

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RECESS MEETING**

October 18, 2023
10:00 AM



Fulton County Government Center
Assembly Hall
141 Pryor Street SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



MINUTES-RATIFIED

This document has been ratified or approved by the Board of Commissioners, and is not binding on the County or any officer.

Ratification Date: November 15, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts **10:00 a.m.**

ROLL CALL: Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)	PRESENT
Bridget Thorne, Commissioner (District 1)	PRESENT
Bob Ellis, Vice-Chairman (District 2)	PRESENT
Dana Barrett, Commissioner (District 3)	PRESENT
Natalie Hall, Commissioner (District 4)	PRESENT
Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5)	PRESENT
Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner (District 6)	PRESENT

INVOCATION: Reverend Clifton Dawkins, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE SWITCH ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (CELL PHONES, PAGERS, PDAs, ETC.) TO THE SILENT POSITION DURING THIS MEETING TO AVOID INTERRUPTIONS.

IF YOU NEED REASONABLE MODIFICATIONS DUE TO A DISABILITY, INCLUDING COMMUNICATIONS IN AN ALTERNATE FORMAT PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE COMMISSION. FOR TDD/TTY OR GEORGIA RELAY SERVICE ACCESS DIAL 711.

CONSENT AGENDA

23-0692 Board of Commissioners

Adoption of the Consent Agenda - All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Recess Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended by removing item #23-0696 as requested by Commissioner Hall; and item #23-0693 as requested by Commissioner Thorne for separate consideration. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Hall, and Arrington

23-0693 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of the proposed 2024 Fulton County Board of Commissioners' Meeting Calendar. **(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER THORNE

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve as amended by removing the July 24th Recess Meeting. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts, and Arrington

23-0694 Board of Commissioners

Proclamations for Spreading on the Minutes. **(SPREAD ON THE MINUTES UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Proclamation recognizing "Reverend Earl Calloway Remembrance Day."
(Arrington)
October 7, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Constance Pinson Remembrance Day." **(Arrington)**
October 12, 2023

Open & Responsible Government**23-0695 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 22ITB134934C-MH, Moving Services in a total amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 with (A) Beltmann Relocation Group (Stone Mountain, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00; (B) ALS Van Line Services, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00; and, (C) Tuxedo Logistics, LLC dba Allied Commercial Services (Columbus, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, to provide moving services on an "as-needed" basis for Fulton County. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0696 Finance

Ratification of September 2023 Grants Activity Report.

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER HALL

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts, and Arrington

Health and Human Services**23-0697 Public Works**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Public Works, 21ITBC000022A-CJC, Jetter Parts in the amount of \$77,515.96 with Municipal Equipment Exporters, Inc. d/b/a Max-Life Manufacturing Corporation (Buena Park, CA) to provide Jetter parts. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0698 Department for HIV Elimination

Request approval to award a contract without competition - HIV Elimination, Upgrade of existing system, e2Fulton which is the Department for HIV Elimination's client-level database, financial management, federal reporting, quality management, and client satisfaction survey system with RDE Systems Group, LLC (Wayne, New Jersey) in the amount not to exceed \$434,150.00 to provide licensing and professional services required to upgrade e2Fulton to the latest version and to include new systems modules. 100% grant funded with no required County match. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Infrastructure and Economic Development**23-0699 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 3,049 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Fairfield Springs, LLC., for the purpose of constructing the North Springs Revision Project at 7300 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, Georgia 30328. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0700 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of Indemnification, Maintenance, and Land Use Agreement for Private Improvement (Indemnification Agreement) between Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, and Union City SR CGP, LLC for the purpose granting conditional approval to allow a monument sign, retaining wall, fire hydrant, curb and gutter, sewer manholes and proposed utilities within a portion of the County's existing sanitary sewer easement at 5385 Campbellton Fairburn Road, Union City, Georgia 30213. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0701 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 660 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from AIJ Milton, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Chadwick Village Lot 1 Project at 13625 Arnold Mill Road, Milton, Georgia 30075. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0702 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 2,481 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from AIJ Milton, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Chadwick Village Lot 1 Project at 13625 Arnold Mill Road, Milton, Georgia 30075. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0703 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 65 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Arnold Mill Fuel, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Chadwick Village Lot 1 Project at 2031 Heritage Walk, Milton, Georgia 30075. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0704 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 10,626 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Liberty Communities, LLC., for the purpose of constructing the Creekbend Overlook Project at 0 Jones Road, South Fulton, Georgia 30213. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety**23-0705 Police**

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Police Department, General Services Administration Contract GS-07F-0512T, Special Item Number 3363, Upfitting of Government-owned Emergency Response Vehicles to Provide Turn-key Solutions, Fulton County Police Department in the amount of \$133,514.00 with Dana Safety Supply, Inc. (Jacksonville, FL) to provide specialized emergency equipment and installation services. This is a one-time procurement. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

RECESS MEETING AGENDA**23-0706 Board of Commissioners**

Adoption of the Recess Meeting Agenda. **(ADOPTED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to adopt as amended by revising items #23-0708 as requested by Commissioner Hall, #23-0720, #23-0683 as requested by the County Manager; moving up items #23-0731 as requested by Commissioner Barrett, #23-0732 as requested by Vice-Chairman Ellis; remove item #23-0730 as requested by Commissioner Hall; and allow Dr. Lynn Paxton to speak first during Public Comment as requested by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

23-0707 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Recess Meeting Minutes, September 18, 2023

Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, October 4, 2023

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to ratify the meeting Minutes. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

23-0708 Board of Commissioners

Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. **(PRESENTED)**

Proclamation recognizing “Friends of the Library Appreciation Day.” **(BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing “Clean Water Week.” **(Ellis/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing “Breast Cancer Awareness Month.”
(Abdur-Rahman/BOC)

Proclamation recognizing “Stand with Israel Day.” **(Thorne/Ellis/Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing “Young Dro Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing “Georgia Works Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**

* Proclamation recognizing “MTO Shahmaghsoudi Appreciation Day.”
(Abdur-Rahman)

**added during the meeting*

PUBLIC HEARINGS**23-0709 Board of Commissioners**

Public Comment - Citizens are allowed to voice County related opinions, concerns, requests, etc. during the Public Comment portion of the Commission meeting. **Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County, including their employees, whether such persons are commenting in-person, via emails or via Zoom or other electronic media (i.e., phone call). Non-Fulton County citizens will only be heard after all in-person Fulton County citizens, representatives of business and organizations located within Fulton County, including their employees, have been heard and the time allotted for public comment has not expired, except as otherwise provided in this code section. County staff shall verify the residency of each public speaker prior to such person being heard by the board. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. Members of the public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The Public Comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes at the Regular Meeting, nor will this portion exceed thirty minutes at the Recess Meeting.** In the event the 30-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Similarly, written comments (that were timely submitted) not previously read, may be read at the end of the meeting. For more information or to arrange a speaking date, contact the Clerk's Office. **(CONDUCTED)**

20 Speakers: Dr. Lynn Paxton (Apology for statement released by her office); Satya Vatti (Item #23-0708); Gerald Greene (Fulton County Jail); Bezaleel Jupiter (Fulton County Jail); Joss Taylor (Fulton County Jail); Jasmine Williams (Fulton County Jail); Kristen Butler (Item #23-0708); Monica Johnson (Fulton County Jail); Julie Allen (Board of Health); Desirrae Thomas (Abortion Funding/Item #23-0708); Edith Ladipo (Senior Services/Septic Tank/Environmental Quality); Janet Hill (Property Scams); Furqan Muhammad (Item #23-0708); Devin Barrington-Ward (Fulton County Jail); Darius Bowdry (Fulton County Jail); Afreen Khundhiri (Item #23-0708); Azil Balsam (Item #23-0708); Estevan Hernandez (Item #23-0708); Zakir Syed (Board of Health) and Sophia Naviwala (Item #23-0708)

1 Zoom Speaker: Ben Howard (Board Appointments)

2 Emailed Comments: Rev. LS Allen (Healthcare) and Linda Nash (Legal Rights)

23-0710 Finance

Public Hearing to amend a Multiyear Installment Sale Agreement with Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) to increase financing for those additional funds needed to complete North Fulton building that will house various government services and certain equipment for the building. **(CONDUCTED)**

**PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED
NO SPEAKERS**

COUNTY MANAGER'S RENEWAL ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****23-0711 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, RFP#22RFP041122C-MH, General Landscaping & Lawn Care Services for Countywide Facilities in the total amount of \$1,955,784.00 with (A) ReIMAGE General Contractors, LLC (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$1,552,784.00 and (B) Georgia Green Grounds Care, LLC (Marietta, GA) in the amount of \$403,000.00 to provide on-site landscape/ground maintenance and lawn care services for all 106 County-own sites to include Fulton County Executive Airport - Charlie Brown Field. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Vice-Chairman Ellis, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Arrington

23-0712 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, RFP#21RFP131973C-MH, Bus and Shuttle Services in an amount not to exceed \$760,000.00 with MTI Limo and Shuttle Services, Inc. (College Park, GA), to provide bus and shuttle services for Fulton County employees and jurors. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0713 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 23ITB136993C-GS, Medical and Clinical General Cleaning Services in an amount not to exceed \$440,290.00 with Intercontinental Commercial Services, Inc. (ICS, Inc.) (Lawrenceville, GA), to provide the highest quality medical and clinical general cleaning services for selected Fulton County Health facilities. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Arrington

23-0714 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 21ITB130147C-GS, Modular Workstations and Free Standing Furniture Countywide, in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 with (A) 5 Star Office Furniture, Inc. (Avondale Estates, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$675,000.00 and (B) Office Design Concepts Georgia, LLC (Atlanta, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$575,000.00 to provide office modular workstation systems and free standalone furniture for Fulton County agencies on an “as needed” basis; and (C) Beltmann Relocation (Stone Mountain, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00, to provide all labor for breaking down and reconfigurations of existing workstations and office relocation by requested user departments on an “as needed” basis for Fulton County agencies. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0715 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 22ITB135741C-GS, Fire Sprinkler Protection System Maintenance Services in an amount not to exceed \$215,000.00 with VSC Fire & Security, Inc. (Norcross, GA), to provide fire sprinkler protection system maintenance services for Countywide facilities. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Arrington

Health and Human Services

23-0716 Public Works

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Public Works, 21ITBC000023A-CJC, Water Meter Vaults, in an amount not to exceed \$236,072.00 with Bartow Precast Inc., (Cartersville, GA) to provide water meter vaults. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Arrington

23-0717 Public Works

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Public Works, 22ITB093A-KM, Fire Hydrants Maintenance and Repairs in the amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 with American Flow Service, LLC (Conyers GA), to provide fire hydrants maintenance and repairs. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Arrington

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS

Open & Responsible Government

23-0718 County Manager

Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report. **(PRESENTED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve processing and hiring of new employees by Justice partners for ORCA positions through the end of the year. The motion passed by the following vote:

Vice-Chairman Ellis offered a friendly amendment to allow hiring through the end of the year only if does not result in exceeding the funds allocated for Project ORCA.

Vice-Chairman Ellis withdrew the friendly amendment.

Yea: Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Nay: Ellis

Absent: Pitts

Abstain: Thorne

b. A substitute motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to hold. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, and Ellis

Nay: Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

23-0719 Finance

Review and approval of October 18, 2023 Budget Soundings. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

23-0720 Finance

Request approval of a Resolution of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners authorizing the execution of a first amendment to an Installment Sale Agreement approved in 2019; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

23-0721 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Sourcewell Contract #042821-ORK, Pest Control Services Countywide in the amount of \$230,000.00 with Orkin, LLC (Atlanta, GA), to provide comprehensive pest control services on an as-needed basis for Countywide facilities. Effective dates: January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Arrington

Absent: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

23-0722 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of recommended proposals - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, RFP#23RFP138735K-DB, Standby Professional Services for Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing and Fire Protection in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 with (A) WSP USA Environment & Infrastructure, Inc (Kennesaw, GA) in the amount of \$300,000.00; (B) Axis Infrastructure, LLC (Roswell, GA) in the amount of \$300,000.00, (C) Johnson, Spellman & Associates, Inc. (Peachtree Corners, GA) in the amount of \$300,000.00, (D) Wiley/Wilson (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$300,000.00, and (E) Foresite Group, LLC (Peachtree Corners, GA) in the amount of \$300,000.00, to provide standby professional services for facilities related design, engineering and assessments in the areas of mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection on an "as needed-task assignment" basis. Effective dates: January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

23-0723 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a statewide contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, SWC# 99999-001-SPD0000112-0001, Fuel Card Management Services in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00 with WEX Bank (Salt Lake City, UT), to provide fuel card management services for Fulton County fleet vehicles. Effective date: January 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

23-0724 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to utilize Cooperative Purchasing - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Omnia Partners Public Sector Contract #R190303 Office Supplies, Related Products and Services in the total amount of \$275,000.00 with ODP Business Solutions, formerly Office Depot Business Solutions (Norcross, GA) to provide copy paper and related supplies as needed countywide. Effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

Arts and Libraries

23-0683 Arts and Culture

Requesting approval of a Resolution approving a sponsorship agreement template for use by the Department of Arts and Culture; authorizing the County Manager or his designee to sign such agreements where funding is in the approved budget of the Department of Arts and Culture; and for other purposes. Effective upon adoption. **(HELD ON 10/4/23) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve as amended. The motion passed by the following vote:

- Yea:** Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman
- Nay:** Ellis
- Absent:** Pitts
- Abstain:** Thorne

b. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Vice-Chairman Ellis, to hold. The motion failed by the following vote:

- Yea:** Thorne, and Ellis
- Nay:** Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman
- Absent:** Pitts

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to call the question. The motion passed by the following vote:

- Yea:** Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman
- Nay:** Thorne, and Ellis
- Absent:** Pitts

Health and Human Services

23-0725 Senior Services

Request approval to increase spending authority - Department of Senior Services, 21ITB000028ACJC, Indigent Burial in the amount of \$132,841.35 with Mutual Meadows Inc. (Peachtree Corners, GA), to provide dignified professional burial services as a last resort for any deceased person declared indigent or unclaimed Fulton County resident if the death occurred within Fulton County. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Arrington

23-0726 Senior Services

Request approval to increase spending authority - Senior Services, 21RFP000016A-CJC, Alternative Senior Transportation Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00 with Common Courtesy (Atlanta, GA) to provide transportation services/ride sharing to eligible Fulton County residents aged 60 and above. This amount is based on the BOC approved FY23 enhancement for senior transportation. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Arrington

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS

23-0727 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution urging the Georgia Governor and the General Assembly of the State of Georgia to continue efforts to reform and improve Mental Health Services for the citizens of Georgia; and for other related purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD)**

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON

Commissioners' Full Board Appointments

23-0728

Board of Commissioners

ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY RECREATION AUTHORITY (STADIUM AUTHORITY) (APPROVED)

This Authority consists of nine (9) members: three (3) members appointed by the Board of Commissioners and six (6) members appointed by the City of Atlanta. Vacancies in the membership of the authority, whether caused by the expiration of term of office, death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the governing body of Fulton County or the City of Atlanta, upon the nomination of the chief executive officer and confirmation by the governing body of said city. Any member of the authority may be elected to succeed himself. All members, duly appointed, shall hold office until his or her successor shall be appointed and duly qualified. Any member, appointed to fill an unexpired term, shall serve only for the term of the member he or she replaced.

Term = All subsequent terms of office shall be for four (4) years. Any person appointed to membership on the Authority who is a public official of the City of Atlanta or Fulton County at the time of his appointment shall serve as a member of the Authority only so long as he or she remains a public official of the city or county government which originally appointed him/her.

Terms below expire: 11/1/2023

Robb Pitts (BOC Member)

Bob Ellis (BOC Member)

Chairman Pitts nominated Vice-Chairman Bob Ellis for a Full Board reappointment to a term ending November 1, 2027.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Thorne

23-0729 Board of Commissioners
ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY RECREATION AUTHORITY (STADIUM
AUTHORITY) **(APPROVED)**

Term = All subsequent terms of office shall be for four (4) years. Any person appointed to membership on the Authority who is a public official of the City of Atlanta or Fulton County at the time of his appointment shall serve as a member of the Authority only so long as he or she remains a public official of the city or county government which originally appointed him/her.

Terms below expire: 11/1/2023

Robb Pitts **(BOC Member)**

Bob Ellis **(BOC Member)**

Vice-Chairman Ellis nominated Chairman Robb Pitts for a Full Board reappointment to a term ending November 1, 2027.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Vice-Chairman Ellis, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts, and Arrington

23-0730 Board of Commissioners
FULTON-ATLANTA LAND BANK AUTHORITY **(REMOVED)**

The Authority is governed by a board of directors comprised of an odd number of individual representatives- with no fewer than five (5) or more than eleven (11), hereinafter the "Board". Initially, the Board shall consist of seven (7) representatives comprised of: (A) four (4) appointed by the Mayor of the City of Atlanta and (B) three (3) appointed by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

Term = 4 years

Term below expired: 8/7/2023

Calvin Brock **(BOC)**

Commissioner Hall has nominated Darryl J. "D.J." Terry, II for a Full Board appointment to a term ending August 7, 2027.

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE RECESS MEETING AGENDA AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER HALL

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

23-0731 Board of Commissioners
Presentation: Invest Atlanta - Update on Tax Allocation Districts **(Barrett)**
(PRESENTED)

23-0732 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Follow up on \$5.3 million emergency funding approved for Sheriff’s Department at the April 19, 2023 BOC Meeting **(Ellis) (DISCUSSED/APPROVED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Vice-Chairman Ellis, to call the question. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, and Abdur-Rahman

Nay: Barrett, Hall, and Arrington

b. A motion was made by Chairman Pitts and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to rescind the \$2.1 million approved as emergency funding on April 19, 2023 (Item #23-0288) for biometric devices provided by Talitrix Software and Solutions for the Fulton County Jail. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, and Abdur-Rahman

Nay: Arrington

Abstain: Barrett

Did Not Vote: Hall

EXECUTIVE SESSION

23-0733 Board of Commissioners

Executive (**CLOSED**) Sessions regarding litigation (**County Attorney**), real estate (**County Manager**), and personnel (**Pitts**). (**APPROVED**)

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE AND PERSONNEL: Vice-Chairman Ellis, Commissioners: Thorne, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier. Chairman Pitts was absent.

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to enter into Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Arrington

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve termination the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the Tiny Homes Project with College Park, as set forth in item #4 of the Executive Session Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Arrington

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to select Joe Barasoain as the Interim Director of Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, and to pursue the statutory requirements for final appointment. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
RECESS MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2023
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solution, LLC

(Whereupon, the meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Recess Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. It is Wednesday, October 18th, 2023. It is exactly 10:00 a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chairman Bob Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall. Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr. Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman, you have a quorum."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Madam Clerk. Please rise for the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance."

(Whereupon, the invocation was given by Reverend Dawkins followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **23-0692**, Adoption of the Consent Agenda. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Recess Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, Commissioner Hall has requested to remove an item for

separate consideration on page 2, 23-0696, Finance; Ratification of September 2023 Grants Activity Report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I would like to pull 23-0693, on page 2, for our meeting calendar."

CLERK GRIER: "So noted."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else? All right, I'll entertain a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. Come on guys, let's go. All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Let's vote, please. Those in favor say, Aye."

(Whereupon, all Commissioner's present said, Aye.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Opposed; no. It's approved. Now, is this working or not working?" All right. Continue, Madam Clerk. Consent agenda is approved with those two amendments."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 4, Recess Meeting Agenda, **23-0706**, Adoption of the Recess Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have amendments to today's Recess Meeting Agenda. On page 4, 23-0708, Commissioner Hall has requested to remove her proclamation recognizing 'Young Dro Appreciation Day'. On page 7, 23-0720, Finance: Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the execution on the first amendment to an installment sales agreement approved in 2019. This item is revised to include an amended document, Exhibit A, with the final interest rate of 3.07 percent. On page 8, 23-0683, Arts and Culture: Request approval of a Resolution approving a sponsorship agreement template. This item was revised to include an amended Resolution. On page 10, 23-0731, Presentation: Invest Atlanta update on Tax Allocation Districts. This item has been requested to be heard after Public Hearings. And item to be removed from today's Recess Meeting Agenda on page 10, 23-0730, Commissioner Hall's appointment to the Fulton Atlanta Land Bank Authority."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else?"

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, oh, I'm sorry. Vice Chair Ellis was in the queue before I was."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Y'all gone let me preside."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "I'm sorry."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "I'm letting you preside, Chairman." Please forgive me.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I'd like to request that item 23-0732, which is at the bottom of page 10, a discussion on the follow up on 5.3 million emergency funding approved for the Sheriff's department at the April 19, 2023, meeting that that be moved up and heard after the Public Hearings."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Anything else, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman?"

