

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Pike County Board of Commissioners held a Special Called Meeting on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. in the Courthouse, Courtroom 2, at 16001 Barnesville Street, Zebulon. Chairman Briar Johnson convened the meeting and Commissioners Tim Daniel, Jason Proctor and James Jenkins attended. County Manager Brandon Rogers, County Attorney Rob Morton and County Clerk Angela Blount were also present. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2)). Commissioner Tim Guy arrived at 4:32 p.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER .....Chairman Briar Johnson**
- 2. INVOCATION.....Silent Invocation**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE..... Chairman Briar Johnson**
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - (O.C.G A. 50-14-1 (e) (1))**

County Manager Brandon Rogers addressed the Board requesting to amend the agenda to add Executive Session germane to potential litigation before Item 5. New Business.

**Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Proctor to approve the amended agenda, motion carried 4-0, Commissioner Guy was not present.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. County Manager Brandon Rogers requests Executive Session for consultation with the County Attorney, or other legal counsel, to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved, as provided in O.C.G.A. §50-14-2(1), germane to potential litigation.

**Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Daniel to adjourn Regular Session and enter into Executive Session at 4:33 p.m., motion carried 5-0.**

CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT  
*[A copy of the affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting]*

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF PIKE

AFFIDAVIT OF PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Members of the Pike County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, state under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief:

- 1.  
The Pike County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on 5-16-2022.

- 2.  
During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.

- 3.  
The executive session was called to order at 4:33 p.m.

- 4.  
The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law:

- Yes Consultation with the county attorney, or other legal counsel, to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);
- No Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2) and \_\_\_\_\_insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential);
- No Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4);
- No Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or interviewing applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
- No Other – Germane to authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property.

Pike County Board of Commissioners:

Briar Johnson, Chairman	(L.S.)
Tim Daniel, Commissioner	(L.S.)
Tim Guy, Commissioner	(L.S.)
Jason Proctor, Commissioner	(L.S.)
James Jenkins, Commissioner	(L.S.)

This the 16th day of May 2022.

Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me this 16th day of May 2022.

Robert L. Morton  
Morton & Morton Associates  
County Attorney and Notary Public

My commission expires: August 14, 2022.

**Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to adjourn Executive Session and enter into Regular Session at 5:06 p.m., motion carried 5-0.**

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Discussion of Ambulance Contract.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated the county has received a letter from Veterans Medical Transport announcing their termination of ambulance service with Pike County as of June 10, 2022. This gives the county 24 days to fill the gap, therefore the county is in an emergency situation and does not have enough time to send out request for proposals. CM Rogers has reached out and spoke with AmeriPro EMS who services Lamar and Upson Counties. Commissioner Jenkins has spoken with WellStar who services Spalding County. CM Rogers noted that representatives from AmeriPro EMS are in attendance at the meeting for anyone who has questions. Commissioner Daniel asked AmeriPro EMS representative if they could provide service to Pike County in 24 days. Larry Richardson, AmeriPro EMS Executive Vice President, and co-founder replied yes. Larry Richardson stated the supply chain in EMS is hurting everyone right now. AmeriPro ordered assets early. They had the opportunity to order a lot of units, so they have 30 units coming in. Personnel is a real challenge and to keep employees you have to pay them. AmeriPro has done a regional system with Upson and Lamar Counties, they do a cost share, sharing some of the costs of providing services. The ambulances are between Upson and Lamar Counties, example would be if Lamar County needed five ambulances and Upson County has them, they would go to Lamar County. There has only been one day that AmeriPro EMS has been in service and the ambulances have not had to go back and forth between the two counties. Mr. Richardson stated his goal and model would be to do the same thing in Pike County. Doug Norton, AmeriPro Director of Operations, was also present at the meeting for any questions. When a call comes in for Lamar or Upson Counties, it is transferred to AmeriPro EMS call center, they are talking to the actual caller. Mr. Richardson stated he was meeting with Brandon Rogers right before the Board meeting and two calls went out on the Pike County radio with an ambulance on each scene, then a third call went out and called for mutual aid and no one was available. AmeriPro EMS has an air partner that they are working with right now to bring in air assistance to become more of a regional player. AmeriPro EMS has the proper insurance to be able to provide services. State of Georgia requires that you have a million-dollar combined liability on an ambulance. They do not require you to have professional liability, and they do require in the underwriting that when you turn your lights on you are covered. AmeriPro EMS has a ten-million-dollar umbrella policy, and they will be operating under the Pike County ambulance license. It is not AmeriPro EMS zone but Pike County's zone. AmeriPro EMS insurance includes five million cyber security, five million theft, and a ten million umbrella that adds a layer of protection to the county. AmeriPro EMS would like to be in the county for a long time to be able to return the investment. Chairman Johnson asked Larry Richardson if he has seen the current Veterans contract. Mr. Richardson replied no sir. Mr. Richardson stated that he has read the Request for Proposal, RFP, that the county put out before and made the recommendation for CM Rogers to get with County Managers in Lamar and Upson Counties because their RFPs required a lot more things and a lot more quality metrics. Chairman Johnson asked about having an ambulance at events, like football/baseball games, in the community, Pike County has this in their current ambulance provider contract. Mr. Richardson stated in some counties, the Board of Education says if the ambulance must leave the event, that the event must stop until an ambulance is back on the grounds. An ambulance cannot be sitting at a football game and a cardiac arrest down the road. Chairman Johnson stated that is something the Board of Education would pick up the costs and they would call

