Adjust all employees that have not exceeded proper vacation time to their correct amount. Those set to zero will start earning hours right away. This is effective immediately; the two retirees will not be included in the motion. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. Commissioner Caudle clarified that the resetting to zero and forgiving the hours is temporary until further information is provided by the County Attorney at the July 10th Board meeting. Chairman Bricken stated that he thinks that anyone that used the vacation leave should be charged with the

leave. Motion carried 5-1; Commissioners Woodburn, Little-Reid, Caudle, Mims, and Gatewood voted yes; Commissioner Bricken voted no.

Commissioner Little-Reid stated that she sincerely cares about the Sheriff's Office and the work they do, but she does not agree with the Sheriff's Office receiving a 12.5% raise. Ms. Little-Reid stated directly that she cannot support Sheriff's employees getting such a substantial raise while other county employees only receive 2.5%. Commissioner Little-Reid stated that she voted for the Sheriff's Office reorganization and agreed that they are under-staffed but added that all departments are under-staffed. Commissioner Little-Reid stated that when she voted for the reorganization, 12.5% was not in her information and suspected other commissioners of getting together and changing it on their own. Commissioner Little-Reid reiterated her disapproval to the Sheriff's Office's 12.5% raise, emphasizing that she feels it should have been an equal increase for all county employees.

Commissioner Woodburn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gatewood, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise Cannon
Clerk to the Board