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. You know, I'm just so happy to be here and excited, sometimes I can't contain myself, so please forgive me. I have -- I want to take a point of personal privilege. Two items: one, one of the Fulton County Citizens Commission on Environmental Authorities is here this morning, and I did not present her proclamation to her. I would like it at the end of the proclamations to be able to recognize her with her proclamation. And also, Dr. Paxton will be speaking after the public comments, but at the beginning of the actual BOC meeting. So, I'm going to asking if my colleagues would support me in allowing her -- she has a very heavy schedule, but it's a very serious statement that she would like to make."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right. I'll entertain a motion to approve the agenda for today as amended. Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, it is seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0707**, Ratification of Minutes, Recess Meeting Minutes, September 18th. Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, October 4th, 2023."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, is there a motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett; seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "23-0708, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing 'Friends of the Library Appreciation Day' sponsored by the Full Board of Commissioners."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have five? Is that correct? We have five proclamations? All right. It is 10:08. First proclamation. All right, let's sound the proclamation. Let's go. You did? Yeah."

CLERK GRIER: "First proclamation is recognizing 'Friends of the Library Appreciation Day' sponsored by the Full Board of Commissioners."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay, I'll read it. I'm excited to read this because you know what? I got the best friends of the library in my district so, and I do definitely want to recognize all of our friends of the library. They make such a huge difference. I think we no doubt have the best library system in Fulton County, and they play an integral part in helping make it so. So, without further ado, WHEREAS, the Fulton County Library Systems, Friends of the Library volunteer program is a unique opportunity for citizens to contribute their time and expertise to enhance the services of Fulton County and the library system. Growing from a few dozen volunteers in 1989 when it first began, to over 3,500 friends/volunteers. It's probably bigger than some counties we got in the state. And WHEREAS, the Fulton County Library System's friends/volunteers play a vital role in advocating for library services, collecting, sorting, organizing, and selling thousands of donated books and book sales and bookstores across the county; hosting fundraisers, funding and sponsoring library programs, returning materials to the shelves and more; and WHEREAS, the Fulton County Library System acknowledged 316 friends/volunteers during National Friends of Libraries Week 2023, including friends/volunteers celebrating as many as 30 years of service to the library systems, tremendous dedication; and countless other volunteers who've served thousands of hours throughout the years; and WHEREAS, there are currently 18 Friends of the Library groups throughout Fulton County that provide significant support to the library system by contributing over 434,719 lifetime volunteer hours as well as funds to enhance the important programs and services of the Fulton County Library System; and WHEREAS, library friends/volunteers have given selflessly of their time and talents to the Fulton County Library System donating 14,683 hours in 2023; providing services worth \$406,132, in bringing the friends/volunteers lifetime totals to 3,500 volunteers who have served a remarkable 434,719 volunteer hours and counting. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County recognizes the accomplishments and dedication of the individuals who donate their services to the Fulton Library System; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 as 'Fulton County Library System Friends of the Library's Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Give them a huge hand."

RECIPIENT: "Thank you so much, Vice Chair, and all of the Commissioners for supporting our libraries. Marci Myers and myself are honored to work with our friends' groups. These are volunteers that are aged five to 90. They work in the heat of the

summer, the cold of the winter, sorting books and getting them into people hands. We are so incredibly indebted to these volunteers, and we are honored to celebrate them this week. Friendship is defined as unconditional love, and these volunteers have unconditional for books, for learning, and for libraries. It is our honor to recognize them, and thank you so much to the county for recognizing them today. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Clean Water Week' sponsored by Vice Chairman Ellis with Full Board support."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Let's get all our folks from Public Works to come down here and join us. Great-looking team right here. All right. We're so grateful to have this dedicated team appear with this and the opportunity to provide a small amount of recognition to them today with their truly dedicated service to the citizens of Fulton County. With that, I want to read the proclamation: WHEREAS, Clean Water Week celebrates the anniversary of the Clean Water Act, and is a weeklong reminder of the many ways Public Works demonstrates its commitment to providing safe and reliable collection and treatment of wastewater for discharge to improve our environment and communities; and WHEREAS, Public Works is committed to improving and maintaining the quality of this water and wastewater system through daily activities that are vital to the integrity of this system including the installation, repair, and maintenance of the water and wastewater systems, monitoring, security, and implementing emergency response plans when needed while also educating customers; and WHEREAS, Public Works effectively and systematically evaluates water and wastewater needs for more than 111 -- 111,700 existing customers to ensure and actively manages and renews its assets and human resources with an \$86.9 million annual operating budget, and a projected 53.1 million-dollar capital improvement program in 2024 for the use of innovative technologies and utilities management systems to efficiently serve water and sewer customers; and WHEREAS, the Fulton County Department of Public Works is considered one of the most premier agencies in the State of Georgia and have dedicated staff and facilities that are consistently award-winning. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County commends the Division of Water Resources for its continued dedication in public service; and hereby proclaims the week of October 15, 2023, as Clean Water Week in Fulton County, Georgia. Let's give them huge hand. With that, I'd like to recognize our Director of Public Works, David Clark, to say a few words."

DAVID CLARK, RECIPIENT: "Thank you, Commissioner. I'm David Clark. I'm the Director of Public Works and it's certainly my honor to represent all the fine men and women here who serve the Fulton County residents on a day-in and day-out basis; truly, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. And also, certainly appreciate the support that the Board of Commissioners have given us in the past, not only in funding, but also in the way that we operate our facilities. We're not always perfect and we certainly strive to be, but whenever something does go wrong, these men and women to my right and left that really make it work. And so, for that, I appreciate it everything. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Breast Cancer Awareness Month' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman with Full Board support."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "Can I get Dr. Ragsbert Phillips-Reed and the Commission to please come forward? And I'm going to go a little bit off script, and please just -- if you feel inclined -- if we have any breast cancer survivors or those that would like to stand for anyone with us, we'll be more than happy for you to stand with us. Okay. WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for women in the United States and Georgia. And each year in the United States about 245,000 cases of breast cancer are diagnosed in women, and about 2,200 in men, thus causing about 41,000 deaths among women and 460 deaths among men; and WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Health Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program through funding from the Georgia Department of Public Health, provides breast cancer screenings, diagnostic services, and referrals to treatment as medically indicated to help reduce the impact of breast cancer on uninsured women residing in Fulton County; and WHEREAS, Dr. Ragsbert Phillips-Reed is a native of Georgia and the founder of Sisters by Choice, a multifaceted organization that provides services for uninsured and underserved women and men; and WHEREAS, Dr. Phillips-Reed is a general surgeon and Fellow of the American College of Surgeons specializing in breast surgery; and WHEREAS, Dr. Phillips-Reed saw the need for programs that would increase public knowledge and awareness of breast cancer to reduce the mortality and morbidity of the disease. And as a personal note, I and members of my family have been a part of coming to her office. She has such -- her entire staff has such a guarded heart of service, and I just want to personally thank her for all the work that she's gone and all of the staff that they have done in and outside of the State of Georgia. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners hereby commends the Fulton County Board of Health Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program, community medical providers, and community partners like Dr. Ragsbert Phillips-Reed who dedicate their lives to fighting for a world without breast cancer; and does hereby proclaim October 20, 2023 as 'Breast Cancer Awareness Month' in Fulton County, Georgia. Would you please put your hands together? Doctor, I know you're very humbled, but would you please say a few words."

DR. ROGSBERT PHILLIPS-REED, RECIPIENT: "It is indeed a pleasure for me to be here to accept this award, and I really truly want to thank the Fulton County Commissioner. You guys have been supporting me from day one, and I really and truly do appreciate it. If you look at where we are with breast cancer, breast cancer continues to have a major impact on our society. I don't think anyone here can say that breast cancer has not impacted your life. It may have been a friend, a family member, a church member. Breast cancer impacts all of our lives. It does not discriminate. It impacts the old, the young, the rich, the poor; all of us have had an impact -- breast cancer on our lives. And as we look at what we've done, we as scientists and doctors over the past decades, we have had a lot of success in treating this disease. How we treat breast cancer, say now compared to ten years ago, even two years ago is different

because we're constantly learning new ways to treat this disease; new better ways trying to get a better outcome. As you heard the statistics, yeah, the American Cancer Society has said over 300,000 women this year in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer. And unfortunately, almost 50,000 will die of breast cancer. We are in a society that really and truly needs to pay close attention to the little things. And what are the little things? We know that mammograms save lives. There are so many women in our society who do not get their mammograms. And it's not mammograms every once in a while; its annual mammograms that give you the best chance, if you are going to get breast cancer. You will diagnose it at an early stage when to cure it is over 90 percent. We are at the stage in our society that we should be able to prevent women from dying of this disease. So please embrace mammograms. Do your mammograms. Turn to your neighbor -- I guarantee that there's someone in here who have said, I'm not going to get a mammogram. Mammograms saves lives. Sisters by Choice have a mobile unit where we go into the community and serve women who do not have insurance. We provide mammograms, breast exams, sonograms, biopsies. We help these ladies get in systems where if they are diagnosed with breast cancer, they will be treated. Women in Georgia are treated once diagnosed. So please, early detection is your best defense against this disease. So embrace it, go out and embrace your loved ones and want make sure they're doing their mammograms. Once again, I want to thank the Board -- the Commission for bestowing upon me this proclamation. I really appreciate it. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk, sound the next proclamation."

CLERK GRIER: The next proclamation is recognizing 'Stand with Israel Day' sponsored by Commissioner Thorne and Vice Chair Ellis."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So as we're all aware what happened that day was shocking. The images, the videos, the constant terror that exists in the Middle East. For me, as a parent, as I saw babies killed, beheaded; I saw images of concert goers, my kid's age, I have four kids who go to concerts like that all the time. Moments of joy turned into moments of terror. Women stripped, dragged through the streets. Elderly killed in their safe houses or their safe rooms in their houses. How can that be? In a world that we live in today? For me, I've always wanted to bring us together. I want us to be united, but the acts that I saw on that day were pure evil, and we cannot stand with evil. So as a Christian with my faith, I've read how this has been prophesied thousands of years ago that Israel being this tiny country that be constantly under attack. But it's God's chosen land, and I do believe in Genesis 12:3 that those who bless Israel will be blessed, and those who curse, will be cursed. So, I hope today that we can all come together and stand with Israel. And that gives me this honor to give this proclamation: WHEREAS, on October 7th, 2023, Hamas terrorists launched a coordinated unprovoked attack on Israel from the Gaza Strip; and WHEREAS, Hamas has fired thousands of rockets toward Israel's major population centers, reached Israel's borders, infiltrated Israeli communities and kidnapped at least 199 civilians from numerous nations; killed more than 1,400 Israelis and wounded over a thousand more;

and WHEREAS, many American lives have been taken at the hands of Hamas; and WHEREAS, this is the most significant attack on Israel since Yom Kippur war, which was launched 50 years ago, newly to the day; and WHEREAS, more than 300,000 reserve soldiers were called to defend the state of Israel, and Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, declared that Israel was at war to defend itself. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners stands in solidarity with the state of Israel, and condemns this unprovoked attack by Hamas militants against Israel and his citizens; and supports Israeli's rights to defend itself and protect its citizens from indiscriminate violence and terrorism; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 as 'Stand with Israel Day' in Fulton County, Georgia."

RECIPIENT: "Thank you very much, Commissioner Thorne, for this important proclamation. As was mentioned, on October 7th, Hamas terrorist organizations slaughtered Israeli civilians, kidnapped babies, mothers, Holocaust survivors, and abducted them into the Gaza Strip where we await word of their safety and security. The solidarity that we've experienced in the Atlanta community has been tremendous for us. This is not a war against the Palestinian people. This is a war against the terrorist organization that slaughters their own, that fires rockets that land next to hospitals, that kills their own innocent civilians. We are grateful for the support that we are experiencing today, that the Fulton County Commission, and to all of the elected officials in the state of Georgia. The Jewish community is on edge at this time. A synagogue was firebombed, and we condemn the death of a young Palestinian boy who was murdered because of the attacks that took place. We, the Jewish community, stand against Islamic phobia, against hate, against anti-Semitism, and we the Jewish community stand with Israel. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "I stand here with my fellow Commissioner, Dana Barrett. Dana Barrett is the first that I know of, Jewish Commissioner of Fulton County -- Jewish woman, rather. I stand in solidarity with her because the Jewish community and the Islamic community have worked together for peace, and we will continue to work together for peace. I take great pride in being the sole Muslim representative on the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, where Commissioner Barrett is the only Jewish Commissioner. We stand together in complete agreement that we recognize the utmost significance of dialogue, understanding, and compromising in resolving conflicts and fostering lasting peace. We share the concerns expressed by our fellow Commissioners regarding the loss of innocent lives, and unequivocally condemn any action that perpetrate violence and threaten the security and well-being of any individuals, any communities. I will turn it over to my colleague now."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. As you mentioned, we have worked together well on numerous issues, and we continue to have an open dialogue on this ongoing war in Israel. And as you said, I stand with you in asking for restraint on both sides. I certainly condemn the attacks by a militant group

that were targeted at civilians, but I recognize that these attacks were carried out by Hamas, a military group that is not supported by the majority of Palestinian people, and to that end, I condemn the killing and mistreatment of all civilians; and my heart goes out to those who are mourning, those who were injured, and those who are fearing for their lives. Again, I pray for restraint on all sides and renewed efforts toward peace in the region. Here in Fulton County, I ask that we continue to stand together against anti-Semitism, Islamic phobia, and bigotry of any kind. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Madam Clerk, sound the last proclamation, please."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Georgia Works Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Will the members from Georgia Works come on down and anyone who works with the homeless. Thank you. Come on down. Thank you. It is definitely an honor and a pleasure to present this proclamation having been introduced to Georgia Works through Ken Bray, who I call the homeless whisperer, because he is known to be able to go under the bridges and anywhere where there are homeless; and he has a way of actually speaking to them with dignity and respect; and to get them to come from their circumstances and get the help that they need and providing the services through Georgia Works to help them have a better life. And so, the proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Georgia Works Incorporated is a nonprofit 501C3 organization established in 2013 to assist homeless men with a holistic approach in their transition from homelessness into fully functioning self-sufficient members of society; and WHEREAS, since 2013, Georgia Works has helped over 1,000 men in graduating the program on their road to self-sufficiency, and referred thousands of others to programs and resources that provide support services; and WHEREAS, Georgia Works advocates on local, state, federal levels to improve education awareness and activism for homeless men, women, and families; and WHEREAS, Georgia Works continues to provide comprehensive life management services in the areas of therapy, mental health, counseling, recovery, and addiction counseling, financial literacy, housing support, case management, medical support, and family counseling, job training, job development, and job placement in a residential setting; and WHEREAS, Georgia Works partners with many organizations in the state of Georgia and beyond to help meet these objectives with emphasis on job placement, recovery services, workforce development, life skills, workshops, and support services to help others in their efforts to thrive economically and operationally. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Georgia Works for their impactful work they do to ensure that all Georgians have an opportunity to work, live, and thrive in society; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 as 'Georgia Works Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Thank you for all that you do to bring people back to success in their life."

STEVE MCGOY, RECIPIENT: "Thank you very much for the honor. Commissioner Hall I've met -- had the pleasure to meet about two months ago at a meet-and-greet elected

official's event. And she made it very clear that her office and her services and her support are readily available. So, we reached out and they reached out, did their homework, and offered us this great honor, so we're happy to be here. The work that we're doing -- we just mentioned the events going on in Israel with Hamas; we have a war here on our streets with people that do not have housing, mental health issues that she spoke of, recovery issues. So we have our hands full. We have a lot of work to do and thankfully over the past ten years we have been able to make some progress, but we need your help. We need your support. It's my belief, and I believe that each person that's out there, that's on the street that's hopeless deserve the very best of what we can do to help them get back into society. We take that very seriously in terms of what we do. We are a holistic program; however, we're not able to help and save everyone. So we need to continue in our next the decade and beyond to continue to grow in the work that we're doing. I'm happy to say that we're moving, we're currently in the Gateway Center. We'll be moving next year to Star Corbin Avenue down the street from the Martin Luther King Center. We'll have our own building, and that will allow us to continue to expand the work that we're doing. This wouldn't be possible without the founder, Bill McGahan, who put this together ten years ago, so I want to acknowledge him; our current chairman, Mr. Chip Patterson, and his vision; our CEO, Ms. Darlene Schultz, who humbly stepped back today so that we, some of the front line men, can accept this honor. Mr. Ken Bray, one of our addiction counselors, Mr. Kevin Strong, a man of God and an active case manager, and Alvis Sims, lead case management, Dolphus Chandler, one of our ten-year members. He's one of the first graduates ten years ago. He's now a compliance officer. So the stories are great, and I am one of those 1,000 graduates. So you look at me and you see someone who was homeless and I run the operation of Georgia Works, and we have a staff of about 30 percent of graduates with the programs. So the program does work, and we thank you all for this great honor today."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "We have one more proclamation. I will not do a time. I will not -- I will cut it down, but I did want to take personal privilege to bring down Anna, excuse me, Nina Moczetski [Phonetic.] and also my other environmental warrior, in the green right there, you come down as well. Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment had a breakfast this morning. And the reason I wanted to take privilege -- Edith Ladipo [Phonetic.] I'm going to give you -- you are the queen of the environment, especially in South Fulton; so I want to give you a chance to get down here and join us because of all the work that you've done. You can come over here and stand on this side. The reason I thought it was very important that I not only recognize her, but show how when government works and Commissioners work together, we can get things done. This particular organization is in Fulton County, but it is in Commissioner Thorne's District. Nina Moczetski with the MTO Shahmaghsoudi Islamic -- School -- Sufism School, who gives the school, actually serves the entire Fulton County. They have planted several thousands of trees in the community. They have come out and given food, sanitary kits. They have come out and mentored homeless

children in hotels in South Fulton County. I don't know that Nina and I would have met in personal circles, but for her to be in one end of the county, and for me to be in the other, and to see all the work that her organization has done, I wanted to recognize her today: WHEREAS, the Fulton County Citizen's Commission on the environment has been empowered by the Board of Commissioners to advise and to identify development projects, community organizations, and individuals in Fulton County that advocate and exemplify environmentally sound practices. WHEREAS, MTO Shahmaghsoudi is committed to reducing waste, including food waste and general waste, and continues to roll out food waste reduction, plastic recycling programs, and refuses to purchase items with lots of packaging. WHEREAS, MTO is helping their community to move away from an economy that is reliant on fossil fuels and that is creating drastic changes to our climate by investing in clean and more efficient sources of energy including solar and wind; and WHEREAS, MTO is exhilarating their innovation to meet the needs of people in water scarce regions while continuing to reduce water use in the agriculture; and WHEREAS, MTO is working with local farmers to drive up social and environmental standards in the supply of agricultural materials by sourcing agricultural raw material sustainably. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the environmental contributions of MTO Shahmaghsoudi; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 as 'MTO Shahmaghsoudi Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Would you please put your hands together for this wonderful organization that serves all of Fulton County."

NINA, RECIPIENT: "I'm so humbled, and I am so privileged to be here today. Thank you to all the Commissioners. This really means a lot to MTO Shahmaghsoudi School of Islamic Sufism volunteers in Atlanta. It's a village, as you always say. We have numerous volunteers who come together to make these events and efforts -- make it possible. And it actually is so inspiring to see that the hearts and the souls that we've been touching through these efforts is actually coming to fruition; and we look forward to all the future collaborations and opportunities. Thank you very much, and I am very thankful. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you very much, Madam Clerk. All right. It's 10:46 a.m. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 5, Public Hearings, **23-0709**, Public Comment - Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing or by submitting their comments in writing registering on the county's website www.fultoncountyga.gov. Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30

minutes. In the event the 30-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we'll start with speakers in Assembly Hall. We have received 19 speaker cards. Will the first five speakers, please come down: Satya Vatti, Gerald Greene, Bezaleel Jupiter, Joss Taylor, and Jasmine Williams."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, those are the first five. Now, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "I'm going to take a point of personal privilege here and allow Dr. Paxton with the Fulton County Board of Health. My office received quite a bit of calls, and there was a message that was relayed out from the Fulton County Board of Health. I have since found out that Dr. Paxton was not aware of it; was in Berlin at a conference. And I appreciate her showing up this morning because that's what leaders do, to offer not only insight, but an apology because it was not vetted. It should not have been sent out. And we're going to turn it over to her for her to make a few statements before we go to everybody else. So if you all would just bear with me momentarily. Dr. Paxton, the floor is yours."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Thank you very much. I do appreciate this opportunity to come. And I'm here to personally apologize for the messaging that was sent out by Fulton County Board of Health on Friday the 13th. In an effort to echo the call by law enforcement authorities to be mindful of heightened international tensions in the Middle East, followers of Islam were characterized in an unflattering way. That message perpetuated negative stereotypes, was offensive, and was sent out to Fulton County Board of Health staff without proper vetting. I personally find this very upsetting as the Fulton County Board of Health has worked hard, very hard, to foster an environment of compassion and inclusion for all of the people who work for us and for all of the public that we serve. This effort to inform staff and request vigilance on their part fell horribly flat; and for that, we take responsibility. We have taken internal measures to provide greater scrutiny of any messaging that goes out in the future. Also, we have reached out to employees letting them know that the messaging -- that that messaging is not indicative of Fulton County Board of Health policy or beliefs. We must ensure that any unfair profiling of any groups of people on any basis never happens for any reason. To that end, I have directed our human resource's department to implement sensitivity and diversity training as soon as possible. Let me make this abundantly clear: We will ensure that something like this will not happen again."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Dr. Paxton."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Dr. Paxton."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. First five speakers, come on up, please. Call the names again, Madam Clerk. Speakers, when you have 15 seconds left, I'll say 15 seconds."

