

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING HELD BY THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN THE ARMORY CIVIC CENTER MEETING ROOM ON MONDAY – FEBRUARY 29, 2016 AT 6:00 PM.**

The Special Meeting was called to order by Chairman Barry Richardson. Other Commissioners present: Bertadean Baker, Tare Davis, Victor Hunt and Jennifer Jordan. Others in attendance: County Manager Linda T. Worth.

A moment of silence was followed by the Clerk to the Board reading the “Conflict of Interest Disclaimer.”

*“Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of such conflict; and, further, are instructed to refrain from participating in any matter coming before this Board of County Commissioners with respect to which there is a conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict”.*

*In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict.*

*Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before this Board today?*

***If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any undue participation in the particular matter involved.***

The Clerk to the Board read the Notice of Special Meeting.

**NOTICE  
of  
Special Meeting  
Warren County Board of Commissioners**

Notice is hereby given that the Warren County Board of Commissioners will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Warren County Armory Civic Center meeting room, 501 US Hwy 158 Business, East Warrenton, NC 27589.

The purpose of this Special Meeting is to consider selecting an Interim Warren County Attorney and approving a contract for legal services.

All interested persons are invited to attend this meeting.

Barry Richardson, Chairman  
Warren County Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners reviewed proposals from the following Attorney/Law Firms for consideration of appointment as Interim Warren County Attorney:

- \* Turrentine Law firm, PLLC
- \* Attorney Jamie Wilkerson
- \* Attorney Cindy Bostic & Law Offices of Hopper, Hicks & Wrenn, PLLC.

On motion of Commissioner Jordan, which was seconded by Commissioner Baker and duly carried, it was ordered to contract with Turrentine Law Firm, PLLC for Interim Warren County Attorney.

Extensive discussion followed:

Commissioner Hunt expressed concerns that: Turrentine in the capacity of Warren County Attorney had already offered her resignation; proposed Contract for Interim County Attorney was turned in late; terms of contract included paying for attendance to conferences which is considered personal development; rates proposed are different from original rates, would current work for the county be paid at the higher rate?

Commissioner Davis was under the impression that during this Special Meeting an extension of the contract rather than a new contract was to be considered. If considering a new contract for Turrentine Law Firm, it should be included with others received from interested Law Firms/Attorneys. (Commissioner Davis made a comparison of fee/invoice increases between former Attorney and current attorney.) He also suggested a local attorney be considered for the position.

Commissioner Jordan stated she agreed with Com. Davis that a local attorney be considered but reminded the Board that they were seeking an Interim Attorney. All applicants will be considered when hiring a full time/permanent attorney.

Commissioner Hunt wanted all “to be aware of \$60 an hour difference in old and new contract from Turrentine Law Firm, LLC. His final concern was for the 60 day notice requirement and questioned if it was necessary since Turrentine had officially resigned as County Attorney?”

Commissioner Baker stated that the public needed full information regarding potential County Attorney and advised Attorney Wilkinson had also included a \$225/hour charge in her proposal along with the \$4,000 retainer.

Chairman Richardson informed the public that all proposals for Interim Warren County Attorney were available for review.

Motion was amended by Commissioner Jordan, which was seconded by Commissioner Baker and duly carried, to exclude coverage for Interim County Attorney Turrentine Law Firm, LLC’s personal development and to limit the agreement to 90 days with no 60-day notice required to terminate the Agreement.

Votes were as follows:   Ayes:       Jordan, Baker & Richardson  
                                  Nays:       Hunt & Davis

Motion carried, Turrentine Law Firm, PLLC was selected as Interim Warren County Attorney, excluding coverage for personal development from contract and limiting the Agreement to 90 days with no 60-day notice requirement to terminate the Agreement. Chairman Richardson and/or County Manager Worth were authorized to sign contract.

On motion of Commissioner Jordan, which was seconded by Commissioner Baker and duly carried by unanimous vote, February 29, 2016 Special Meeting was adjourned.



Angelena Kearney-Dunlap, Clerk