

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 12, 2001, 3:00PM
EMERGENCY MEETING
CUMBERLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

PRESENT: Chairman J. Lee Warren, Jr.
Commissioner Talmage Baggett
Commissioner Jeannette Council
Commissioner Kenneth Edge
Commissioner John Henley
Commissioner Billy R. King
James Martin, County Manager
Amy Cannon, Asst. County Manager/Finance Director
Cliff Spiller, Asst. County Manager
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney
Marsha Fogle, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Warren called the meeting to order. The purpose of the Emergency Meeting is to discuss school funding issues and/or to conduct a closed session for an attorney/client matter.

MOTION: Commissioner Baggett moved to go into Closed Session to discuss an attorney/client matter.

SECOND: Commissioner Edge

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION: Commissioner King moved to go back into Open Session.

SECOND: Commissioner Baggett

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Chairman Warren read a proposed compromise school funding proposal to be offered to the Board of Education for school funding as follows:

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PROPOSES \$3.1 MILLION COMPROMISE TO SCHOOL FUNDING ISSUE

In the spirit of compromise, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners offers the Board of Education the following proposal of \$3.1 million, which equates to more than one half of the \$5.7 million budget difference between the boards and restores funding for middle school athletics and innovative academic programs.

The Board of Commissioners agrees to add the \$1.4 million state reimbursement received today to the Fiscal year 2002 Budget for Cumberland County Schools. The Board also agrees to give 50% of the proposed ½ percent net sales tax increase to the schools, which is projected to be approximately \$1.7 million, contingent upon approval by the General Assembly.

The Board of Commissioners is also willing to commit in Fiscal Year 2003 to increasing the schools' current expense budget appropriation by the percentage Increase in the ad valorem property tax base. The Board of Commissioners is willing to discuss a formula for school funding for future years.

This proposal helps the Board of Education to meet many of its funding commitments and results in a current expense budget that requires less than a 1% cut in the total school budget. Well-managed organizations in times of fiscal crisis must be able to find savings to weather times of hardship.

This proposal will be valid until 4:00PM on Friday, July 13, 2001. Please respond in writing to Chairman J. Lee Warren, Jr., at fax number 678-7758.

MOTION: Commissioner King moved to approve the above proposal and forward to the school system.

SECOND: Commissioner Baggett

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:10PM