That's your clue to conclude your remarks. We have 19 speakers which will take us over the 30 minutes, but we'll try to accommodate you. Come on up, ma'am."

SATYA VATTI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Satya. I'm an organizer with the PSL Party for Socialism and Liberation. And I'm here to speak in opposition to the Stand with Israel Day proclamation brought forward Thornton and Ellis. All people of conscience in the United States should, in fact, refuse to stand with Israel. It is outrageous that you Commissioners would bring forward a proclamation in support of a racist apartheid state that is committing genocide in Gaza, and has declared the indigenous Palestinian people as human animals. Gaza is an open air prison, a concentration camp, a ghetto surrounded by the Israeli military; created for two million Palestinians who today face a total blockade completely cut off from food, clean water, electricity, and medicine. And for the past 11 days, the racist Israeli state has been ruthlessly bombing Gaza and is refusing a cease-fire. Thousands of Palestinians have been killed, over 1,000 of them being children. Entire families have been terminated. Hundreds of people are stuck under the rubble of bombed buildings. And yesterday morning in a horrific display of racist brutality, the Israeli military bombed a Gaza hospital killing over 500 people. On October 12, Israel warned 1.1 million Palestinians to leave their homes and evacuate to South Gaza in 24 hours and then bombed parts of South Gaza. It is clear to the whole world that the apartheid state of Israel is carrying out a total extermination campaign; deliberately targeting all civilian infrastructures in Gaza. We charge the apartheid Israel state and the United States government with genocide. You are complicit in Israel's war crimes. We demand that all local governments --"

CHAIRM PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

SATYA VATTI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and federal governments immediately cut all ties with apartheid Israel. We demand that you divest from Israel and that the United States immediately end all aid to Israel. This proclamation is actually a defense of apartheid and genocide."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, ma'am. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Miss, thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Next speaker, please. Captain Shealy. Where's Captain Shealy. All right. Next speaker. Next speaker. Next speaker."

GERALD GREENE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello, my name is Gerald Greene with the Party for Socialism and Liberation. Today, I'm here to talk about how Sheriff -- how there is a -- shit how the Fulton Jail is going to be shipping people from the Fulton County Jail to places in South Georgia and the rest of the south. Sorry. Sorry. "

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker. Next speaker. Next speaker."

BEZALEEL JUPITER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello, y'all, my name is Bezaleel Jupiter, the Party for Socialism and Liberation. I'm here to speak out against the fact that \$5.4 million have been wasted -- have been wasted on a failing jail. \$2 million have been wasted on wrist bands that are supposed to monitor people's health? Yet 10 people have died this year alone due to the negligence of the mass incarceration system as a whole, due to the abuse of mass incarceration system as a whole. Just as there is genocide happening in Gaza right now, there's genocide happening to our brothers and sisters against the black community right here in Atlanta, and all of you are responsible for it. Sheriff Labat is responsible for it. Y'all gave -- after a man was eaten alive by bedbugs on Sheriff Labat's watch, you gave this man, who has blood on his hands, \$5.4 million. That's a crime. That is a shame. That is a catastrophe on our community. And the fact -- the fact that y'all can say that you stand with Israel is a shame, but it's not hypocritical since y'all are carrying out the same genocide here at home. Here at home. And the fact that this is worldwide -- this is a policy choice. Nationwide, this is a policy choice, 500 percent. There's been a 500 percent increase of mass incarceration over the last 30 years. There is an overcrowding problem due to cash bail where the fact that you have a system, cash bails, where people -- since people cannot afford bail, they have to stay in jail where they might die. The people that die many of which have not seen a judge --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

BEZALEEL JUPITER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- it should not be a death sentence. Lastly, I say that the real criminals are the capitalists; the real criminals are the warmongers; the real criminals are people like Patrick Labat. And when the people have control, they will be in jail and people will not have to suffer, will not have to suffer just because they're in poverty. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir. Thank you. Next speaker."

JOSS TAYLOR, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Joss Taylor Olson. I'm an organizer with the Party for Socialism and Liberation, and I'm going to hit you with some numbers. Over 400,000 people in this country are currently being held pretrial nationwide. They've never been convicted of a crime. Many of them are in conditions just like you see here in Fulton County Jail, where to this date, 10 people have died this year. You don't deserve to be held in conditions like that even if you have been convicted. Is this where your 2023 budget proposed for Georgia's Department of Corrections was \$1.32 billion, 25.7 million of it is going to open a new women's prison. We spend a billion and change on prison annually in this state. This is over a decade on from when the Governor turned down a Medicare expansion that would have cost \$400 million over a decade to insure every man, woman, and child in this state. This is how our capitalist ruling class spends its money on incarceration and on repression rather than on investing in the root causes of people suffering. Should we throw another 5 million plus at a system that lets people languish in Fulton County jail's conditions? And on the subject of the Stand With Israel proclamation today, I want to

say that this system that criminalizes black and brown people and lets them rot for lack of ability to pay is the same system that teaches APD and another department's tactics. It's a capitalist system that exploits certain people around the world for their labor and teaches -- and uses Gaza as a laboratory for the very repressive tactics that we use on our marginalized people here at home. It's a travesty that anybody is standing with this nakedly genocidal apartheid state. It's a travesty that anybody standing with the Zionist project, that's a project of apartheid and of oppression in a settlement that goes back all the way to the Balfour declaration in 1917, even before the Nagod in 1948. It is a system of ethnic cleansing that is persistent for over --

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds."

JOSS TAYLOR, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- a century and that we must reject. I yield my time."

JASMINE WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. My name is Jasmine Williams, and I am an organizer with the party for Socialism and Liberation. I'm here to oppose a new jail being built, and to urge the ending of cash bail. It's a shame with Fulton County and Sheriff Patrick Labat -- it's a shame that they rolled out the red carpet for Donald Trump down at Rice Street while working-class people are dying in Fulton County Jail. People are being eaten alive by bedbugs before they've even seen or smelled a judge. The majority of people -- the majority of the overcrowding can be solved by ending cash bail. People who are so-called innocent until proven guilty are being sentenced to death because they can't afford bail. The best that the Fulton County Commission can do for the people of Atlanta is to take that for \$4.5 million, that \$2 million and invest it in housing, medical facilities, food and education. I had the privilege of painting a mural just up the street, and the people could see themselves in the work that I made. They can see -- I saw the dignity that was emboldened into them as they took in the artwork, and I urge you all to think about how we deserve dignity, how we deserve a life, how we deserve food, housing, education versus being brutalized by the police state. And, yeah, poverty should never be a death sentence. End cash bail, and we don't want a new jail. Thank you. I yield my time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk. Next --"

CLERK GRIER: "-- next five speakers: Kristen Butler, Monica Johnson, Julie Allen, Desirrae Thomas, and Edith Ladipo."

KRISTEN BULTER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. I'm Kristen Butler. I'm a member of the Answer Coalition, that's Act Now to Stop War and End Racism. And I'm wondering when the proclamation for Palestinian life is going to be held in your agenda? Maybe next week? Don't you think it's in bad taste to be declaring your allegiance to Israel when they have just bombed a hospital, killing hundreds of civilians including medical staff, patients, many of which who are children. Israel has told medical staff to evacuate multiple hospitals, to abandon their patients. They have targeted hospitals and schools

before in the past. Fifty thousand pregnant women in Palestine have no access to care. There's no electricity, no water, no food going into Gaza. Entire family lines have been wiped off the civil registry just in this past week. Israel tells its civilians to evacuate, and then bombs the supposed routes to safety. Israel is carrying out the genocide against the Palestinian people, and you all are seriously sitting up there and declaring that Georgians stand with Israel? You do not represent all Georgians. You are not condemning the extermination campaign, you're applauding it. You're funding it. How could none of you have stood up against the \$10 million in bonds to Israel by the governor? Are you really so spineless? Commissioners, you have a duty to use your influence to stop these war crimes. History will remember who stood aside as an entire people was wiped out. The US must cut ties with the Israeli apartheid regime. No more aid for genocide. No more."

MONICA JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All right. I want to implore all of you to not lend undeserved credence to whatever Pat Labat is going to tell you to explain away the repeated mismanagement of funds. We have at least ten glaring examples of him being untrustworthy just this year; and I mean ten lives that have been stolen away. I think that while we choose to do a Stand with Israel Day proclamation, why we haven't had a LaShawn Thompson day, a Samuel Lawrence day, a Noni Batista Soco day. It shows that apparently the Fulton County Commissioners are less concerned with those who die right here in this county, that it is with people that we help fund the killing of. And we know who killed the ten people that died this year. It was Pat Labat, and it was every time you guys signed a check to him. When there was evidence upon evidence that he doesn't know what he's doing with it. It was you all who saw that there was a plan to already move people to Atlanta City Detention Center. I guess that wasn't enough. And you guys who see that he wants to move people to South Georgia or to Mississippi because of his inability to manage this jail correctly. And if we have a jail where over half of the people are either in for crimes of poverty and can't afford bail or haven't even been charged. That I think we have an extremely urgent task ahead of us, which is to free all of those people. We cannot say that we care about human rights if we have the highest rate of incarceration in the world as a country, and Georgia has one of the highest rates in the nation. We can't say that we stand for black people or brown people --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MONICA JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- or for anybody else that's oppressed as long as we only seem to sign a blank check when it's time to kill and not when it's time to fund housing, healthcare or anything that actually helps the lives of people. So, I want you all to sit with that, and I want you guys to stop trusting everything he says. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker. "

JULIE ALLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm District 3 constituent, Julie Allen. Thank you, Dana Barrett, for your service. Dr. Paxton recently gave a report and dismissed Commissioner Thorne's question about Florida Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladipo saying Dr. Ladipo was controversial. If the CDC would rather manipulate the public than be straight with the truth, I agree that a person who is straight with the truth would be judged to be controversial. I ask this Board to inquire of Dr. Paxton, given Dr. Ladipo's recent post that stated, 'multiple studies show negative vaccine effectiveness after a few months, meaning that people who receive the mRNA vaccine appeared to have increased risk of COVID infection, and the safety profile is terrible.' Dr. Ladipo backed up his post with studies that I've attached for each of you here for Dr. Paxton's review. Please also consider Pfizer recently issued a press release stating definitively that mRNA COVID vaccines show increased risks of myocarditis and pericarditis with highest risk for adolescent males. It's inexcusable that thousands of college kids are still forced to get a shot with these known risks including students at historically black college, Morris Brown. New peer-reviewed mRNA vaccine study on rats is extremely disturbing, and isolated cardio -- excuse me, cardiomyocytes both mRNA 1273 and BNT 162B2 induce specific dysfunctions that correlate pathophysiologically to cardiomyopathy. A safety signal of seizures for young children falling COVID-19 vaccination has been detected by the FDA. The FDA and CDC announced in January that they detected a signal for ischemic stroke for people aged 65 or older -- "

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JULIE ALLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- virulent vaccine. Lastly, a new study published this month says that if you were treated with hydroxychloroquine when you got COVID-19, you would have a better chance of surviving. In recent weeks, residents have asked for accountability for Sheriff Labat under whom inmate Samuel Lawrence's death has been ruled --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, ma'am. Next speaker."

DESIRRAE THOMAS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hey there, my name is Desirrae Thomas, and I work at the Amplified Georgia Collaborative, reproductive justice, ARC Southeast, and Atlanta, and y'all have heard from me a few times about abortion funding. I'm just here to express my disappointment that we weren't able to make that happen at the last meeting. So many people rely on ARC Southeast, our abortion fund here in Georgia to help them access care. It helps them get out of state. It helps the people who have children obtain childcare while they have their abortion. So I'm really hopeful that this Body, this deliberative Body, can make that -- wrong that right from a couple of weeks -- right that wrong from a couple of weeks ago and pass that funding. And so, I'll continue to reach out to your offices to try to have conversations about how we can move this forward, and I would really appreciate it if you could get back with me or someone from your staff could. And then just speaking on behalf of myself, as Desirrae Thomas, an individual who lives here in Fulton County. I'm also super disappointed that y'all passed a proclamation for Stand with Israel Day when Israel is actively doing genocide against

the Palestinian people. That's just really disappointing and unnecessary, but I'm not surprised because this is the Fulton County Board of Commission that is funding the Fulton County Jail where people have died this year. Ten people have died this year. And so, I just wish that y'all take a little more time for community care and thinking about the people that you serve and how you can best be of service to them. So, thank y'all and have a great day."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

EDITH LADIPO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi. My name is Edith Ladipo. I live in Southwest Atlanta. I've been there for about 45 years. I come here to talk to you all about one important fact, and that is seniors are not being taken care of in the Campbellton Road corridor. We need to have facilities for healthcare, facilities for recreation and cultural activities, and for them to become socialized with the people of their own age. We have identified 31 schools in the southwest quadrant that are empty. We are asking your help in getting these facilities repurposed to help provide healthcare services for people in this quadrant and also for recreation and for socialization and cultural activities. We have identified Venetian Hills Elementary School, former segregated school, in southwest quadrant, and we believe that this facility can be repurposed, renovated just for that purpose. The second thing that I would like to ask you to do is to consider the reduction of septic tanks in the southwest quadrant. Most of the people that are been there for a long time, they are still on septic tanks, and this is not a sustainable way for waste, and we all know that and we need to start funding programs that get people tapped into the system. The last thing I want to mention is the fact that we can also repurpose some of these 31 schools for indoor soccer, and for training for high school kids. Because these are things that are absent from our community. We have the resources and we need to get to it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

EDITH LADIPO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next five speakers."

CLERK GRIER: "Janet Hill, Furquan Muhammad, Devin Barrington-Ward, Darius Bowdry, and Afreen Khunduri."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Who's next? Mr. Hill. Mr. Hill? Ms. Hill? What's the name, Madam Clerk, what's the name? Janet Hill."

JANET HILL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm here again today to follow up on my request to Natalie Hall regarding DTHEF. Recent activity has escalated to the point where I was unlawfully detained by scammers with assistance from Fulton County. Susan in property management has admitted to the police and to Fulton County Marshals that there is no evidence -- I repeat no evidence of a purchase of my property

for \$746,000 as indicated in a counterfeit deed. I'm not only here on my behalf, but on behalf of other Fulton County homeowners that have been impacted and it is on record up to at least 150 of homeowners have been affected by this one scammer and thug. They showed up at my property with masks, a covered license plate, and Marshals to eject me from my home unlawfully. I want a response and I respectfully demand a Resolution. They're supplemental documents that are included. There are no new laws that are needed. The judges have responsibilities to make sure that this does not happen. There are des possessions within the magistrate office that have been done lawfully. These judges know what to do, and some them are not doing their jobs. The Marshals are not doing their jobs."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

JANET HILL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "This woman stood in my property and explained that she has no proof, no evidence that she ever bought my property. This has to end. Thank you for your time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

FURQAN MUHAMMAD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I begin in by and with the name of the creator of magnificent, the merciful -- the merciful benefactor. I bring greetings from the Muslim community in Fulton County, and we greet all of you, the leaders here with the greetings of peace. I'm speaking on the behalf of the Muslim Influence Education, our enemy is ignorance. Our enemy is not us. We're not the enemy, and I want all of you to know that Islam gives us manners in how to deal with any matters. Jihad is not a word that means holy war. It means only to struggle. I'm suggesting that education is the key of the problems that we are suffering with. Stop letting the media and the public try to teach you about our faith. If you want education, then you have to go to the source of that education. Our war again is with ignorance and again, falsehood. And we remove that with education. Muslims are never taught to be the aggressive, to fight only with those who fight us. We are taught to spare all domestic life, all plant life, and not to kill innocent spectators, et cetera. We can only give you what the religion teaches. We cannot safeguard our teaching by anyone just saying they're Muslim and you believe that; so my purpose for coming here today is to promote education about the faith of Islam. Thank you."

DEVIN BARRINGTON-WARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Devin Barrington-Ward, Communities Over Cages, ATL. Prior to my remarks about the jail, I want to be clear that I stand in solidarity with the oppressed people like leaders like Desmond Tutu, like Nelson Mandela who knows a lot about apartheid and talked about how the Israeli government is upholding an apartheid regime; where they're controlling an open air prison for nearly two million people in one of the most densely populated areas in the world. And so, my hope is that we are more nuanced in our approach and that we don't just quote Dr. King and quote Nelson Mandela, but we actually live by those principles. Quickly, I'm happy to report that at the Atlanta City Council unanimously a Resolution

was passed to support the expansion of prearrest diversion services in the city of Atlanta; and urging Fulton County Commissioners to do the same throughout Fulton County. We know that there are so many issues plaguing the Fulton County jail, but we need to be proactive about making sure that we are diverting people from that facility in the first place. And so, the way to do that is double down on diversion. I shared at the last meeting a draft Resolution around the support for the expansion of prearrest diversion services in Fulton County, and also to ensure that there are grants made available to churches, harm reduction organizations, youth organizations, and other nonprofits that are well-equipped to aid in diversion in Fulton County. We are not going to solve the problem at the Fulton County Jail by shipping folks to Mississippi and South Georgia."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

DEVIN BARRINGTON-WARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "We're going to solve the problem at that Fulton County Jail by being proactive and preventing people from going there in the first place. My hope is that at this next meeting in November, that Resolution is introduced and that it is passed unanimously by this Body. Thank you."

DARIUS BOWDRY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Darius Bowdry. I support prearrest diversion. This is Christopher Roper. He died at Fulton County Jail last year on March 3rd, 2022. At first, when I got the info, they say he had been stabbed, but apparently it was fentanyl. He was a friend of mine. We grew up making music together, running, and a whole lot more different things. So yeah, some really do got to be done about Fulton County Jail, but like you can't -- I don't feel like you can have it both ways. Like you got to -- I think pretty much we know we need a new jail. That's clear, I think. So, you got to have the money to build a new jail, but I also don't think we need to ship inmates to this place, that place, hundreds of some miles away. But you can't really have it both ways. If you don't want them to be in a bad jail, the jail got to be rebuilt. And these my folks, too. I want them to stay healthy so we go and see them so they have better access. But that ain't -- that part ain't necessarily for me to decide. But we need a new jail, and don't send those inmates away."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

DARIUS BOWDRY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I yield."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

AFREEN KHUNDUIRI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: As-Salaam-Alaikum. I am Afreen Khundiuri. I am the executive founder and executive director of a nonprofit organization for law services. To our dedicated public servants, I share a cherished lesson, a lesson from my father. He often emphasized that once released both words and bullets are irrevocable. Their impacts sometimes unforeseen, can deeply resonate with others. Serving in a government role amplifies the weight of our works, and we must always

remember the profound influence you can have, for instance, a 6-year-old Palestinian child being murdered by a white Jewish guy in Chicago because hate is being bred. Because there is a vacuum of misinformation that creates hate and fear. I urge each one of us to exercise caution, compassion, and thoughtfulness in our communications recognizing the vast impact of our words can have on the community we serve. Let's commit to leading with kindness, empathy, and responsibility. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. You got four more?"

CLERK GRIER: "We actually have six. We had two extra cards. Last speakers in Assembly Hall: Azil Balsam, Estevan Hernandez, Mazia Conswada, Sarah Qureshi, Zakir Syed, and Sofia Naviwala."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, come on down, please. That's it? All right. Next speaker."

AZIL BALSAM, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "This poem is a response to the October 13th e-mail by the Fulton County Board of Public Health. You paint us with the same old brush. Your media is Islamic phobia, dipped in anti-Muslim rhetoric; it's unfair to add more drama. Statements that wrongfully equate us with the horror that is Hamas and terror when we object to war crimes labeling us as anti-semitic. Your canvas colors are mixed together. Let's add some more hateful rhetoric here and a little prejudice there to make it more sensational. Blaring it without Muslim dignity, which is dealt with each joke that you make, just until the colors blend and become the exact shade of brown that you want. Your canvas: propaganda. Our sweet angel, Vedia, a victim of horror 27 times over, a Palestinian casualty like the others, 1,500 civilians, murdered, numbers rising in the hundreds every single day for no fault but being Palestinian. Where is your cry for international law? Where is your cry for human rights now? I thought we were meant to have learned a lesson about staying silent in the face of genocide; our ancestors are crying. When you mix these mediums, there's no masterpiece: Just real-life consequences when your strokes become bias and they come to life. As the artist, it's time for you to use a new brush. I recommend one. It's called humanity."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Next speaker."