to let the provider know they need an ambulance at an event. Having an ambulance at a school event does not have anything to do with the county. Doug Norton stated a lot of the Boards are not requiring an ambulance at an event, but a single staff with equipment on site that is usually a BLS EMT staff member. At the recreation field, the ambulance would post for visibility and if they got a call, they would leave. The games at the recreation field would not have to stop. Chairman Johnson asked about AmeriPro call center, where is it located. Larry Richardson replied that their call center is in Morrow, GA, and AmeriPro has contemplated moving it to the Upson County station. Larry Richardson noted instead of having a communications center because Pike County already has a communications center and paying for it, why not install a provider that is with AmeriPro EMS who is MD certified to work in Pike County's communication center. Sheriff Kilgore in Upson County already had FirstNet. AT & T put \$54 billion dollars into FirstNet a public safety network. They are putting five towers in Upson County, three towers in Lamar County and not sure how many towers in Pike County. There is no cost to the county, it is AT & T putting out sub towers. Mr. Richardson stated AmeriPro EMS will have to pull Pike County data to build an RFP. Data was pulled from the State of Georgia for Pike County for year 2021 and 2022 and the numbers did not look right. Mr. Richardson went back and pulled data for Pike County for five years. The reporting mechanism for the last two years with the current provider is not correct. Should Pike County choose AmeriPro, it needs to be sustainable for Pike County and AmeriPro. Mr. Richardson stated once AmeriPro has been operating in Pike County for six months, they will come back and re-evaluate on the costs. County Attorney Rob Morton asked Larry Richardson for clarification, if AmeriPro is chosen as ambulance provider in Pike County is it like a six-month probationary period to get the accurate information before you put a set figure on it. Mr. Richardson replied that he would not say no that is not a probationary thing, that this is the figure right now and in six months they would come back and look at the data. The figure could be less or more after the six months. County Attorney Rob Morton stated if the Board of Commissioners determine that there is an emergency now and they do something with AmeriPro now, does AmeriPro have a figure as of today. Larry Richardson replied \$68,500.00 per month and re-evaluate in six months., that would be \$822,000.00 per year. The agreement that AmeriPro has with Lamar and Upson Counties is if a three-year contract, it is a 5% annually increase and with a five-year contract it is a 3% annually increase. Commissioner Proctor asked what kind of contract AmeriPro needs for six months. Mr. Richardson stated it is not a different contract, it is the same thing just coming back to the table after six months and say here is where we are. Lamar County is \$800,000.00 with a higher transport volume. Commissioner Jenkins asked about the Board of Commissioners talking about making a decision without seeing a contract. Mr. Richardson stated he could get the Board of Commissioners a contract, they have Upson and Lamar Counties contract, and he would suggest utilizing their contract because it is in detail of what their obligations are and what their performance has to be. If AmeriPro does not adhere to the performance, they get fined. Chairman Johnson asked what the average response time was in Lamar County. Mr. Richardson stated the way the contract is written in Upson and Lamar Counties they have to be less than 8 minutes 59 seconds within the city limits of those municipalities that have the highest call volume. Three miles outside the city limits they have to be twelve minutes. Commissioner Guy asked if there was a way AmeriPro could look at \$800,000.00 for Pike County. Mr. Richardson replied he cannot because that would be extremely challenging, \$822,000.00 would be equitable sharing between all three counties. Upson and Lamar Counties have to go back to their Board of Commissioners for approval for mutual aid agreement to include Pike County since Pike County is paying this, this is the cost share for all three counties. Larry Richardson stated the \$68,500.00 would be for a five-year agreement and at the six-month mark they would true up to say if they are high, low, or right on the mark. County Attorney Rob Morton asked about the termination language in the automatic annual renewal notice. Mr. Richardson replied he believes it is a 90-day notice for termination. Commissioner Daniel asked if AmeriPro service would take effect on no later than June 11, 2022. Mr. Richardson stated if the current provider vacates before June 10, 2022, AmeriPro EMS will be available, so citizens do not go without EMS service. Doug Norton stated their biggest problem will be staffing and they hope AmeriPro can retain a good bit of what the current provider has. County Manager Brandon Rogers stated a lot of this is pending if Upson and Lamar Counties allows Pike County to be a part of the regional system, what happens if they do not accept Pike County. Mr. Richardson stated that bridge will be crossed when we get there but he does not think that will be an issue with everyone paying their equitable share.

**Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel based on the emergency action and the notice of termination from current provider, authorizing to move forward with AmeriPro EMS at \$68,500.00 per month based on a five-year contract, motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Jenkins opposed.**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION (executive session added and moved before Item 5. New Business)**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Daniel to adjourn at 5:52 p.m., motion carried 5-0.**

---

J. Briar Johnson, Chairman

---

Angela Blount, County Clerk