

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Tuesday, February 5, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. Those present were Chairman H. Wade Johnson; Commissioner Darrell Henderson, District One; Commissioner Larry Collins, District Two; Commissioner Cooper Cliatt, District Three; Commissioner Rob Robinson, District Four; Mr. Barry Fleming, County Attorney; and Mrs. Roxanne B. Ashmore, County Clerk.

1.

Called Meeting to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order.

2.

Invocation

Commissioner Robinson opened the meeting with prayer.

3.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed the invocation.

4.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with addition of Rev. Denise Freeman.

In her remarks, Rev. Freeman said that she was here to support Ernie Doss and the other employees who are being cut by salary adjustments. She asked that the board look at other budget cuts other than cutting salaries of those employees who are already struggling to make ends meet. She asked that the board support the employees, not cut their salaries.

5.

Personnel

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 7:22 p.m.

Mr. Barry Fleming, County Attorney, verified that there were no votes or action taken while in executive session.

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to authorize Chairman Johnson to sign the executive session affidavit.

Chairman Johnson said that before this commission took office, there was a policy in place for no hiring of relatives or nepotism. He said that after reviewing the policy he found where the board could accept this under these circumstances, and that the county attorney also agrees.

In this case, Mr. Ernie Doss, Public Safety Director, has a son who is also employed by the Public Safety Department. The matter was brought to Chairman Johnson's attention.

At the recommendation of the board, Chairman Johnson said that he called Mr. Doss and advised him that they had given him two weeks to come to some decision on how to handle this matter. At Director Doss' recommendation, Chairman Johnson said that Director Doss was suspended. Chairman Johnson added that it was with pay.

Chairman Johnson said that while in executive session the board all agreed to take Director Doss off of suspension to resume his duties tomorrow if he would like to.

In Commissioner Collins' remarks, he said that he supports Ernie Doss in the job that he does one hundred percent. He said that he has no doubts or qualms about his knowledge of his job, his job performance, nor his integrity.

Commissioner Collins closed his comments by saying that it is just simply beyond him why anybody would look at system that is working like our EMS department is and tinker with it.

6.

Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

H. Wade Johnson, Chairman

Roxanne B. Ashmore, County Clerk