ESTEVAN HERNANDEZ, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. On October 13th, the Fulton County Board of Public Health sent an e-mail to its employees spreading misinformation and fanning the flames of an already delicate situation. This plays in to propaganda that has already taken the life of an innocent 6-year-old child in Chicago, only because he was Palestinian and Muslim. I would like Fulton County Board of Health to take the necessary steps to correct the stance taken in their e-mail. Inflammatory rhetoric is leading to rising Islamic phobia in the US and beyond. And as a public organization, you must hold yourself to a higher standard. We are facing a humanitarian crisis with over 1,100,000 Palestinian people displaced and cut off from all access to aid, food, water, and electricity, and almost 2,000 Palestinian children killed so

far. These numerous war crimes committed by Israel including the targeting of a Christian hospital, as well as the use of white phosphorous that burns people alive has been verified by many organizations including Human Rights Watch, the United Nations, and Amnesty International. Let us keep all of the innocent women and children in our thoughts and prayers as we demand an end to this ongoing brutal genocide and ethnic cleansing. Killing innocent civilians is not okay, no matter who does it. We can agree that war is not the answer and will never bring peace. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

ZAKIR SYED, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Zakir Syed. I'm a Cobb County resident from Marietta. The Fulton County Board of Health's e-mail on October 13th was completely irresponsible, and it is this type of rhetoric that's fueling Islamic phobic sentiment in this country and in our communities. Fulton County Board of Health did take necessary actions to retract their statement and issue a formal apology. However, some irreparable damage has been done and it's important such incidents are not repeated. I urge Fulton County Board of Health to create necessary guardrails to prevent such a situation in the future. This starts by providing necessary training on cultural awareness and sensitivity to remove biasness in the workplace and require their staff to speak with the facts. Lastly, I suggest Ms. Thorne to keep her faith-based ideology personal and not to mettle with her position she represents. That's what makes this country great, the separation of church and state. We also need to create a proclamation to stand with the Palestine. Their suffering and injustice is going on for too long and it has to stop. Israel's illegal occupation on their land, stripping them from all of their basic human rights, bombing on civilian population, and now cutting off supplies of food and water and electricity is considered a war crime. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, next speaker."

SOPHIA NAVIWALA, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Sofia Naviwala. I work with the Islamic Speakers Bureau of Atlanta. I'm here to talk about the proclamation for We Stand with Israel Day. The proclamation is real day showing solidarity and concern only for Israel with no acknowledgement of the ongoing and historical suffering and death of Palestinian is an unbiased -- is a bias and unbalanced stance that can be harmful Fulton County's reputation and more importantly, to the numerous community members within your county who identify as Muslim, Palestinian, and Arab. The suffering of Israelis is heavy on all our hearts, but Fulton County should no way condone Israel's violence perpetuated on civilians. I challenge you to identify the overwhelming hypocrisy of the recent statements and actions noting no such unilateral support has been offered for Palestinians who have been occupied, brutalized, and terrorized for over seven decades. As a concerned community member, I've already seen the effects of your statement on my child, who was called a terrorist in class yesterday. Let that sit with you for a minute. My 14-year-old son who loves chess, who loves volunteering, who loves comic books, was called a terrorist in class yesterday. The rhetoric Fulton County is adopting is extremely divisive and detrimental

to ensuring a safe environment for all citizens. Your county is tasked with the care of a diverse population, and you have the duty to approach times like this as thoughtfully and steadfastly, not rationally and reactively, especially when it is clear that you have taken no care to understand the nuance complex and long-lasting political conflict. More importantly, your utmost responsibility lies with your constituents who deserve to be equally nurtured, protected, and supported. I'm calling on all of you to adopt the balance views --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

SOPHIA NAVIWALA, PUBLIC SPEAKER R: "-- and not fall into media misinformation, and ask that in lieu of recent biased statements, you also make a clear statement affirming the pain and suffering of the Palestinians, especially the more than two million Palestinians that occupies Gaza who are children, who have been called human animals by the Israel Defense Minister. These children are being indiscriminate --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, ma'am. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you very much. Anybody else, Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers in Assembly Hall."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, next item for public hearing."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. We have two on Zoom; do you want them?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, we'll take them at the end of the meeting."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. Continuing on page 5, **23-0710**, Finance. Public Hearing to amend a multiyear installments sale agreement with ACCG to increase financing for those additional funds needed to complete North Fulton building that will house various government services and certain equipment for the building."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. This is a public hearing. Anyone in the Assembly Hall here for this public hearing? I'll open the public hearing. Anyone present to speak on this matter? Anyone present to speak on this matter?"

(Whereupon, no response from attendees.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "If not, I'll close the public hearing. The item will be voted on later on in the agenda. Next item, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Next, we have two items that were moved up for -- moved up during the beginning of the meeting. First item to be heard is **23-0732**, on page 10, Discussion: Follow-up on \$5.3 million emergency funding approved for the Sheriff's department at the April 19th of 2023, BOC meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just to sort of frame this discussion and why it was placed back over the agenda. As we had a discussion at our prior meeting on October 4, there was an outline of contractual timeline that the sheriff had entered into a contract with an organization by the name of Talitrix. There were some terms in those contracts that were provided and there were a lot of questions that were raised in terms of that particular discussion. For a little bit of context, just a reminder too that there was a representation or request by the Sheriff to the BOC at the April 19, 2023 meeting to provide an additional \$5.3 million in emergency funding, and 2.1 million of that was related to a request for wearable devices that would be up and running at the Rice Street facility by July. In the context of looking at and looking at this thing and items that were reported in the news media and elsewhere, we later learned that none of these devices were running when we got to September, and only a few as of our last meeting. But yet 2.1 million was allocated, and I think there've been about 737,000 that has been spent related to this contract. Also, it was raised that when we were able to obtain some of the contracts, we learned unbeknownst to us that the Sheriff had entered into agreements with this particular organization going back to September 27, 2021; and there was no knowledge of that by this Board or disclosure of that at the time that this emergency ask was presented to us. So the purpose related to this discussion is to get some -- allow the Sheriff himself to appear before us and respond to specific questions related to the contract. This is in a discussion related to the efficacy of these products or viability or anything of that nature; it's really just specifics related to this particular contract. In terms of a little bit sort of housekeeping and we'll just further elaborate on that for the reason why that we are keenly interested in that as a Board of Commissioners is we're obviously interested heavily in transparency in spending, Contracting in that so we make the most informed decisions for our citizens regarding the use of funds that Fulton County has been entrusted with. And there are a lot of questions here that remain unanswered that we're hoping to get some answers directly from Sheriff Labat today. A few just of sort of housekeeping items that I would like to share before we get into some of the individual questions for Sheriff Labat. And I think they're context things that I just think are important for us to consider and the citizens to consider as we get into these particular discussions. And I've got some information that I'll share with you all and just sort of go through just so you have it in terms of the contexts. As we have learned, this appears to be a no-bid contract that was entered into directly by the Sheriff. And, certainly, we know that we all have obligations when it comes to campaign disclosure and funding that sort of stuff. We all have the ability to take campaign contributions and what I'm about to share doesn't seek to suggest there's any untold behavior. It's just really more as a matter of context. I had some folks that provided me with this information. I have not had a chance to thoroughly

review every bit of it, but it appears to be fairly -- fairly thorough in its presentation. And since -- since the election of Sheriff Labat, either directly from employees, the organization, Talitrix itself, spouses or related entities, there have been contributions -- political contributions of 78,100. Again, it's just sort of context. I think it's important, you know, when we look at that particularly when a party has entered into a contract themselves, that we need to reflect upon that, and my judgment has been potentially clouded or some degree of conflict in those decisions presented by the magnitude of those particular political contributions. Secondly, I just want to share with the other Commissioners only because it's something that I found a little bit bothersome and disturbing but, you know, hey, we're a part of the Fulton County Commission and this is the -- this is the place where, you know, we're subject to a lot of criticism and debate and that sort of stuff; but I just want to call this out and share this with you all just in case you received similar pieces of information and you might know where the source -- so that you know where the source of that may be. On the evening of October 9th, about 11 o'clock or so, I rolled over and got a text message that came in on my phone, and it was from a person who reported to be the CEO of Talitrix, basically suggesting that, you know, that I be quiet. It was a fairly threatening message. So that was somewhat disturbing. I have no idea whether or not this was a -- refer to that individual himself or somebody posing as that individual. And then yesterday, when I arrived home, you know, you got those in your mailbox sometimes, you got people come by and they stick those -- they don't want to want to pay for stuff, put it in a mailbox, but they stick it underneath, right? You know, sometimes they are contractors canvassing your neighborhood and that sort of stuff, right? Well, what I had, it was rolled up. I had about four or five folders, I mean political mailers. What they look like. Let me see if I can find them here. You got a copy of it right there, but they're -- you know what I'm talking about. They're political mailers, and kind of a defamatory nice little suggestive negative picture of me saying that I had sold out North Fulton, siding with the Fulton establishment and all that other kind of stuff. So I thought it was somewhat unusual that given that we're in a non-campaign year, I'm not up for election, but yet somebody is sending out a political mailer. And it's not in my mailbox, but it was a bunch of stuff rolled up, stuck in my mailbox. Then I looked down and there was a -- it looks like it's paid for by something called Americans for Protecting the Public. So that got my curiosity, and I didn't plan to spend as much time on this last night, but it certainly got my curiosity after I got home from work. So I did a little digging out on the state site, and you'll see attached to that this political action committee, Americans for Protecting the Public when it was originally formed on March 31, 2023; the chairperson of this was a Justin Hawkins, who I believe is the CEO of the Talitrix organization, and another individual is listed as treasurer, who I believe is an employee of the organization, as I understand it. And then later on, you'll see the disclosure of the \$232,000 in contributions from an organization -- interestingly, it says Tale Trex, LLC, as opposed to Talitrix. I don't know if that was a typo of intentionality or just a typo. About 232,000. Nonetheless, a political action committee that appears to be started by this organization. Somehow, I got a little mailer shoved up in my mailbox. Maybe free speech, maybe permissible or whatnot. But nonetheless, somewhat curious, given that questions have been raised, and all of a sudden, I was met with intimidation techniques such as these.

So, hopefully, those were not done by the organization. And whoever is doing them, I just would encourage you to not engage in intimidation tactics with elected officials who are asking specific questions about contracting matters and expenditures of public funds. And, furthermore, the questions today, and I have no interest in the efficacy of this product whether it's viable or whether it's not viable, and those are not really the subject of our questions. The subject of my questions, and I believe the other Board members and the stuff we discussed the other day were specific to this particular contract or series of contracts and amendments. On October 9th, I sent a letter to Sheriff Labat, which I copied all of -- all of you on, and you have a copy of that and seen it in your e-mail, and it requested certain information be provided to us in advance of the meeting is required. You will remember also at a prior meeting where we had the Sheriff come before us related to a discussion related to outsourcing of inmates. At that point in time too, we had told the Sheriff when you come before us we need to have information in advance for us to review so that we can ask well-informed questions. So, in light of that, there were some specific requests that were made to the Sheriff in this October 9, 2023 letter, and we're followed back up on Friday, and the Sheriff has been nonresponsive to these particular requests. And the information specifically that was requested and it was an itemization of all payments made to Talitrix including the date of payment, the amount of payment, and the fund from which the payments were drawn, whether it was a general fund, an inmate welfare fund, or some other fund. And a detailed list of expenditures from the inmate welfare fund for the calendar years 2021, 2022, as well as 2023 year-to-date; and details of that should include the date of payment, the amount of payment, payee name, and the purpose of the expenditure. So those were the requests that were made by me and that they be sent to the Full Board of Commissioners, and we have not had a response to those. So, I would like to start the questioning with those particular items and when we will receive that particular information. Or if you have it today, just supply to us. With that, I will welcome Sheriff Labat to appear before us to respond to the questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You were right at ten minutes, Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well, it's a discussion item, Mr. Chair, so. Thank you, Sheriff Labat. Just to start with, the question related to the itemization and the payments made to Talitrix; the dates of those payments, the amounts and from the funds which those were drawn. Do you have that information for us?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "First of all, good morning."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Good morning."

SHERIFF LABAT: And, secondly, I will have Fani Willis, who's in charge of my law enforcement division, meet with you or your Chief of Staff. If you'd like to file a complaint or see if there was a crime committed, we will certainly take care of that."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Mr. Sheriff."

SHERIFF LABAT: "So, again, I just want to offer that to you. I appreciate it, thank you. So here's where we are. As you know, first --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- does that mean that you're not going to respond to that particular question?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "Let me tell you what it means. It means you will get everything that you ask for. It also means I want to take the opportunity to thank each and every one of you for joining me on a Zoom call last week when most of you know I was out of town conducting business. And to that extent, I'm going to turn the microphone over to Amelia, Amelia Joiner, our attorney, and you will get the answers that you are seeking; and then you will have the copies and we can go back from there."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. So you're not preparing to respond to the question? You're delegating those to someone else?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "No. You will get everything that you've asked for."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "But we're not getting it today?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "You're getting it today."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Okay. Well, we'll start with that question number one. Can you provide us with the payments that were made to Talitrix, the date that they were made, and the source and the funding which they came."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes, sir. Good morning, Vice Chair Ellis. We have received a copy of your October 9th, 2023 letter wherein you list a number of items that you're interested in. One is the itemization of all payments to Talitrix, and we are going to get that. The Sheriff appreciates -- he has a deep appreciation for the recognition that as a constitutional officer, this Board does not have the power or the authority to direct him to appear or to do anything; but also that he practices and believes in the principles of transparency and accountability. To that end, since January 2021, our officers appeared before this Board 14 times, nine of which the Sheriff himself has appeared, because he believes in that transparency and accountability that you discussed. Because he desires to be transparent and accountable, I am here to address all of the concerns that you articulate in your October 9, 2023 letter. First, there have been comments and allegations --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- ma'am, I have that specific question I'm looking to have addressed, and those are the amount of the payments, when they were made, and the source of the fund in which they came. These are fairly simple, straightforward questions, and I will also remind you that the funding tied to this particular matter released the 2.1 million rest not in your budget, but it rests in nonagency."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Absolutely."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "And I would like a specific answer to my question. Not -- and so are you prepared to give that answer today or not?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute, everybody. He's asked a specific question. Do you have the answer?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes."

SHERIFF LABAT: "With the grace that Madame Khadijah, our Commissioner, Abdur-Rahman, said, was not afforded last time. We wanted to make sure -- we wanted to make sure that the assertions made by Vice Chair Ellis were answered."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Sheriff, Sheriff, Sheriff just a minute. Let's just try to get through this. It's a specific question. What's the answer?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "The specific questions will be answered if you let us finish."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's the answer?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "Five minutes at best and you will have every answer to every question --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- what's the answer to the questions?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "-- is that not fair?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's the answer to the question?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "Again, is that not fair? There were several assertions made two weeks ago that were derogatory, inflammatory at best including this morning. And so, I offered the services of the Sheriff's office to see if we can help Vice Chair Ellis in that particular instance. But I think it fair that you let us continue, so you get the specific answers to not just that question, but to every question that was asked last week. If you don't think that's fair, we can reduce it to writing and we can continue to go from there."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "However you want --"

SHERIFF LABAT: "This is not an inquisition, it's just more of --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- Sheriff, Sheriff, Sheriff, just a minute. Just a minute. Let's try to get through this. The questions were presented in writing, I guess, shortly after our last meeting.

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Correct."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Sheriff, just a minute. All he's asking for, and I'm interested in hearing what the answers are as well. So what's the answer to the first question?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "The first question is Talitrex's technology is unproven, untested, and --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's not the first question. The first question relates to payments. No, I just gave you my first question. What payments have been made to Talitrex? What's the amount of the payment, the date they were made, and the funds from which they were drawn? General, welfare fund, or other? That's the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's a straightforward question. What's the answer?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "The answer is on December 3rd, 2021, for the initial design of the system, the payment in the amount of \$35,000 was made to Teletrax on December 9th, 2021, for 50 percent of the infrastructure installation of payment of \$195,000 was paid to Talitrex. And on December 22nd, 2021, the remaining balance for the infrastructure installation in the amount of \$195,000 was paid to Talitrex. The max value of the contracts was \$1.6 million, but only \$435,000 were paid. The money was paid from the inmate welfare fund as it was for the benefit and the wellness of the inmates."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. And then there were other --"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "-- in April -- I'm sorry. May 19th, 2023, \$733,000 was paid in response to the amended statement of work number 3 related to work at the Fulton County Jail's main facility on Rice Street. That was from the general fund."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So --"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "-- that's the county's general fund."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "All right. So, the \$733,000 plus 435."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "And that was -- to be specific, each of these payments are related to Talitrix's work for inside the walls activity that is work related -- related to activities inside the jail. Talitrix have another engagement with the county and others to do electronic monitoring, which is a completely separate issue."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next question."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "With respect -- with respect --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. The next question is for a detailed list of all the expenditures from the inmate welfare fund for calendar year 2021, 2022, as well as 2023 year-to-date with specific details that were requested."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "You would like for me recite them all here?"

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "I would like it -- I would like what I requested back on October 9th to be provided. And so, my request is when -- my question is when are we going to get that detailed information that was requested well in advance of this meeting?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "The inmate welfare fund is under review and audit. At the completion of that review and audit, this Board will be provided with the appropriate documentation related to that audit."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay, that's not an acceptable response."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "That's the response."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. That's the response, so we're not -- so if I asked our CFO for certain financial information, and they told me that they were not going to provide me detailed expenditures until such time as our audit was completed, which is typically about nine to ten months. What is it? About nine to ten months afterwards before you complete an audit? That's a nonresponsive answer. I would like what I requested: information from 2021, 2022, and 2023 year-to-date itemized expenditures from this fund. This is again another straightforward request in which we're getting a nonresponsive answer."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "That's incorrect. You will get the documentation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "When do you think -- that should be easy to -- I mean, if checks were written out soon, just itemize them and give him the list -- or give us a list."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "When might we expect to see that?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Two weeks; at the next Board meeting."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Can we receive it in a week, by the end of this week?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "No."

SHERIFF LABAT: "Two weeks by the next Board meeting."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So that will be over a month. If you receive an open records request for that, would you tell them you've got to respond in two weeks?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "It depends on what time it would take to gather the information."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, okay. Well, that's somewhat nonresponsive, but that's your answer? Okay, I have a few other questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I mean, I don't see why it takes that long with -- this inmate fund, that's problematic in the first place. But just to be responsive to the question, I mean, there were checks written on this fund, I assume; and if somebody's keeping track of it, I also make that assumption. So why would it take two weeks to get that and why we haven't had it, I don't understand that. But go ahead. I will agree that that's nonresponsive."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The expenditures that were made prior to this 733,000, I believe you said it was about \$435,000 worth. What were the services that were actually delivered as a result of these particular expenditures? Were there wearable devices --"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "-- that people were wearing? So can you describe for me the specifics where they were and, you know, kind of the services that were provided for those particular things?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes, absolutely. That was our intent at the beginning. In September of 2021, we entered into a statement of work and a master monitoring service agreement with Talitrix for implementation of its technology at the South Annex. Following that and after the payments were made, all of the bands were -- I'm sorry; the bands were deployed and worn by every inmate in the South Annex. Those inmates wore the bands for several months until which time that the South Annex was shuttered. When the South Annex was shuttered on December 17th of 2022, the inmates were moved to AC/DC. The Talitrix technology, however, was not able to be deployed at AC/DC because that is not our building. Thereafter, we entered into an agreement, Statement of Work number two, with Teletrax for work at the Alpharetta jail. The value

of that contract is separate and apart from that related to the South Annex, but no funds have been paid for that. Notwithstanding the fact that no funds have been paid for that, bands are deployed and are worn by every inmate in the Alpharetta jail facility. That technology has been up and running for months now."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "How many?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "It depends on the population today. I believe it is close to 40. That's an estimate."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Close to 40? They don't have that many inmates --"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "I'm sorry. Close to 50, in Alpharetta."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "They don't have that many inmates in Alpharetta."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes, we do."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, continue."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So one of the Statements of Work, there is a particular contract provision which, as it reads, one could interpret it to be or that this is basically, gives the appearance that it is allowing the vendor to do essentially research and development work within our jail facility. And so, I'll just read it: customer hereby grants to Talitrix the perpetual worldwide royalty-free license and right to use the data in connection with its provision of the monitoring services including without limitation for the purposes of performing data analytics. Such license also includes Talitrix's right to use data in aggregate form for statistical analysis for predictive analytics which may be shared with or utilized by Talitrix or third parties which said certain information would not include personal identifiable information or information identifying customer. It's understood Teletrax is responsible for backup, recovery, and safekeeping of data. From my reading of this, that's sounds like a lot of R&D work as opposed to a particular service that we are receiving. Can you comment on that particular contract, contractual provision?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "I can. That's -- your understanding is incorrect. In fact, it's not Research and Development and, as it relates to the data in the master monitoring service agreement, I'm sure that you have it there, it states that the customer, which means the Sheriff's Office, owns all the data information or material that the customer submits to the monitoring service. So just like any other agreement that we have where data is collected, the Fulton County Sheriff's Office owns it."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, I mean, I guess the problem with that statement is such license -- it says, such license also includes Talitrix's right to use this data for

