



**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
JUNE 3, 2021**

**Present:** Moses Bell, Shirley Greene, Timothy Roseborough, Mikel Trapp, Doug Pauley, Cornelius Robinson, Clarence Gilbert, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Laura Johnson, Assistant County Administrator; Charles J. Boykin, County Attorney; Patti L. Davis, Clerk to Council.

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e), as amended, the following persons and/or organizations have been notified of the time, date and location of this meeting: The Independent Voice of Blythewood and Fairfield, The Country Chronicle and one hundred forty-two other individuals.

Due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the meeting is being live-streamed through the County's YouTube page in order to keep citizens informed.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bell called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to approve the Agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

**3. INVOCATION**

Council Member Roseborough led the invocation.

Council Member Pauley had a point of order for the County Attorney. He wants to make sure we are following FOIA in response to giving the citizens of Fairfield County notification on our agendas on interviews of certain candidates and whether or not we are following FOIA in this process. Mr. Boykin inquired if Council Member Pauley is suggesting the language should be more specific. Council Member Pauley agreed with this statement and is also asking if we are following the guidelines. Per Mr. Boykin, the language can be more specific; however, he does not believe what is listed on the agenda violates the law in his opinion.

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION (The following statement is provided in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act: Subsequent to Executive Session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session.)**

At 6:02 p.m., motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to go into executive session for (1) Personnel Matter - Discussion Concerning the Position of County Administrator Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70(a)(1). ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

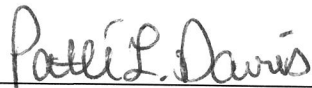
At 6:06 p.m., motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to come out of executive session and return to regular session. Chairman Bell reported no action was taken in executive session. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

Council Member Robinson made a motion for Council to consider hiring Laura Johnson as the Interim County Administrator, seconded by Council Member Gilbert. Council Member Robinson stated the County is at a critical stage, and he knows Mrs. Johnson has put in her paperwork for retirement. He believes there has to be a 30-day break, and he believes she would be the one to carry the torch until a potential full-time Administrator is hired. ***The motion failed 3-4 with Chairman Bell, Vice Chair Greene and Council Members Trapp and Roseborough voting nay.*** Council Member Trapp made a motion to appoint Mr. Brad Caulder as Interim Administrator for Fairfield County until further action of Council, seconded by Vice Chair Greene. Council Member Pauley made a motion to amend the motion to specify that Mr. Caulder's appointment to the position of Interim Administrator be no more than a 3-month period and that when the 3-month period expires, Mr. Caulder be transferred back into the role of Human Resources Director, and that during that period that Fairfield County has an Interim Administrator, any communications initiated to the Interim Administrator by a member of Council, including the Chair and Vice Chair, be in email format and that all other Council Members be copied on the email with instruction to the Interim Administrator that if any Council Member initiates contact with him outside of these procedures, he immediately notifies full Council of the member initiating the topic as well as the details of the topic discussed. The amending motion was seconded by Council Member Robinson. ***The amended motion failed 3-4 with Chairman Bell, Vice Chair Greene and Council Members Trapp and Roseborough voting nay.*** The original motion was restated. Council Member Pauley stated he made the amending motion because, while he is hesitant to hire someone for the position of Interim Administrator who does not have extensive local government experience, we need to do what is best for Fairfield County right now, and that means having an Administrator by tomorrow according to State law. The best we can do tonight considering the circumstances is to hire a person we know to be intelligent and ethical. Council Member Pauley believes Mr. Caulder to be both. However, we also need to immediately shift our focus to hiring an eminently qualified permanent

Administrator, and there is no time to waste in doing this. He believes three months is a reasonable timeline, and to ensure stability and that no individual Council Member attempts to micromanage the Interim Administrator during his service in that role, he feels it is fair to ask all Council Members to abide by the same rules when it comes to communicating with the Interim Administrator over the next three months. If the amending motion passes, he will vote to appoint Mr. Caulder as the Interim Administrator. If the amending motion fails, he will not be able to vote in favor of this appointment. ***The original motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.*** Council Member Trapp then made a motion to authorize the Chair to negotiate the terms and prepare a contract with the Interim Administrator with the assistance of the County Attorney, seconded by Vice Chair Greene. ***The motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.*** Chairman Bell thanked Council for coming out tonight because this has been somewhat of a tedious process. Mr. Caulder is currently the Director of Human Resources and has also been the Director of Public Works and has worked in finance. He was the director of wastewater treatment during the time when the west and east administrator departed the organization. What is being done here tonight is a very innovative approach for Interim. Many counties across the State have elected to choose someone from the inside to be appointed as the Interim County Administrator. We believe this move will allow us to gain more depth in the organization and create significant opportunities long term. Chairman Bell thanked Mr. Caulder for agreeing to accept this offer, and again thanked Council for being here tonight.

## 5. ADJOURN

At 7:08 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to adjourn. ***The motion carried 5-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS  
CLERK TO COUNCIL



MOSES BELL  
CHAIRMAN