

**Minutes of Called Meeting  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
Friday, January 20, 2023**

Vice-Chairman Chris Alexander called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioner David Hunt, Commissioner Casey Freeman, Commissioner Mike Scoggins, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Phil Pitts, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, CFO Macie Witcher, County Clerk Tamara Butler, media. Chairman Lee Vaughn was absent.

After the Pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Commissioner Jones.

**Adoption of the Agenda.** Commissioner Freeman made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

**Discussion and approval to request Local Legislation from State Representative Rob Leverette amending the way vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled.** Mr. Daughtry stated current local legislation provides that if there is a vacancy in the position of Chairman, and more than 6 months left in the term, we hold a special election. If there is a vacancy in any other commission district, the remaining commissioners pick the successor. Mr. Daughtry suggested to be in line with what other counties are doing, if there is a vacancy and more than 6 months left in the term, to call for a special election. He went on to say, some commissioners stated they had received criticism for choosing a replacement and not giving voters a change to weigh in. He also said that holding a special election for one (1) district would cost around \$7,000. Vice-Chairman Alexander asked for a motion to request local legislation from State Rep. Rob Leverette amending the way vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled. Commissioner Scoggins made the motion. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

**Public Comments.** Mr. Daughtry stated we will be receiving payments from the Opioid Litigation over a period of five (5) years for between \$15,000 to \$20,000 the first two (2) years and around \$8,000 to \$9,000 for the remaining three (3) years. Mr. Chuck Almond, EMS Director, is coming up with recommendations on how to use the funds.

Commissioner Scoggins asked why there had to be a called meeting before February. Mr. Daughtry stated time was of the essence in getting everything prepared for Mr. Leverette to run ads then to present before the House and Senate.

Also, Commissioner Scoggins commented on the cost of having a Called Meeting.

**Adjournment.** Vice-Chairman Alexander adjourned the meeting.