statistical analysis or predictive analytics which may be shared with or utilized by Talitrix or a third party. That's not sort of a closed loop for use of this particular information."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "So it's a different set of data. You misunderstand. It has to be read -- you cannot read it separately like that. You have to read it in whole."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "So respectfully, I don't want to give, you know, you legal advice. I'm certain that the County Attorney's Office can do that, but it has to be read as a whole as opposed to taking one paragraph or clause in trying to apply it."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So just, on that note, this contract was constructed by you and your office, the Sheriff's Office, correct?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Incorrect."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "What's that? Who developed the contract? The Statement of Work?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Well, it's a mutual contract between the parties -- contracts are mutual and the parties collectively develop the terms."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well the parties are the Sheriff's department and Talitrix, correct?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. That's what I was going to say. The county is not a party to this contract. It's the Sheriff's Department and Talitrix are the parties to the contract."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Correct. The Sheriff's office."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. When we were presented information, or the Board was presented information on April 19th, why was this particular arrangement not disclosed to us at that point in time?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "I'm glad you asked that. The April 19th, 2023 meeting was solely about conditions at the Rice Street facility. At that time, everyone here was talking about the conditions at 901 Rice Street. That was the subject of conversation. The Sheriff requested funding related to Talitrix, and it had to be understood that he knew about Talitrix and about their ability to provide the service. Had he been asked at any time to articulate and enumerate all of the ways that he knows about Teletrax, he would have done so; but this Board did not inquire of that information. This Board and

everyone else was focused on the conditions at 901 Rice Street, and really to suggest otherwise is disingenuous at best."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well, I would disagree with your disingenuous comment. I think when you're presenting something for public expenditure of funds, it's important that you are as transparent as possible, in particularly when disclosed, there is an existing relationship in what really, you know, kind of we had learned from the expenditures of these other funds. And the actual ability to actually stand up and meet what was requested for and the purpose of these \$2.1 million in expenditures. So, you know, I do think that nondisclosure of these existing contracts is problematic, and it's misleading to this Board. Next question, when this was presented to the Board, it was presented that these 1,000 wearables would be up and running at Rice Street by July. They're not, we know that. That didn't take place. At the time that this 2.1 million was approved, should you not have known, based upon your experience to date and your knowledge of the operations of the jail, that this was not something that could be executed in that time frame?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "No. There's no way to know. There's no way to know that. I mean, that the reality is that the jail is severely overcrowded, and it is extremely difficult to implement technology or even do regular maintenance when you have as many people as you do in the cells, sleeping on portable bunks, et cetera. So, there is a delay in the implementation, but the implementation is ongoing. In fact, the implementation is completed in at least one of the housing zones at the main jail. So, yes, there have been delays, but the implementation is ongoing."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So at April 19th, didn't we have 3,600 inmates or so, roughly about the same? The jail was overcrowded at that point in time. They're apparently was no plan for it to be quickly depopulated. So, the presentation of this was sort of predicated upon here's the existing situation. We're going to be able to stand these up. That is what was represented to this Board. So, I'll ask my question again."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Certainly."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Knowing that the facility was overcrowded, had challenges, should you not have known that you were not going to be able to execute and deliver these number of wearables in the timeframe in which you suggested to this Board? Now remember, this was an emergency request, which implies to this Board and to others that the funding needs to be provided because actions are going to be taken immediately and in the timeframe in which they were prescribed?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "No, we should not have known that. From that same meeting, EMSI was contracted, the funding for EMSI contracting was approved. Out of our work with EMSI, the bridging plan was born. When the bridging plan was born, massive rehabilitation efforts were scheduled to take place at the Rice Street facility. Therefore, the South Annex, which had now in the six and seven months since it had

been vacated, all of the people who were supposed to go there, leaving the third floor, capable of having this technology quickly implemented, they were -- really, they had to stay in place; and a different housing zone and floor had to be moved to the South Annex to allow for the maintenance blitz work to occur. So no, we could not have known that because at that same meeting, you approved EMSI to come and suggest -- and work with us in order to help with the conditions at the Rice Street facility."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Well, the conditions are the conditions. You presented us this \$2.1 million-dollar ask, it was presented, you didn't. But the Sheriff presented to us that's something that could be delivered in that timeframe, and the status and conditions of the jail were what they were. It wasn't going to change immediately. That was the way in which it was presented. You know, so, in terms of what I heard and what was represented to the Board was the expectation that these things were going to be stood up and we were not provided with this kind of potential risk that they weren't going to be able to be done. So, I mean, I think if you've had said -- potentially would have said, hey, we're not sure this actually could get implemented, we certainly would not have approved \$2 million on an emergency ask for something to be done within this short period of time. We would have waited and said, okay, when is the right time to potentially consider this? When can it be stood up? How can it be stood up, and be able to ask more informed questions. So, the first date that any wearables were put in place at the Rice Street Jail was what date? Was the date in September?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "It was late August, early September. September -- actually, was September the 11th."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "September the 11th, and then -- September 22nd, there was a report that there were 15 wearables deployed?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "I can't say who reported it."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "How many are deployed at the current point in time?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Currently, I think in one housing zone, it's the entire housing zone, and that is 15 people."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Fifteen, at this point in time? That's what's deployed the Rice Street facility?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Correct."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Okay. I have no further questions, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No further questions. Where's Commissioner Abdur-Rahman? All right, Commissioner Barrett? So, is she --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- if she comes back, I'll yield."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. This is a mess, y'all, so go ahead."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just have a couple questions. I think one of the points of confusion, and Sheriff you and I spoke about this when we met, was the infrastructure requirements in the building. I think the day that we approved that funding, I certainly was not clear on the way that the bands worked in the sense that they have to have built-in infrastructure. And I think that is where a lot of the confusion has come from, in terms of the ability to get this up and running more quickly. So can you explain the infrastructure required and what that installation process entails, and why we had to do it, only zone is empty, and that sort of thing."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Are you asking the Sheriff or the attorney?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Either way."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Right. I think that obviously those are such technologically advanced questions that are better posed to Talitrix. And so, I implore the Board to invite them to come and answer those questions; the ones that relates to technology."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I mean, I'm sorry. Let me stop you there. Sheriff, would you mind speaking to this? Because you and I have spoken about it, and I'm certainly not -- I just think we need think we have a -- I think we and the public need to have a clear understanding of what has to get installed in the facility, and approximately how long that installation takes. And, certainly, any contract you would enter into, you would have some knowledge and expectation of what has to get done in order for to be implemented."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Right. So we recently met with Talitrix to get more information from them on how long it will take. And we were informed in that meeting that it would take them approximately three weeks -- six weeks to finish their implementation."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That's not what I'm asking. I'm asking for each zone, what has to get done? Like, what is the construction requirements? What is happening? What has to get done and per zone."

SHERIFF LABAT: "And, first of all, thank you for the question, and certainly thank you for taking the time to meet with me. And let me start here, let me apologize: if I gave anyone the impression like this Apple Watch, I could slap it on and start monitoring people, then that was incorrect. Let me start there. Secondly, let me -- the infrastructure itself, and Attorney Joiner brought up a really good point: We

simultaneously approved -- asked for, so it's not just the one contract in \$5.3 million. There were several other functionalities. We asked for EMSI and the recommendation of what they had done before involving COVID to come in and help us glean those very things. What would be the obstacles, right? What would that look like? And so, we -- we engaged simultaneously with those things. Since then, we've learned there a number of things that take hold or have to be present before we're able to refurbish a complete unit. It is not just Talitrix. It is the doors. It is the paint. It is absolutely the lighting structure. We did a punch down list just a few days ago with respect to where we are on the blitz that was born of the EMSI piece as well, which was also rejected by the Board, in terms of the entire blitz of all 78 zones. What we are trying to master, if you will, is how long does it take to rehab a complete zone which will include upgrading technologies. If you recall, there were 91 cameras that were also a part of that context in the emergency funding from that perspective. But again, when you have elevators that are not stable; when you have an aging facility of this -- or aging of this facility, those infrastructure problems occur time and time again. If I was not clear as to the total infrastructure, then that in and of itself, I apologize for that piece. We are up and running. DeKalb County went live. Cobb County is building out the infrastructure and have been so for weeks. So this is not, whether it is proven or not, this is solely focused on saving lives, so whether it's 15 bands or a thousand. So, I hope I answered your question."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I think so. I just want to be clear then. So what you're suggesting essentially is that that you certainly knew there was a infrastructure piece that was needed in order for the bands to be useful and that -- but after the meeting and the spending was approved, that in working with EMSI, they were recommending that you install the systems for Talitrix at the same time that the rest of the work was done on each zone. Is that --

SHERIFF LABAT: "-- that's very accurate and not only that, it is important to know, when we went into the South Annex, we didn't have the inmate constraints. And so, we could empty a unit and continue to do that. And I also think it's important to note the 3,600 population was mentioned earlier, and Attorney Joiner did a skillful job of saying, you know, can you predict this? Right now, our population is 3,030, the lowest it has been in two years because of our work with our criminal justice partners. As we continue to move down that journey or take that journey, it allows us the ability to empty a zone and then continue to really -- really focus on saving lives. And then lastly, I will tell you again when we started this journey, we had 560 people sleeping on floor devices, sleeping on boats, but because of these partnerships, because we have been aggressive, today we have a record low, inside of a decade, of 91 people sleeping on floor devices. So all of this is working in conjunction, which goes to the heart of your question is, could we predict it, no. Was there infrastructure requirement, absolutely? Could we have done a better job of telling you what we've learned by having an empty infrastructure to be able to, and that was what was predicated upon our movement, being able to use what we've done in the past to be able move forward."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I think, you know, it probably would have been good to have that sort of communicated back to us after the changes were made, the decisions were made on how to implement this thing. Because I think again part of the issue here is just communication and understanding of everything required to make this happen. And I would assume again that since you're moving forward with this or it looks like you're -- I don't know where this all is going to land, but assuming you're moving forward with this, that you have a schedule and, you know, that's at least the plan. But that doesn't mean, you know, that circumstances wouldn't change, but that you have a schedule to implement the rest of the zones."

SHERIFF LABAT: "Absolutely."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Yes, ma'am, we do. Yes, Commissioner, we do have a schedule. But I do want to note that even a schedule for just the physical plan, for example, our schedule when having a housing zone empty, the Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, along with EMSI, predicted that it would only take 30 days to rehab one housing zone. We are now almost at three months, and we haven't had the first one completed. So, the building continues to fall apart in many ways, and that pushes out the timeline. So in a best set of conditions, that schedule is what we think that it is now, but it changes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, I would not, you know -- go ahead."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Also, the 1,000 bands has been mentioned. That's 1,000 bands up to, 1,000 bands that is to be worn by no more than 500 people. So, there are replacement bands there. It's not that there will be replacement bands for the purposes of charging batteries or any, you know, unforeseen damage. So it very clearly states in the Statement of Work that it's for no more than 500 people."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I really feel like a lot of the issues stemming from just a lack of communication, and I think sometimes, you know, you can't assume we have the right questions to ask. If we don't have enough basic information, we can't -- we don't have the right questions to ask. So I think it's incumbent upon you all to, you know, over communicate in situations like this, because there's no way we could possibly know some of these things without you giving us the groundwork and the changes in scheduling and the, you know, the roadblocks that you're coming across and all those things. Putting all that aside, since Vice Chairman Ellis brought up this issue of data, I just have a couple questions about that. First of all, you mentioned the contract being between you and Talitrix. Did this go through our purchasing or was this separate?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "So the first two Statements of Work did not, because the Sheriff is a constitutional officer, he's not required to go through the exact same competitive bidding and purchasing protocols that all of the county departments are required to follow; however, had it gone through that process, it's likely that Talitrix would have been found to be a sole-source vendor and the same result would have been --"

that a contract with Talitrix would have been entered into. However, as it relates to the third Statement of Work: the third Statement of Work initially as proposed by Talitrix, requested a payment to be paid in the amount of \$1.47 million roughly at the time of execution. With the advice inputting guidance of the purchasing officer, the county purchasing officer, we were able to push back on that in an effort to be good stewards of taxpayer's dollars. And so, therefore, only the mobilization cost in the amount of \$733,000 were paid from the general fund. So, it did not go through the normal protocols or the normal steps that all of the other county departments go through because the Sheriff is a constitutional officer. But we did seek the input and guidance and followed it from the county purchasing agent.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm asking the question really more because of the contract itself, and the language of the contract, and the dollars spent, and the competitive bid process. Although, obviously, all those things all matter as well. But, you know, as it relates to the various clauses in the contract that really to date, I'm just wondering if anyone else reviewed it other than your office? Did anyone in our purchasing review it or our County Attorney review that? And do we have a policy? I guess that's one question for the County Attorney. Do we have a data -- a policy on contracts to be signed as it relates to sharing of data?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, you'll recall at the last meeting, I asked the manager, Mr. Adams, the Purchasing Director, the CFO, and the County Attorney if they had anything to do with this contract whatsoever, and everyone answered, no."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm sorry, Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I believe you were asking if we have a specific policy as to contract terms regarding private data that's collected, and I'm not aware that we do have one in place. Although, that is something that we consider when we do reading contracts."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. We probably should have a policy. Obviously, again because you are a constitutional officer and have your own set of rules of how you operate. Do you all have a data sharing policy?"

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Not as you've stated."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: Okay. So, then the next question about the data is just this: You know, I come from a tech background and I have, you know -- listen, I'm not fully well-versed in health data, certainly. But from what I understand about machine learning and that kind of thing, when data is collected, and this type of data is not specifically tied to an individual. So I'm assuming that it -- it is certainly for your purposes in terms of aiding the person who's needing service and needing help if their heart rate is down or what have you. But that, oftentimes, companies like this will extract the personal data, but keeps sort of the higher level of data if that make sense

for analysis, so that how the machines learn when a hear rate drops like this, it could be one of these ten conditions, that kind of thing. So data sharing in that way, to me, is not a concern. It's only if it's tied to the personal data of the inmates that becomes a concern. So I would just want some reassurance, I think, from Talitrix, specifically, on what data is available for analysis and to sharing and what is kept with you. So, I think that would put my mind at ease to know if it's just that sort of machine learning type data versus the personal data of the people in our care. And the last thing I want to say is just a statement and not a question, and that is, you know, the items that Vice Chair Ellis brought up about the alleged behavior potentially of Talitrix or those related to the company in terms of intimidating him are very concerning. And so, you know, I would encourage you all as somebody in, you know, in a business relationship with them to look into that whether he files a complaint or not, because I find that to be very, very troubling. We should not be subject to that. Any one of us should not be subject to that. So this is the first time I'm hearing about it today, but I do think that that needs to be addressed and looked into. But that's all I have. So, thank you."

ATTORNEY AMELIA JOINER: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. This contract has been a mess from day one. And I want to have a motion to rescind this contract in a moment. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Sheriff, I have -- I have a question, with all due respect. I want to put out -- I got to ask you this question. Is there a reason that Ms. Joiner is answering these questions, as opposed to you answering them?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "Well, I want it to be accurate. I want to make sure, as you said a couple of weeks ago that you got the facts. And so what better way to make sure we remove emotion and the poli-tricks out of this and get you nothing but the facts. And so today's example is just as we agree to disagree sometimes, just as you voiced your opinion as to my approach, last meeting, I suspect that this ambush-ness, if you will, will be addressed at some point as well. Because we came specifically, understanding, we did not receive any packages that you all received. We had to go back, do the research to then prepare to come before today. Midweek, we get a letter, well again, all in haste, we wanted to make sure you had the facts. So I thought of no better way to make sure you had the facts more than anything else."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Sheriff, with all due respect, it's not an ambush. It's not an ambush."

SHERIFF LABAT: "Well --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I think -- go ahead, I'm listening."

SHERIFF LABAT: "I'm sorry, Madam Commissioner. So, I am just simply telling you the same -- the emotions involved, were preplanned. Just as -- and I'm taking this from your statements from the last couple of weeks. Just as you were passed out a package today, nobody afforded the grace or a phone conversation to me, to the Sheriff's office, to even be better prepared. And this is after having a Zoom call on the other issues. So I would simply ask, the same thing you asked of us, is the same way you treat those that really, really, really have nothing but one goal in mind, and that's saving lives."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Sheriff, let me go on the record with you, because the word accountability is the one that I stand by. Part of what I said yester- -- last two weeks ago, was to give you grace. Because it did not look good, what was put in front of me. I think what happens, and this is clearly my opinion, is it becomes adversarial. And there's nothing adversarial about asking for accountability. There's nothing adversarial about asking for answers even if the answer is, Vice Chair, I will not be answering this, I will directly talk about this at the BOC. That's an answer."

SHERIFF LABAT: "And Madam Commissioner, you are absolutely correct. And maybe when you had to step away for a moment, you missed when I apologized, right. We have a duty to be accountable. But we also have to be in a space, a safe space that we can have a conversation. And so, again, if -- and what I said specifically was, if there were infrastructure issues that should -- I should have done a better job of communicating, absolutely, absolutely, the onus is on me. I'm accountable for that. But just as you held me accountable, I would ask that we hold each other accountable when intent, right, you can't ask me to come in here and present something and give you a week's notice, as we're still compiling this information, and then do the exact same, not once, but twice. And then not even give it to me to aptly be able to answer. And I think that is, in terms of accountability, I think that's a poor representation as well."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Well, what I want to ask you, Sheriff, is when there's an ask, please give a response, even if -- even if the response is, I'm a constitutional officer, I'm not going to answer. And the reason I say this to you is because, while you were being unresponsive for whatever reason, I'm still getting calls. I'm still getting emails. And at the end of the day, Ms. Joiner is an extremely accomplished attorney, but her name was not on the ballot, yours were. So it is only right that you answer. It's only right that you talk to us. It's only right that you come back -- this is not adversarial, I know it plays out and it looks adversarial, the cameras here, and all this other stuff. But it's not adversarial. It is accountability. Even if you tell me and this entire Board something that we disagree with, you have every right to tell us that. But what happens for me and the Mighty 6 is, I have no answers for any of my constituents. And so I need accountability from you. I don't -- I don't need -- and I -- that's why asked you why was she answering? Because it's not her name on those cards, it's not her name on the ballot. And the constituents need to hear from you for whatever reason, without an indictment, with an indictment, or whatever, you are the Sheriff. And I give you the respect of the Sheriff whether we agree or not. But if you

can't answer us in writing, at least say anything that you are asking me, I'll be more than happy to address at the BOC. But no response, is an issue for me."

SHERIFF LABAT: "And I appreciate that."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

SHERIFF LABAT: "What I will ask for again, not just continued grace, but keep in mind, the DOJ has been in our building for two weeks. And so this has not been a path that has been traveled lightly. This is making sure that ultimately, we respond to them as well, and as well as you. I owe you, you, being plural, exactly what you asked for. And the intent to make sure Attorney Joiner provides facts so that they're not clouded, is absolutely the attempt. And that's what to make sure we do. I got -- I understand that, we've talked prior to that, prior to me getting here on this day. And I've had several conversations with Commissioners, and we will continue to communicate, or to -- to Commissioner Barrett's point, over communicate. And so when we are -- we are glued together more strongly. And we are in the space of making sure that we're focused on saving lives. That has been our focus. We again, have been engaged with the DOJ for the last two weeks, in and of itself, an opportunity for us to continue to get better. And so I certainly appreciate that."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Sheriff."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll be honest with you, I've heard enough. This is probably one of the worst contracts in my many years of public service that I've had anything to do it. There's so many unanswered questions, fraught with questions from the beginning. So I'm going to put a motion of the floor, we will vote it up or vote it down. And my motion is to rescind this 2-point million dollars that was allocated for this biometric, whatever you call it, that's my motion."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I have a question about your motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We got a motion on the floor and a second. You have question?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "My question is, if we rescind this contract, what impact will that have on the jail and the Sheriff's operation?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "All right."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, sir."

SHERIFF LABAT: "So two things that need to be pointed out --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The jail and the operations?"

SHERIFF LABAT: "Well, there are a couple of things that we need to point out. One, and maybe the County Attorney can opine. The question should be does it -- because this Board, prior to some people getting on the Board, has had several opinions from several County Attorneys, as to the constitutionality of the Sheriff entering into contracts, that's -- that's the first thing. To answer your question directly, Commissioner Hall, we actually have individuals wearing this band. We actually have alerts. And let me be clear, we -- from the inception, we did an entire story on FGTV. We've had multiple media outlets that have really looked at what we're doing in focusing on trying to save lives. So here's what I would suggest to you, if we move in that direction, and those 13 to 15 people that are wearing the bands now that we are monitoring, if something happens, then that puts us in a very precarious position. Because right now, when their heart rate rises, when the heart rate dips, we have this information. This information can be texted to each of you, if you like. So the technology is there, it is proven. I would only hope, if this isn't -- if this is the direction, all right, ultimately, no one else dies."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Listen, this notion of deaths and constitution of the powers of the constitution, I'm sick of hearing about that. The motion on the floor is to rescind the contract. It is properly made and seconded. Commissioner Thorne, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I call the question."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I second the call of the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Call the question. All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Listen, just a minute. The question is being called. Let's vote on the call of the question. Properly moved and seconded. Madam Clerk. Yes. Commissioner Ellis. Is the machine working or not working? All right. The motion -- just a minute, no, the motion on the floor -- just a minute, just a minute, I'm going to preside. The motion on the floor is to call the question. It's a proper motion, it was made, and it's seconded. Now, let's vote on the call of the question."

CLERK GRIER: "It's open on call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "On the call of the question only."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Nay, for me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That motion passes."

CLERK GRIER: "-- four yeas, two nays."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Three nays."

CLERK GRIER: "Three nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Now, back to the main motion, which is to rescind the 2.1 million. Let's vote on that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, I'd like to make a substitute motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, no, no, we can't. This is -- that's not -- that motion is out of order, Commissioner Arrington. Madam Clerk? This is on the motion that's on the floor. All right, now, if we can't do better, I'm going to do away with these machines. We can do it better with a voice vote or a hand vote."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. And the vote is open on -- to rescind the contract. And the motion passes; four yeas, one nay, and one abstention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "The next item that was moved up on today's agenda, on page 10, **23-0731**, Presentation, Invest Atlanta update on Tax Allocation Districts."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Good morning. Hit that mic right there, so we can hear you."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "Good morning."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Good morning."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "There we go. There we go."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "There you go, all right."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: ""Good morning, it's a pleasure to be here. My name is Dr. Eloisa Klementich. And I have my colleagues VP of Planning, Jennifer, and our CFO, Nino. We have nine quick slides for you today. First off, next slide. Or do I click the slide? As the presentation gets pulled up, I'll go ahead and start. We have exactly ten Tax Allocation Districts -- we had ten Tax Allocation Districts in city of Atlanta/Fulton County. Thanks to your support, we have since closed one, and we are down to our nine Tax Allocation Districts. There are two things in

particular that we heard from you, loud and clear, last time we presented, and I thank you for that opportunity, was first off is, Eloisa, what is the value of the TADs? Now, there are a lot of great things happening in the TADs. But we would like to highlight two for this conversation today. The first is that it has direct impact to our constituents and the individuals that we serve here in Fulton County. But the second thing is the financial impact. So what I'd like to present is start with the financial impact. And once you receive -- this presentation is up, if not, I've sent that to you. Do I not see it? Do you see it? Nope. They're pulling it up. So what you're going to see when they pull it up is, we broke down Fulton County into three areas. The first blue, dark area -- great, thank you. Next slide, it's the third, there we go, thank you so much -- back one. The first -- what you see is the dark-blue area, when it goes back one, okay. The dark-blue area is the TADs, thank you so much. This third -- second area is that light-blue area, and we're calling it the halo impact buffer, and this is a half a mile radius from the TAD, and the rest is the Fulton County. Now, what we had suspected is a concept called spillover, that the work that was actually happening in the TAD, was starting to have a financial impact to all of our taxing jurisdictions. So what we did is we had our data team run the analysis, looking at assessed value of real property from 2007 to 2023. And what we found -- next slide -- is that within that dark area, which is the TAD area, from that period of 2007 to 2023, the assessed value grew from 3.9 billion to 10.9 billion. So the TAD saw an increase in assessed value of 177 percent, which we had presented here before. But the piece we hadn't, and we believed this spillover is happening, the data proved it out. So we pulled 15.8 billion in assessed value in 2007, had grown to 37.7 billion at 2023. That is 138 percent increase. In comparison, we also ran the Fulton County area, other, so anyone else that's not in these two areas. That assessed value grew from 24.6 billion to 48.8 billion, which was 98 percent increase. Basically, what that means is in that TAD halo area, we see a 40 percent difference between the TAD halo and the rest of Fulton County. So in summary, what we believe is, it's hard to say that everything of this growth is due to the TAD. But we believe that the projects and the investments, and I want to thank this Commission again for your support, is really making a difference in the TADs, and we know that's long term. But what is interesting is that the impacts to the TAD halo area are also were being realized and being realized today, in the tax rolls today to all of the taxing jurisdictions. And so we believe that this is an important measure to the success of the TAD. So the second area -- next slide -- that we wanted to touch base on is just understanding for the residents that are watching, is the impact that these investments have for Fulton County. So we've, since January to August of this year, we've expect -- expending about \$11 million in ten projects across four TADs. If we look at the leverage amount, that's over a total investment of 141 million. So the question is, what type of projects? I'm only going to highlight, very quickly, five of them to give you a sense. Next slide. This slide shows where, in the City in particular, the investments have been. Next slide. So the first one is, Center well. At the top of the screen, what you'll see is, it's taken an abandoned building on Donald Lee Hollowell. This has really been an abandoned building for many, many years. And it's provided, something we are very excited about. There was a grand opening in July. And it will now provide healthcare services to seniors. The last time I walked around there, really, it's one of the only areas that seniors can access

some of their basic medical needs in this part of town. We're excited about this grand opening. On the bottom of the slide, you'll see it's the historic Odd Fellows building on Sweet Auburn. And you made a presentation earlier today to Georgia Works. This is the building that Georgia Works will be able to occupy. And I'd like to say that, thanks to you and your commitment, you also supported their success and their growth in our city. Next slide. The next is the Prince Hall Mason Lodge. A very crucial -- it's the previous slide. The very crucial project in our city. Why? Because of the historic contents of this building. This received a predevelopment loan fund and a 1.5 million Eastside TAD -- TAD grant for the rehabilitation of this building. We will not only preserve the building and have retail, but we've teamed up with some of our colleagues at the National Park Service, who are going to do education and interpretive exhibit because Martin Luther King's office was in this building. And underneath is Carey Park, Phase I. This is a single-family development project. It received the \$1.5 million grant for 20 affordable houses for sale using the community land trust model. Next slide. And lastly, let me close with this, Englewood Senior. This is going to be a development in the Chosewood neighborhood. It's going to provide 160 units of affordable housing to seniors and to others at a 60% AMI level and less. And this project, let's just note, is also on the Beltline. Last -- and lastly, let me just close with, I want to thank you for your commitment on this journey. This commitment to make impact. Not only are we providing affordable housing, single family housing, addressing the health needs, providing opportunities for the homeless, preservation of historic sites. But together, we are finding ways to continue to increase the tax value and the assessment for the County and the City. Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you for the presentation. We've got Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just wanted to thank you, Dr. Klementich, for bringing the information to us. I know it's been a bit of a fraught day, so I don't know, if you're going to get the intensity you might have on a different day in terms of the level of detailed of questions. But I do want -- I do think it's important to point out, not only the financial data that you brought, as it relates to, not only the growth within the TADs of 177 percent, but I believe it was, what, 133 percent in the halo area, which we are already seeing the benefits of on our tax rolls today. So I think that's very important information. And the comparison to the rest of the county at 98 percent growth. So, you know, there's a, you know, a clear value in what you're doing in terms of just literally, the bottom line, putting aside all the wonderful things that you all have been doing as it relates to -- or I guess, we, since I'm on the board, have all been doing as it relates to affordable housing and you know, some of these historic landmarks and things of that nature, so workforce, housing, et cetera, et cetera. So, you know, I really appreciate that. But I also wanted to -- and I thought we had a slide or at one point about the closing dates for all of the TADs . But I do want to emphasize the fact that we are looking at sort of the last six, seven years for some, less for others, of what have been 20-year projects, plus, plus. And I feel like I want to make the analogy of it's, you know, it's sort of like building a house. When you've, you know, you've gotten the designs,

you've broken ground, you've spent all the time and energy, and now we're down to the last, you know, few things that have to be done to get the house built, so to speak. And I know sometimes for us, it feels like, well, these areas are already good, we should just stop being involved, and take what we can and run. But this is sort of that last stretch for some of these TADs to get to the perfect house, so to speak. So I -- I, you know, I would ask my colleagues as discussion items come up about stepping back from the TADs in any way or reducing our contribution to the TADs in any way, to look at the future gain, which is a future that is, within a couple of years. We're not talking about another 20 years, we're talking about, you know, Beltline closing in two years, and some of the others. So I think there's going to -- we're going to see a real gain there. And if you could just speak to sort of what's, you know, the timelines and what you see in the next few years, that'll be great."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "Yeah. So we run every three years, a completion study that looks specifically at each TAD. And when there's an opportunity to close the TADs, we are aggressively trying to do so. We're getting that same message from the city of Atlanta. So both of you are on the same page. So we are working very diligently to close them. And I hope we proved that we said we would. And we were able to dissolve the Princeton Lakes TAD. And but the reality is, to your point, we want to continue the work, we promised the community that we were going to work to finish this out. And we want to finish strong."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That's all I have."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Vice Chair. I just want to take the time to openly thank you all, you have always been accessible. You've always given me the information that I needed in a timely manner. I respect the work that you do. And it's not to say that any others don't. But I think sometimes we don't sing the praises like we should as often as we do with the disappointments. So I just want to take the time to publicly thank you for being responsive. Thank you for being on top of things. And I am an advocate, and I will be an advocate for all the good work that you all are doing. Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you for coming and for making this presentation. I think it's very helpful to have this overview of where we are, where we're going. The only thing I would ask is if the completion reports that you just mentioned, if you could share those with us that would be great as well."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "I will send the most recent one. And we're asking for another one, so."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I concur with that, and it's great. It's great for me, being a representative of North Fulton, to see the work that you're doing. Love to, perhaps, maybe go on a tour and see some of these firsthand. I love the preservation of historic, especially, is much needed. Is there a way, you know, because up in the cities up north, where I am, there's they're like, stressing out that they're going to lose \$300,000 in tax revenue because of a tax abatement in my city. So I hope you understand, like, the cities where I am, they want every dollar to be spent. So if there's any way we can close any of those TADs and divert that revenue to things that -- because we're looking at a budget shortfall, it would help us immensely. But again, you know, a lot of these are closing in 2031. I didn't know if you could also reveal to us, other grants that you're getting. I was up in DC and meeting with different departments, federal departments. And it seemed like everywhere I went, they would -- like, I was at the National Parks. And they said, yeah, you know, Beltline's applied for a grant. And I was at the DOT, oh, yeah, the Beltline's, you know, applied for a grant. So it'll be good to see what other funding and other partners that are working with you guys as well. If we could have that information, it'd be great. But once again, I just want to -- I'm not criticizing any of the work. I -- it's great for me to see it. And again, thank you for making Atlanta healthy. Because if Atlanta's healthy, all of us are going to be healthy."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "Thank you. And yes, I will put together."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Eloisa. You know I've known you since long before ever becoming a Commissioner, even working for a Commissioner. And the work that you've done has been a tremendous, tremendous -- just great work for this city and for this county. And to your team, you have an outstanding team that work with you. So I just wanted to tell you thank you, publicly."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Any further questions? Hearing none, next item."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, INVEST ATLANTA CEO: "Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 5, County Manager's Renewal Items under Open and Responsible Government, **23-0711**, Real Estate and Asset Management request approval to renew existing contracts in the total amount of \$1,955,784 to provide on-site landscape ground maintenance and lawn care."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Any questions on this item? No. Waiting on it to appear on the screen. There we go. Item is up, any questions? It's been properly moved and seconded."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, **23-0712**, Request approval to renew existing contracts in an amount not to exceed \$760,000 to provide bus and shuttle services."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Properly moved and seconded, any questions? Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "The vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0713**, Request approval renewal existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$440,290 to provide medical and clinical general cleaning services."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "No questions? Properly moved and seconded. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0714**, Request approval to renew existing contracts in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 to provide all labor and breaking down of reconfigurations of existing workstations and office relocation."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Properly moved and seconded."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0715**, Request approval to renew existing contracts in a amount not to exceed \$215,000 to provide -- to provide fire sprinkle -- sprinkler protection system maintenance services."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. No questions. It's been moved and seconded. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7 under Health and Human Services, **23-0716**, Public Works, request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$236,072 to provide water meter vaults."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Properly moved and seconded, no discussion. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0717**, Request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 to provide fire hydrant maintenance repairs."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Properly moved and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none, let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioners, it's 12:52, we're coming up on the Operational Report. I guess, two, two suggestions. We could either, one, break for lunch, or complete the action items, and then come back to the Operational Report after Executive Session. Is there a preference? Okay. So, motion to move into Executive Session for purposes of litigation, real estate and personnel. It's been moved and seconded. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

Recess for Executive Session at 12:53 p.m.

Back in Regular Session at 2:12 p.m.

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Meeting back to order."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, thank you. There are two items for action out of Executive Session. First, is there a motion to approve termination of the IGA regarding Tiny Homes Project with College Park, as set forth in item four of the Executive Session agenda?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Motion and a second. Vote. All right. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "And regarding item number 5 of the Executive Session agenda, is there a motion to select Joe Barasoain as the Interim Director of FCEMA, and to fulfill the statutory requirements for final appointment?"

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "No further action items from Executive Session."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, County Manager's items, under Open and Responsible Government, **23-0718**, Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Mr. Manager, I don't, definitely don't want to shorten this item. But I think a lot of the Commissioner may have reviewed this. And we might want to just get at specific questions folks may have. But I'll turn the report over to you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Thank you, Mr. Vice Chair. The report has been submitted to you. We will take any questions. Brief opening comments, you'll see that the ORCA Project continues to work, reducing case backlog, progress has slowed. There are initiatives, and want to give a specific kudos to Judge McBurney for leading the -- from the front on a weekend court that was first of its kind. So thanks to him as well as to the team for causing that to happen. I would remind you and our justice partners that this is a \$75 million program funded through ARPA, it does end in October of 2024 vis-à-vis the funding. So the practical implication is to cease hiring for one-year appointments this month. Some have already expressed a desire as well as an intent to move these positions to the general fund. So we'll need your guidance, I think during the budget process on that, in light of the millage rate and 2024 budget implications. The justice scorecard continues to be, I think, a great resource. We used it this past week when Alton and I briefed Senator Albers and Senator Robertson as they begin their work with the review of the Fulton County Jail. They thought it was very helpful, expressed their appreciation for the data, the analytics, and having a common baseline. Speaking of the jail, the Sheriff already referenced this, in fact, I think his numbers were little bit more recent than the ones included in the report. But we have 250 less detainees than we did at the first of September. But still hugely overcrowded. And just draw your attention to the fact that we admit -- in fact, Commissioner Arrington, you asked this question last Friday when we were on the phone with you, over 400 a week, so it's a real treadmill. If you think about that 400 new admissions every week to then

get any substantial decrease. The other preview coming attraction is that we have 1400 people out on ankle monitors today. That's an enormous growth in the number, by the way, funded by the county. We'll be discussing that in the next meeting, because we'll be seeking additional funding for that -- for that program through the end of the year. Also, with a year to go on ORCA, I would suggest, and we have begun discussing, looking at efforts to drive down the non-ORCA backlog. So still more work to come on that with our justice partners. We have included the Jail Maintenance Summary. We have made that, I think, more readable and understandable. Joe Davis can discuss specifics on routine maintenance, as well as the work on the blitz plan, with One North concluding, and the Sheriff is correct. That is taking us an extended period of time for a variety of reasons. But now we feel like we have it in a better position going forward. As you know, at the same time Joe is focused on things like that, he had a little thing like a fire in this location last Friday. Fortunately, the fire started outside of the building on a grade, if you heard those details. It did get in through the air-handling systems. Subsequently, of course that is what pushed the smoke into the building, creating a necessity for an alarm and evacuation. After the Atlanta Fire Department left, we determined that there was some fire that was smoldering in those vents. So they rapidly returned and cleared that fire out. And I want to thank Joe as always, for being on top of this, not only during the event, but then with the restoration efforts. Subsequently, we've, I think, restored the building, obviously to full working order on Monday. Also want to thank Sharon for being the Manager on call, so to speak. I was in Kentucky, and she did a terrific job of keeping everything calm and herding the cats while I was gone, keeping me informed as well. So Sharon, thank you for that. On another important matter, countywide, as I've continued to report, the negotiations with Grady continue to go quite well on the new operating agreement. As I indicated, I think we've substantially agreed on all of the terms. There's one item that we're now still working at the CEO level, anticipate having that put to bed this -- this week or so. And again, just kudos to John Halpert, Ryan, Tim, and Shannon for their great teamwork to resolve. I also want to thank John personally. My son was involved in a serious car accident with his girlfriend about a week ago. And he was fine, she life flighted to Grady. And John and their staff did a tremendous job meeting us and helping us through that stressful time. And also last at the county level, we continue to review the budget enhancement requests. As we've sent you a BOC memo, we'll plan to have a summary of those enhancements to you by 10/27. That's the Friday before the 11/1 BOC meeting. And we'll seek any feedback that you have at that time on those enhancements, our prioritization as we see those enhancements falling, before we submit a budget on 11/15. So with that, Vice Chair, we'll -- I'll turn to Mr. Adams to point out some of the highlights. And then, really more quickly, get to your questions. Mr. Adams."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Thank you, County Manager. You touched on a number of the highlights as you went through your open -- I'll just touch on a couple things. One, we continue to make progress. We had a bit of a slowdown in September, in part due to a bit of a slowdown and Solicitor General and a rather large slowdown in Magistrate Court. In my discussions with the Solicitor General, I think we're going to

change a bit of our focus, dedicate some additional resources to focus exclusively on some of the older cases. So I expect that to change as we -- as we move forward. The other thing I'd like to point out on the next slide is the hiring progress. We added 15 individuals in the month of September. And as you indicated, at this point in time we have not -- when we've indicated that we will not be adding any additional hires, because that will require us to -- adding hires would basically derail the plan, which is basically to wind down and hit the \$75 million goal that we have been given. We do feel however that given where everyone is staffed, we will -- it will allow us to meet the needs of each one of the agencies at this point in time. You talked about the scorecard. Nothing I guess, I -- to highlight that except that we continue to have approximately 34 percent of the people in the jail who do not -- who have not been indicted. We have a 105 less people unindicted in the jail. A lot of them have been in -- have been given a bond. So that continues to be one of the things that we look to -- to accelerate cases through the system. The -- you touched on the jail population. That has gone down significantly over the last -- over the last four weeks. And to your point, the Sheriff numbers today -- our numbers are based on last month's. The Sheriff numbers would indicate that we're down another two to 300 individuals since this was -- since this was printed, which is -- which is great news. And a lot of those seem to be in the main jail, Rice Street, which obviously, is a big priority. The next slide or the slide on the jail population facility, facility utilization, hasn't changed dramatically. What it does point out is, we continue to have beds at ACDC, at Cobb County, and a few at the South Annex. Certainly, ACDC and our county tend to be constraint, our use of those tend to be constrained, in part by the availability of our Correctional Officers to staff those facilities where we have beds, but we don't have any Correctional Officers that are part of that -- part of that agreement. Next slide talks to the, as I mentioned, the unindicted individuals in jail. So no additional information there. And then finally, on the last slide, where we talked about -- second to last slide, we talk about population reduction. Actually, there's two things. One, really do thank Judge McBurney for agreeing to pilot the weekend court. It actually went off very well, given the fact that it was our first time. And so we are trying to make sure that we can continue that. Getting a little bit of pushback from a couple of our partners who say they need more resources to do that. But I do think we made a big step in something that's certainly a bit revolutionary for Fulton County. The second thing, just as big, is the fact that the Bench, Superior Court Bench voted to establish a competency -- competency calendar. That's going to be headed by Judge Ingram, slated to start some time in November. And that's a big deal. And it's something that probably has long in coming. Here again, not a lot of counties have that. We've benchmarked ours against Savannah and a couple of other places around the country. But given the number of individuals that we have that have some of the challenges that need to have a court, having a calendar like this, I think will make a big difference. And then in terms of priorities, we continue to focus on ORCA, continue to look at, to the County Manager's comments, continue to look at early indicators for the development of a post-ORCA backlog. And then obviously, establishing and implementing the wind-down plan to ensure that we meet the \$75 million target that's been given to us by the Board. Happy to take any other questions at this point."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Adams. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Vice Chair Ellis. I understand that the state may have a couple hundred million dollars of ORCA, or ARPA money and not ORCA, I guess ORCA is ours internally. They may have a couple hundred million dollars of ARPA money for criminal justice. And to the extent that we are running out or looking at the end of ARPA dollars and we may need additional money to extend our ORCA Program, which if we're down from 3600 people to 3,000, we're at least moving in the right direction, huh? And so, I guess my question is, Mr. Manager, if you and your staff could contact the state to see, I guess, one, to confirm if, in fact, they have \$200 million of ARPA money for criminal justice. And then if they do have some, you know, might we be able to get some, right?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I think we're like, 10 percent of the state population. So in my mind, 10 percent sounds real good."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, I'll follow up on that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. I mean, because that could create \$20 million to help with our existing backlog of cases, our ORCA backlog, and these ORCA positions that may be running out that we need more money for. And I think -- I guess, I'll have to bring -- Madam Attorney, if you could help me bring back something at the next meeting, resolution that will allow our justice partners to continue the work that they're doing, and maybe we can cut back on some of the other ORCA stuff. But I don't want to see us lose the gains that we've made. I don't want to go back up to 3600, I want to go down to 2500 and 2,000. And so I don't want to do anything that might jeopardize the progress that we've made in our criminal justice system with the ORCA positions that we have authorized even on a temporary basis. And hopefully, Madam CFO, we can get some money from the state. Because I understand that we're running our ARPA funds that we allocated for, for the ORCA project. So hopefully, there's some money there available. Now, I saw something on one of these slides that said 100 percent felony -- go back to that slide -- something."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Which one, Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What about -- keep going. Yeah, that right there, go back. 100 percent clearance rate. Okay, that's the goal?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That's correct, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. And we were at 72 percent."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That was a baseline in May that -- where we were when we established the -- the objectives. So basically, this, that's where we were at the time that we said, okay, we want to go there and shoot for 100 percent. And so we were at 72 percent in May. And we've actually gone down relative to that over the last four months, five months."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. It's a little confusing for me because on top line, we got a nine-day decrease in green. And then on the fourth line, we got a 7 percent increase in green. So I'm -- visually, I'm looking for increases and decreases to be the same color. And so I guess that's why it's confusing for me."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Right? So 17 percent decrease is actually good, right? We down from our goal is -- or we're going backwards?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We're going backwards. In other words, in May, we were at 72 percent. We wanted to go to 100. And sent -- and today, as we sit here in September that number is actually is 55 percent. So that's moving in the wrong direction."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, okay, so define for me what is a clearance rate for felony criminal cases."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That's basically defined as the rate -- and the number of cases that you clear, relative to the number of cases that come in over a period time. So in over a year, let's say, if you bring in 100 new cases or 1,000 new cases that are felonies, you're to be expected to have cleared 1,000 of those cases, which would be at 100 percent. That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "And Commissioner Arrington, on your point about the state, we will call them. At the time, Judge Brasher was actually on the committee of other Judges that established that funding at the state level. And my understanding is that they did establish a fund. I don't think it was 200 million, I think it was less than that. And but they did it with the understanding, rightly or wrongly, that Fulton had already allocated 75 million towards Project ORCA. So we do need to go back. I don't know how much money is currently available or where they are in the process. The other thing that was a little different is that unlike the way we did it, which is where we dedicated funds to hire people and fund operations ahead of time, theirs was a reimbursement model. So the counties had to actually go out, spend the money, and then go back to the state to get reimbursed. So it was just -- a just a bit of a different approach. But we'll go ahead and contact them and see if it's -- see what might be remaining."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, let's definitely find out how much is, if any --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- is still available. And to the extent that we may not have needed it when we had 75 million --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yep."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- how much do we have now?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We've got about -- our run rate is roughly \$2 million a month. So I'd say, we were at 24 million, 26 million left."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "But we anticipate that we will need more, then we will need to extend or turn some of those temporary positions into full-term positions?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yes. If you wanted to extend those positions beyond October, we would need to have some in capital funding from the general fund. And the County Manager has asked us to come up with an analysis of what that would -- what that would cost to -- if we were to extend it. So whether we sourced it from the state or we -- or another source, we're in the process of identifying what it would take to extend all or most of those positions beyond October of 2024."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. We may want to add to the scorecard, the number of people. I mean, I don't know how we have a 600 person decrease in jail population, and that's not on the scorecard. It seems like that would be the first thing up there. Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Vice Chairman. I just had a question about the hiring for, I believe it's the ORCA positions. But I -- so if I'm understanding the situation, it's that we're telling our justice partners that they cannot hire any new ORCA positions as of the end of this month, essentially, a couple days from now?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Well, telling them is a little -- we have weekly -- not weekly, monthly stakeholder meetings. We have a model that says that when we extended the period from December of 2023 to October of 2024, there was a clear understanding that it means we had to have a model to reduce the hiring over a period of time to be able to get to the \$75 million expenditure. And that basically said that at some point in time, we will move from hiring, we will hold it flat, and then those positions

would start to move into -- to the general fund. So we have a model that says to get to 75 million, this is the process that it would take. And at some point in time, you have to stop hiring, otherwise, you'll never get there."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, there seems to be some confusion, because what I'm hearing is that they were told at the beginning of this month via email, I believe I've seen some of the emails that, like, around October 3rd, 5th, somewhere in there that they had to get all of their hires done and in by -- and it was no stop hiring certain number of people. It was, whatever hires you have coming need to be in by the second pay period in October, whatever date that was, I think it's October 25th, is the date I -- is coming into my brain. But on October 5th, it was already -- and again, this may be a -- this is like a Mr. Hermon slash Finance question, I'm not really sure. But it sounds like there was some confusion about that they're being told, they have to get this done in three weeks. But the process can't be done in three weeks, because -- and the example I was given as somebody has resigned, they're -- they have left, but they haven't gotten their final paycheck yet. And they haven't gotten all of whatever. So they're not fully out of the system, so therefore, they can't hire the new person until the old one is gone through all the exit things that need to happen. And so now they're in a position where they've made an offer, several offers, apparently, and can't -- aren't going to be able to get those people hired because it's going to hit in November instead of October. So I'm just --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Well, let me, if I can, maybe introduce some -- the facts are, we have a monthly stakeholder meeting. The one we had in August, August 29th, I believe, we -- everyone who decided to join that call, some stakeholders don't think it's important enough. We announced that we would -- it's just part of the process. At the County Manager's Executive Team meeting and in September, we again, reiterated that this was going to be the plan moving forward. And so here again, those individuals -- there are some agencies that decided that they don't want to be part of that process. I don't know what to tell you in that regard. So we just -- this was not an October 5th announcement, it was no surprise. And in fact, I've talked to all 12 agencies, who has -- who are affected by this. We only have one agency, who claims to have not been aware of it and has a problem. So in terms -- in fact, we started this communication well before October."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, look, I don't have all the ins and outs of the communication. But with all due respect, we don't have control over what they're doing operationally. If they have positions in their budget, they should be able to hire those people. So I'm confused about who's telling who to do what here, and who's -- who's saying, no to them doing what they want to do with their budget."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "It's not their budget."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But they have budgeted positions."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "No, they don't. With all due -- I don't like to use that term because it's not -- that's -- that we -- there is a plan. The plan says to get to 75 -- the Board has said to us to do two things. We want you to reduce the number of backlog cases by as much as possible between now and October, and we want you to do it within a budget \$75 million, okay. So to meet the second goal of \$75 million, it requires us to reduce hiring, right, and stop hiring at some point in time so that we can, in fact, by the time we get to October, reach the \$75 million."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So you have a slide here that shows that they have a certain number of ORCA positions. Where's the sliding scale where their number of positions declined?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I -- we don't -- it's not a slide. We have a model, and I'm happy to share the detailed Excel spreadsheet that shows you exactly what the wind down looks like between now and October of 2024. Very detailed, to allow us to get to - - what I will also tell you is that today, as we sit here today, we're about \$600,000 over budget. So there is no flexibility to say, well, hey, let's just go ahead and forget about October, let everybody do their own thing. Here again, as I said, if it's the will of the Board to say, forget about the \$75 million target, that doesn't matter, then we can do that. But what I'm sharing with you, and maybe not as well as I could, is that we have a very clear plan that's been shared that says to get from where we are to where we need to be in October 2024, we have to wind down a certain level of hiring. We've assumed a certain level of expenses to be able to get to that number. And I'm not a -- I'm not an elected official, I'm not an attorney, but I've built a lot of budgets, and I understand how to model stuff. And what I'm saying to you is, if we want to relax that, we can do that. But it will start to impact our ability to meet the budget."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm going to let someone continue. I'm going to -- I -- this doesn't make sense to me. Offers have been made to people and we're not processing paperwork, that's the issue I have. So I don't -- either this is not getting communicated clearly, or one of the or multiple of the departments -- because I'm hearing this from more than one department. So if multiple departments over there believes they can continue to hire and are told when they start to process paperwork that they can, or are receiving memos that they know, they don't -- aren't going to be able to accomplish this in the timeframe, then we have a communication problem at minimum. And we have a process problem, more likely. So something is going on here, and I think the right people need to be in the room having this conversation to get this cleared up. And I'm not -- I'm not sure I'm -- this \$75 million cap on the budget in particular around ORCA, I think is a -- is a separate issue from -- I understand that they're connected, but you, you know, either they have a certain number of active open jobs, or they don't. And if they do and then, they're hiring for those jobs. And I understand that they that -- we don't want to continue to hire for those beyond the end of the year, because they are going to be, you know, wrapping up next October, I understand that. But I think the understanding was that through the end of this year, they could continue to make those hires. And now that somehow is not -- is longer true."

So, you know, I'm not sure I have where we go from here. But I don't -- I don't feel like this has been resolved. And I think there needs to be more conversation, I suspect, they'll be some more here. And then I think we need, may need to have some more following this meeting."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just had a quick question on the population reduction initiative. It said that the Sheriff's office is double the number of inmate transports to Superior Court. Do you know what the number was and what it's been doubled to?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I do not. That was one of the first things that was initiated -- that was started in March. But I can find out for you. I can let you know."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Because I've met with some Judges, and that was one of this concerns that they had, that they're only allowed 15 inmates a week, or 15 inmates a month. Two at -- they can only get them delivered Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and that if they could expand the number of inmate transports, then it would help them put more cases on the dockets."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "And I will find out. I think one of the -- one of the constraints is not the transport, it's the holding cells that we have at the courthouse. There is -- there's a limited number of space, which is why --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But I think they were talking about maybe, a third day."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Understand, I --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Tuesdays and --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I'll find -- I don't -- I just don't know enough details, Commissioner, about the -- I thought they were transported every day, or at least four days a week. But I'll find out more details and let you know."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And then it might be off topic, but the State Senate has formed a committee that came down to visit the jail. Perhaps if they come forward recommendations, that's something that they might be willing to spend their money on, or have -- do you have any talk about what their intentions are?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Well, as the County Manager pointed out, we had a, I guess, an hour conversation with two of the Senators earlier this week, just to brief them on some of the things that we had done. And so -- but that's the only -- that's the only perspective I can share in what their intentions are on timing or anything else."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "When I spoke with one of the Senators, he said they were thinking of bringing on some retired Judges, some additional help to clear the backlog. When I met with the Judges the other day, some of them said that the Accountability Courts take a lot of time to -- because you're really building a relationship with each inmate and trying to help get them through the process. So perhaps, we move the Accountability Courts to retired Judges. That's just a thought."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That's just -- one of the things that Judge Tailor and Judge McBurney were talking about is combining the Accountability Courts for State and Superior Court. That will give us more capacity and also perhaps be a little more efficient in terms of usage of Judges. As you know, we've been using Senior Judges in the -- in Superior Court. And so to the extent that the some of those -- those individuals could be repurposed to help, here again, something I can ask when I talk to Judge Glanville."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, great."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Happy to."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Vice Chair. Alton, I really would like to know a resolve, not sure what happened, not sure if somebody didn't show up or not, but I -- my question is, there is an ask. If it is the will of this Board to fulfill that ask for a delay, that is my question for it to be done. And when can it be done? Can we go another 30 days? Can we go by December 15th? What would be the final date for the people that they are already -- have vetted and they're trying to hire, trying to find a resolve? And County Manager, if you want to weigh in or the County Attorney. But at this point, I want to -- I want to find a resolve. I don't want to do any finger pointing or any conjecture about anything. I just want to get it done if it is the will of this Board. And so that's the question I am asking you."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "So I'll start, and I'll let the County Manager in. It can certainly be done, Commissioner. It will have a financial impact. But if you say, let's -- let's extend it for all the agencies or for the rest of the year, we can go back and calculate what that would be. And then perhaps, we could put the difference in the budget for 2024. But certainly, we could -- we could do that and get back to you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "County Manager, did you want to weigh?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am. I mean, I think this is the preview of coming attractions, right. This is -- this is today's battle. Well, we should be able to hire through the end of the year, even though we've all known for three years that this is a three-year program, with one-year appointments, right. So it doesn't take a math major to figure out that if it ends in October of '24, then hiring ends in October of

'23. Set that aside for a moment, what's coming as an attraction is, all these positions need to be maintained, even though this program is now over. That's the bigger issue, far bigger, then can they hire for two or three more months. So I think we need to -- and there's not been, I would say, clarity. Let me rephrase that. We believe, in our off sites, that we walked away with an understanding from the Board, that this program ended in 2024, and the positions would be eliminated then, because it was a special project to reduce the backlog. Therefore, there was no assumption then built in for continued funding of these positions going forward. Operating on that basis, it's kind of counterintuitive, to go back and start trying to hire through the end of the year to continue something that you've already said, through the millage rate decision and explicitly through answering that question, that these positions would not continue in the general fund. So I think we need some clarity on exactly what your direction is. Because then all of these fit together in a different, perhaps, in a different way. The 75 million, of course, is federal funding, there's not another -- I won't say there's not another budget to go to, it would be a impact on the general fund to supplement Project ORCA if we continue to hire and continue to staff into 2024. But that's the bigger issue."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "County Attorney, did you want to weigh in?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So obviously, I can't speak to the operational planning, but just as to the ORCA funding. The funds, if they come from ARPA, which my understanding is that they do derive from ARPA funding, must be expended within the 2024 year. So I believe that is the origin of this wind-down plan that they're describing in the County Manager's office. Because those funds cannot be utilized outside of 2024."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, thank you. I'm going to give my colleagues an opportunity to weigh in. Because I think it is some miscommunication, Commissioner Barrett. So I will reserve my comment because I'm going to need some additional information. But if the funding is there already versus having to create the funding, that's where the loss is for me. I'm just being candid with you all. And so I'm going to close out my commentary on this, notwithstanding that I still would like to know if, in fact, it can be done, what would be to financial impact? Because I'm not asking for all offices, I'm asking for the DA. I want to be crystal clear about that. And so I'll yield the rest of my comments."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I think you're hearing at least three Commissioners say that while that may be a good plan, we may have to be able to adapt. Let's go back to the priorities side. Somebody pull up the priorities side. I want to look at what our priorities are. See if that can help guide us. No, I think it's the last one. It's the last slide. Okay, now, the number -- what's the number 1 priority up there, priority on that sheet? To accelerate ORCA case resolution and performance. Is stopping the District Attorney from continuing to hire going to accelerate ORCA case

resolution and performance? I think, not. Let's look at the second priority. Implement multiagency jail reduction plan. Is stopping the District Attorney from hiring additional people through the end of the year going to help implement a multiagency jail reduction plan? No. Prevent Post-ORCA backlog. Is stopping the District Attorney from hiring people going to help prevent a post-ORCA backlog? No. Look at the priorities. The priorities tell us what we need to do. The priorities say, no, don't do this. Establish and implement a 12-month ORCA wind-down plan, that's the fourth priority up there. The first three all indicate that she should still be able to hire. You got three Commissioners saying, let her hire. And apparently, there might just be \$200 million in additional ARPA funding that the state has available. So let's be guided by our priorities, or this rear -- either we need to erase those priorities, or we need to rearrange them. Because we can't put one, two, and three up there as priorities, and then not let people hire until the end of the year. How are we going to accelerate ORCA case resolution and performance if the District Attorney can't hire people? It sounds like she needs to hire someone to be at that meeting. She might need some extra positions. She is in court, she can't come to your meeting. She's not worried about your meeting. She worried about priority number 1, accelerating ORCA cases resolution. The best place for her to accelerate ORCA case resolution is in the courtroom, not at your meeting. Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Vice Chair. And thank you, Commissioner Arrington. Because first of all, I was going to say that we should not assume that the absence of someone who has been invited to a meeting, means something negative or means that they are not trying to cooperate. They just may very well have something else on their calendar to do. I get plenty of people sending stuff directly to my calendar, and my team is sitting there like, nobody even contacted us, they just put it on your calendar. And I have a lot of other things that are already -- I've already committed to. So let's just try to be positive, because we all want the same thing. So my first question is, is there a plan of action to ensure that we're not abandoning the departments who are part of the ORCA project, and that we're continuing to address the needs that Commissioner Arrington so eloquently pointed out to us, our priorities in this very presentation? That's my first question. Anyone? Alton?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Not quite sure I understand the question. But if you're saying, what do we do working with our agencies, we have a weekly meeting with different folks. I talk to individuals from most of the agencies, only two or three, two to three times a week, depending on the agency. So I talk to Judge Taylor probably more often and Judge Glanville a little more often. I talk to the Solicitor three times a week. So it depends around, not only ORCA, but at any other things that they need assistance with to help to drive their cases forward. So, we do --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. Maybe, I should rephrase it --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Maybe I didn't understand the question, yeah."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah, I think you didn't understand it. So I'll use the language that our County Attorney used. She said, there's a wind-down plan. I just want to know, what's the wind-back-up plan --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yep."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- because it seems -- it appears that we are going to just abandon the ORCA plan altogether just because the ORCA funding will no longer be available. I have not seen or heard anyone speak to what is the plan of action to ensure that we move forward successfully, continue to move forward successfully after the ORCA funding is gone. And I haven't seen that wind-back-up plan or heard any -- anything concerning the wind-back-up plan. And that's my question. What's that plan of action look like? If you're talking to all of these people, then where are you all in that discussion?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Good question. We don't have a -- I'm not sure I'd call it a wind-back-up plan. But I think a continuation plan."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "That's fine."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Because I think there's a -- I think there is a sentiment, right, shared by the justice partners and probably most of the folks on the Board that we need to have something after ORCA expires. And at what level, what agencies, is a good question. That's something that we have to develop."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "But it really isn't -- it's really -- it'll be a combination of things, right. It would be a, how do we fund positions that are supposed to roll off of ORCA over that ten months and keep them. And then what does it take after that to have -- to afford everyone. Right now, we're running at about \$2 million a month, right, for Project ORCA. So, you know, that would mean that November, December would be about 2 million each. And then we'd have to figure out how we fund the roll off, and so we could come up with that, that says, hey, if we want to keep these positions or 80 percent of them or 90 percent of them, or some of them may not -- we may not have to have all agencies or we may not need as many Investigators or need more Attorneys, whatever. This is what that number looks like, and that could be put in the general fund for 2024. So don't have that yet, Commissioner, but it is something that in at the direction of the County Manager earlier this week, we're going to start to put together and come back to the Board with -- with the recommendation on."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So you just said, at the direction of the County Manager this week that you will start working on that?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yeah. I think he got some input from a couple of the Commissioners, so --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "-- in turn, he pass that down to me; that's correct."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. And it was said here by someone, I'm not sure if it was Commissioner Arrington or not, that we started this as a special project to reduce the backlog. But also, we have to take into account that what has been exposed, that there are many other issues other than the backlog that we're addressing, as well. And the biggest issue being the jail overcrowding. And so what I'm hearing and I'm seeing is that a lot of people are starting to look for other jobs because they know that the funding will no longer cover their positions. And there needs to be a plan of retention, so that these people don't leave after they have been very successful in being a part of this project and reducing. And I'm -- I mean, I'm looking at the numbers here, where it's showing that there's been a reduction in cases and everything. And I agree with Commissioner Arrington when he said, why would -- why is that number not on here, because it's a significant number of reductions in the -- let's see -- this average weekly jail population, population by facility. There was a significant decrease on that page, page 13. And so I'm -- we need to have a plan to continue. And what I'm hearing from these departments that are listed on page 8 is that, they don't know of any such plan and their -- the people that work for them under the ORCA plan are already starting to leave and already starting to look. And we do not need that to happen. If we can put in a plan to retain these people on the other side of ORCA, we need to be -- let that be known to them, so they have some sense of security that they can stay and continue the work that they're already doing."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I don't disagree, Commissioner. When we -- in the discussions with the various heads of the agencies, a couple of things, one, we've talked about making sure we fill any vacancies in general fund positions with individuals who came in through ORCA. I think the Public Defender has hired, like, 20 people who came in through ORCA and are now full time. So the expectation is, given that we have about 15 percent turnover on average for our departments that we'd be able to use a lot of those open positions and move ORCA folks into those. But to your point, we don't have a plan that says, okay, how do we keep them -- I, you know, here again, to the County Manager's point, ORCA was defined very specifically to deal with backlog cases."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That -- and because that's what's required as part of the ARPA funding. And so it has been tightly focused on that. To your point, if there are some things that, arguably, could be, should be continued that just hasn't been part of this ORCA plan, but something that could be added to that, for sure."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, thank you."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Or done in addition to that. Let me put it that way, yeah."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, thank you. And I had one last question, and -- and I'm not sure if I'm jumping forward a little bit, but it's concerning the jail maintenance and repairs report. Do you want me to hold that question, or --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yeah, I think Joe's going to talk a little bit to that in a few minutes."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "So --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Go ahead and ask -- go ahead and ask your question."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay, great. So it's -- it says page 2, under jail maintenance and repairs. And I was looking at that page. And I added up, you know, in the pie chart that says work orders by repair items, September 1st through the 30th. I added those numbers up, it came to 990. But then when you look to the left under September's numbers, it says 953. And I'm wondering, what is the discrepancy in the work orders? Is it because there were only 953 work orders that were entered into the system, but there were actually a total of 990 altogether, but they just weren't all entered? Can you clarify what's going on there?"

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "Good afternoon, Commissioner, Joseph Davis. So, the data that you see before you is extracted from our Maximo computerized maintenance management system. One thing that has to be remembered as it relates to this data in particular, is that when you see work orders entered, those are the work orders that are literally created during the calendar month. Unfortunately, there are work orders that languish from the previous month that are completed during the current month. So that explains the skewing of the data that you see in front of you. If you'll note, the chart says, August 1,065 work orders entered, 994 completed in August, 66 completed in September. Those are some of the work orders that are held over from being entered in August that were not able to be completed until the following month. We experience this phenomenon not only here at the jail, but whenever we're also pulling statistics from the rest of the county. So we basically list what we call issued and completed, so that you'll have a clear number that says, these are what were entered during the month and completed during the month. But that's going to always differ from total number of work orders completed."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So you're saying that the number 66 should be in the numbers that are for September?"

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "That is correct. They will be in the total number for completed during the month of September."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So then what should the total number completed in September actually be?"

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "So if you look at completed in September from August, the 926 completed in September, if you add the 66 that were -- and I'll be honest with you, I do not prepare the data on this particular table."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I can tell."

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "I will need to see what our team pulled from the database."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "If this were a spreadsheet that we generate in terms of a report, it clearly delineates the difference. So not knowing exactly where they pulled that number from, I can follow up on that and get that information to you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. I would -- I would appreciate that because the numbers aren't making sense on the paper. And having constituents who watch this very closely, I want them to have the most accurate and true information because we have so much conversation about it."

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "The other thing is, what I did not see and I would like to see is a more detailed maintenance report. So let me use an example. For instance, you have a legend down here that has the little colored dots that tells you to doors, lights, toilet, sink, pipes, drains, showers, miscellaneous. And I have had constituents contact me about their loved ones who are in jail and saying the toilets don't work and things like that. But there's nothing that shows, okay, we started with -- where is -- let's see -- let's say, doors. So doors is supposed to be blue, there's two blue. I don't know which blue on this pie chart is for doors. Is it 53, or is it 114?"

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "It's the 114."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So 114, there are 114 doors that needed repair -- repairing. So how many of them are repaired to date? That's what I don't see."

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "I understand. And I will acknowledge that the 114 doesn't necessarily correlate to a 114 doors. It could be that there were 114 door work orders completed. Sometimes what we often find now, is having to go back and redo work as a result of subsequent damage being done after repairs are made. But doesn't really give you a sense when you see the 114."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah."

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "This particular report was compressed from prior reports sent during that operational report that did break out this data in multiple ways, so that you'll get a sense of exactly how much work is being done in each of these categories. And we can simply go back to providing that information."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Please. Because to have constituents concerned about the repairs of certain things in the jail, and not be able to point them to the data that show them that we are really working hard to take care of that is not good. And so it would be great to have that data readily available."

JOSEPH DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "Yes, ma'am, we can provide that."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you so much."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just have a question, Mr. County Manager, you mentioned that the appointments or hires were meant to be one-year terms for the folks that hire, you know, for each of the years in the ORCA program. Does that mean they can't be hired for less than a year? I mean, is there a reason they couldn't be hired now and be told -- or at the beginning of November, December, and told that the position would be ending in October?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Alton just reminded, there are limited-hire positions, not just one year."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So but we have one year left of funding?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That's correct."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Let's focus on --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So it could be less than a year?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That is correct, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "They will -- they were limited hires, which meant that they expired in October. But they were full-benefit positions, yeah."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So I'm going to make a motion to approve -- or sorry, to allow approval of and processing of new hires by our justice partners for ORCA positions through the end of the year."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Do you have the ability to quantify the financial implications of that, its impact potentially, on our general fund budget?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I will -- we will be able to do that --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Do you have it right now?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "No, I do not."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "In terms of what it will cost, because I'm not sure, are we saying -- are we saying all the justice partners? Or -- because I heard one person said just one agency. Are we saying everybody who has a request? And are those requests have already been submitted? Or do they include requests that come in November and December?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Commissioner Barrett was real clear in her motion."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I'm just trying to understand so we -- I can't quantify them unless I understand."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Do you have the ability to quantify it?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I can but it's -- is it -- if we're saying that we're opening the doors, and if someone can come in December and say, I want to fill the rest of my positions, is different than if you're saying, fill the positions that have already been requested. I'm just trying to understand so I can quantify what --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, they would have to have people to hire. So I don't anticipate someone coming forward who has 20 open positions, and saying, I magically have 20 people when I wasn't able to find 20 people all year long. So, I mean, I have

not talked to every one of them. So I don't know how many of them have offers out. But I said all justice partners, and unless somebody wants to amend that, I'll go forward with that."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, I just offer up this, you know, before we vote on this. You know, we gave y'all specific direction. If this was a closed out, we weren't going to continue funding. Now as we're getting in this, and we're giving you a different direction. So this is the kind of nonsense that we kind of go through in terms of giving you one set of directions, and then dialing it back in the midst of some other situation. You know, my -- I'm going to make a substitute motion to hold and bring back this particular concept when we've got something that's clearly quantified. So we can actually vote on it, understand what the implications are of what we vote on. That's my motion, substitute motion to hold. It's been moved and seconded. Bring that up for vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to hold. And the motion fails; two yeas, three nays."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Four nays."

CLERK GRIER: "Four nays, with Commissioner Hall."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Bring it back to the original motion. Quickly."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, never mind."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "No, I mean, I mean quickly. Do you have something -- do you need to ask or not? I mean, we've had a long discussion of this. What's -- go ahead. Okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I mean, this is all new."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It's not on our agenda. I'm not informed. I mean, you guys have private conversations with, I guess, I assume, the DA. We don't know the cost ramifications. So for me, I can't make a decision one way or the other. And I don't think that it's responsible for us to make a decision without us knowing what the ramifications are going to be. Because it's -- we're talking our future budget here. So, I don't think it's going to be cheap. Just my --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Anybody else want to speak? Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes. I just want to clarify something. This is to ensure that they are able to hire up until the end of the year. Because they have been -- it is their perception that they do not have that ability to do that, correct?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I'm going to offer a friendly amendment that they be able to hire up to the beginning of the year. But only if doing so will not result in -- in management's estimation of them exceeding the funds that we have allocated from Project ORCA. How do you feel about that, Mr. Adams?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I'm fine. When we -- we can't exceed the 75 million, because that's what we have from the feds."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "So anything above and beyond that would have to come from the general fund."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "No, they would -- not to exceed from ORCA or go into the general fund."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Well, if we don't do that, we'd have to rollback, and we'd have to end the project in September, rather than October. I mean the math is -- there are trade-offs there, which we could do that --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So it can't be done -- if we do this, it may not necessarily be able to be done within the confines of Project ORCA, and the funds may have to be -- be gone and found in the general fund?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Right, because we're already over budget. So we'd have to find the fund --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "-- somewhere else or reduce the timeframe for Project ORCA."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Withdraw that amendment then. Commissioner Thorne, you wish to be heard again? Commissioner Hall, you wish to be heard again?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It's this motion that I made, no amendment."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "in the queue --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah, I just want to say something. I want to ask this question. Do they not have salary savings right now from not hiring and utilizing the funding that has been allocated for the hiring of positions?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We adjusted the budget to reflect -- when we collectively -- because if -- remember, the project was supposed to end in December of 2023. We extended it to October of 2024. By extending it for those additional months, what it meant was basically reducing the amount of -- so for example, in the case of the Marshal, where they had had 30 positions available and they had only filled 15, we took that 30 -- that additional 15, which we didn't think they'd be able to fill, in talking to them. And we allocated those to allow us to extend out until October. So to answer your question, we don't have -- there's no such thing as salary savings, because we have, in fact, reallocated that to allow us to get to October 2024. And that's how we came up with a staffing plan and the operational plan."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So basically, what you're saying is they had funding in salaries, and when that funding was not utilized, you took the salary savings and used it somewhere else? Is that how --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "No. What I'm saying is, we actually utilized it to extend an extra ten months, not to use it anywhere else. So for example, in --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Extended for that particular department?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That's correct. So in the case of the Marshal, for example, being able to do that allows us to --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I don't --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "-- I'm just using that as an example."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "That, okay. Well, used that money to extend then, and they're still not hiring for positions, there still going to have more salary savings. Like Commissioner Barrett said, if you have someone that has 20 positions and they have not been able to fill those 20 positions, then that money is still sitting there, and --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "It's -- but we used it to re-budget, that's what I'm saying. We've already --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Re-budget what?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We -- to extend out. We look at the budget every month. So right now, we're \$600,000 over budget because we --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So let's address that."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Do we have do present -- do we have a report or something on --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We don't have it in here. We're presented to you at the next meeting. That -- but we track the numbers very, very, very closely."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Wait, hold on. Let's slow down. I won't to talk over you, and you won't --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Okay. Sorry, I apologize."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- talk over me. I'm sorry?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I said, I apologize, didn't mean to talk over you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So you said there is a \$600,000 -- no. You said we are \$600,000 over budget? I'd like to see what that looks like."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Because for us to sit here and say that we are \$600,000 over budget, and we have no idea what that looks like or what that means, that makes us look incompetent."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I didn't say we didn't know what that means."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Well, I don't --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "What I'm saying is --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- know what it means."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I -- well, okay."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Have you sent me a report about it, and I just didn't see it?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We're \$600,000 over budget at this point. We have a plan that reduces -- that budget is made up of a number of things, staffing, operational --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You have to --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "-- costs, some -- one-time costs --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You don't have to tell me."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Just send it to me."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I will do that."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. It's a motion on the floor unless somebody wants to rescind it."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I think we're ready for a vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; four yeas, one nay, and one abstention."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Are we still on --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "We're going to the next one? Okay."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0719**, Finance, review and approval of the October 18th Budget Soundings."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Motion and a second, any questions? Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0720**, Request approval of a resolution authorizing the execution of a first amendment to an installment sale agreement approved in 2019, and for other purposes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Motion and a second, no discussion. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0721**, Real Estate and Asset Management, request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing in the amount of \$230,000 to provide comprehensive pest control services."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Got a motion and a second, no discussion. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "The vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, **23-0722**, Request approval of a recommended proposals in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 to provide standby professional services for facilities related, design engineering and assessments."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Properly moved and seconded, no one in the queue. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0723**, Request approval of a statewide contract in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 to provide fuel and cart -- card management services."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Motion and a second, no discussion. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "The vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0724**, Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing in the total amount of \$275,000 to provide copy paper and related supplies."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Motion and a second. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Arts and Libraries, **23-0683**, Arts and Culture request approval of a resolution approving a Sponsorship Agreement template for use by the Department of Arts and Culture, as amended."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Chairman Pitts had asked me to offer up a motion to hold this, because he wanted to weigh in this discussion. So I'll off up a substitute motion to hold out of courtesy to him."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to hold. And the motion fails; two yeas, four nays."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Brings us back to the original motion. Actually, go back to the queue, please. I think we have people in the queue. Okay. I'll be brief on this. I'm not in support of us doing any sponsorships. I think this is a bad practice, and not -- not a role that we should be playing within the context of county government. And in addition, if we are to do sponsorships, I think they should -- things should be come forth in front of the full Board, you know, for discussion. So those are my comments, I made a similar comments at the last meeting. So I'm not going to belabor that. Go back in the queue. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Call the question."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Seconded. Mr. Vice Chair, I think we need a vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on call the question. And the motion passes; four yeas, two nays."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Bring us back to the next, to the original motion."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to approve as amended. And the motion passes; four yeas, one abstention."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "No. No, for me."

CLERK GRIER: "One nay, with Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 8 under Health and Human Services, **23-0725**, Senior Services request approval to increase spending authority in the amount of \$132,841.35 to provide professional burial services."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Moved and seconded, no discussion. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; four yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, **23-0726**, Request approval to increase spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 to provide transportation services, ride sharing to eligible residents, age 60 and above."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. We -- this was brought forward to us earlier in the year, knowing that we were going to have to approve because we decided not to implement any controls and the senior program. And that ride sharing has just increased drastically, as you look through the years and the budget. Look at 2019 and it was \$381,000. Now, we're up at almost 3 million, 2.9. And I foresee in the future that this is just going to grow unless we put some controls in. So I simply can't vote for this based on that fact, because I feel like it's irresponsible on our part to implement some kind of controls on a program that seems to be expanding beyond our limits."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "It was told to me through some data from the Atlanta Regional Commission that one of the fastest growing populations is the senior population. So if we see an increase in the need for services for seniors, I would relate it to the fact that that population is growing and in need. And my question to our Chief Financial Officer is, do we not -- do we have a cap on how much we're spending or to -- I don't see Ladisa here."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "She's not, Madam Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "I'll take your question."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. Thank you, Dr. Roshell. So, I mean, is there some cap on the -- what seniors need?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "A cap --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "-- from the department?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I've heard Commissioner Thorne say something about we don't have a cap. Is there a need for a cap? Are we -- we're keeping track of the overwhelming number of seniors who are requesting our services? We are, right?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes, ma'am. We track all of the ridership on our dashboard for Senior Services. And so we do keep track of that information."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And this is based off of the need? It is?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes, ma'am. It's based on the program parameters. So we have specific parameters for whose eligible. And once a senior meets that criteria, then we enroll them into the program."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Dr. Roshell, just to clarify, what are the requirements to meet? Is it just aged based, it's not financial based, is it?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "No, ma'am. There is no financial requirement. So it's not based on income. It's based on your ability to travel independently, as well as age."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. I just want to refresh memory here for the Board. We had a presentation from the County Manager team and Ladisa and Dr. Roshell several months ago, in which they suggested actually putting some parameters around the spending. And they did warn us that the spending was going to get exponentially larger, not only because of the population change, but because it was just popular to get a \$1 Uber. And more and more people are learning about it, and they're using it. So at the time, I was open to the ideas of -- of some controls. I still think we should look into that for 2024 and beyond. But then just to continue refreshing everybody's memory, a vote was taken. The only vote that was taken in one of our retreat meetings upstairs, was taken to take this money, and correct me if I'm wrong, Dr. Roshell, out of the healthcare reserve that I had asked to be set aside at the beginning of the year, correct?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. And so that vote was taken, that was not actually the way I wanted to spend the money. But I was out voted and that out voting included Commissioner Thorne, who's now saying she doesn't want to spend the money on it. So I'm a little bit confused by that. But I'll support it because we said it was coming from

the healthcare reserve, and the money is there this year to pay for it. But I do think we need to look at putting a requirement in place that it's for those seniors that have the financial need, as opposed to just anybody, as one potential way to cap it. Because by no means do I want to hurt our seniors who have financial need. On the other hand, I know with our budgetary constraints, we cannot allow it to continue to grow exponentially year over year."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett. We will present a means test model for consideration."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I just want to add, it should also include those seniors who have health issues and are not able to drive themselves. Because we do have a lot of that with seniors who have disabilities or cataracts and different needs like that. So it needs to include everything that would debilitate them or cause them an inability to drive themselves."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. It's moved and properly seconded. Let's open up the vote."

CLERK GRIER: "The vote is open. And the motion passes; four yeas, zero nays."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioners' Action Items, next item is Commissioner Arrington."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "He wants to hold that, so just hold."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioners' Full-Board Appointments, **23-0728**, Atlanta-Fulton County Recreation Authority, Chairman Pitts has nominated Vice Chairman Bob Ellis for a Full-Board reappointment to term ending November 1st, 2027."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. Motion passes; four yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 10, **23-0729**. Atlanta-Fulton County Recreation Authority. Vice Chairman Ellis has nominated Chairman Robb Pitts for a Full-Board reappointment to a term ending November 1st, 2027."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "Next items are the items that were moved from consent. On page 2, first item was removed by Commissioner Thorne, **23-0693**, Request approval of the proposed 2024 Fulton County Board of Commissioners Meeting Calendar."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Thorne, like to speak on this?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. We added in a second meeting in July. And for me personally, getting through my first year, I kind of wondered what would happen in July. Would our meetings be double time? But they weren't. 6/21, our meeting was four hours and 47 minutes. On 7/12, it was a little bit more, at six hours. And then on 8/2, it was only four hours and 51 minutes. So I would like to see that recess break, not just for us, but for everybody, all the staff to have a time in the year, where we have a bit of an extended break. I'd also like to see if possibly, Commissioner Barrett's looked into possibly doing a retreat at another time. And that would essentially be adding a meeting in. Just my thoughts."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So what is your request for modification? Understand --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So, remove the second meeting in July."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So the meeting would be on July 10th?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Oh, yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Or on July 24th?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "The first meeting. No, just July 10th meeting."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Is that the first Wednesday in July?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Pardon?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "The one that she's saying, July 10th?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Oh, no. We moved the July 24th, keep the 10th."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, okay, all right. A point of personal privilege. I know that Kenneth Hermon and Hakeem, and maybe even, Alton -- I'm getting married next year in that month. And so I've already made -- I've already made plans based on one meeting. So if y'all would be so kind -- because I don't think I can get my deposits back. If we can keep it at that one, and those of you that are just going to be upset, County Manager, I see you over there about to cry, too. I'm a official be off the market. I would appreciate if -- I would appreciate if my colleagues would support Commissioner Thorne in this, due to the fact it would put a financial burden on me to change all of that if we decide to do two meetings that month."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So just to be clear, what -- when we vote on this, we're voting that there will be a meeting on July 10th, as -- and not on the 24th?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And everybody is good with that?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Is everybody good with that?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "In terms of their --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Only for me."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- knowledge of their calendars? Speak now, or -- okay, all right. So if no other conversation on this, then we will have a vote to approve the proposed 2024 Fulton County Board of Commissioners Meeting Calendar, be as presented with the exception of the meeting on July 24th will be removed? Okay."

CLERK GRIER: "So noted."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "Next item moved from consent, as requested by Commissioner Hall, on page 2, **23-0696**, Finance, ratification of the September 2023 Grant Activity Report."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. I just had a question about adding some additional information to this report because -- let's see. If you look at the Solicitor General's item, which says, it's a grant of -- for Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Victims of Crime Act. This was first brought to my attention at the recent ACCG training, when several Commissioners from different counties started to speak on the fact that their funding, their grant funding had been cut for their Victim Advocates. And that they were, you know, experiencing some unfortunate detriment to those that they serve. And when I saw this in here, the question that I had was, okay, so we received a cut, too. And so what are we doing about it? Because hearing the other counties speak on how that cut has impacted them negatively, it made me aware of this also possibly having the potential to impact us negatively as well. And so if anyone can address, what are we doing in relation to this? And then the second ask is, can we put a column on here or add some information for circumstances like this so we know if there has been a cut in a grant that could cause an impact to people that we serve so we can see that at a glance?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Commissioner, if I can, we discussed -- I just discussed this with the Solicitor and his team last week, when we're doing the budget review. And this is going to be one of the things that's including in the County Manager's recommendation for 2024."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "As he explained it, you know, it -- just as you said, right. It's something that causes -- it's pretty straightforward."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "We got a reduction in the grant. And so to make up the difference, it's part of the proposed budget for 2024 for the Solicitor."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Great. All right. And can we add that information from now on, so that we know that there are cuts and grants that can cause issues like this?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah. Yes, ma'am, we'll revise the report for that to include previous award amounts."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Great, thank you so much."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. We have a motion to approve, it's been moved and seconded. Bring it forward for a vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "You got any other hidden agenda items that we need to discuss for the next hour?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes, Mr. Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "We do?"

CLERK GRIER: "We have one public comment."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "One public comment."

CLERK GRIER: "Email, yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Let's go."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Clerk, is anybody on Zoom?"

NIKKI PETERSON, DEPUTY CLERK: "Ben Howard."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Zoom, the Zoom people on?"

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "We actually have one more on Zoom."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Vice Chair, I believe they said, it's one on Zoom."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right, we're ready to go."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Okay. So that person is Ben Howard."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right, Mr. Howard, we're listening."

BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC COMMENT: "Thank you. Greetings, Commissioners and fellow citizens. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. On the Consent Agenda, item 23-0694 was the proclamation by Commissioner Marvin Arrington, memorializing the passing of Reverend Earl Calloway. Pastor Calloway departed this planet on the 25th day of September. On the website of the Housing Authority of Fulton County, we are told that HAFC is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors. The website then goes on to list 11. I said, 11 board members, Pastor Calloway included among the 11. That same website continues to show two appointments by District 4 Commissioner Natalie Hall; Attorney Antavius Weems, as Chair and Dr. Lamar White, as Vice Chair. Not on the website, are agendas or minutes of their meetings like tomorrow's. It's now time to bring in someone from the outside to peer inside those

cloaked walls of what some see as a secret society. So stay tuned about more about HAFC."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "And this concludes the Zoom public comments."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right, thank you."

REGINA WALLER, COMMUNICATION DIVISION MANAGER: "We have two email comments. The first from Reverend L.S. Allen: While I am encouraged and inspired by Commissioner Barrett's leadership in drafting a resolution to provide funding to South Fulton's only abortion fund, I am disappointed and distressed by the Board of Commissioners inability to support this necessary effort. Georgia ranks number one for maternal mortality, wealth inequity, and prison population per capita. The time for reproductive freedom is long overdue. Fulton County has an opportunity to be the first in the state to provide vital resources for reproductive healthcare. Our congregations and faith communities will make every effort to create a safe, healthy, and sustainable Georgia where everyone has what they need to thrive. The second public comment is by Linda Nash, CEO, Homeowner's Legal Rights: Because the Executive Branch of government is required to maintain and safeguard the land records, shouldn't be the Sheriff's Department examined the land record -- records very closely to ensure that they are not assisting everyone in an eviction that has unlawfully claimed the home and land. Otherwise, the Sheriff's Department is assisting in the unlawful home invasion and seizure of property at gunpoint. This would not be a justified violation of their oath of office, but also a violation of citizens protected civil rights. This may be the only way the good citizens of Georgia have to protect themselves against legal -- illegal foreclosures and theft of their property, as Georgia is a title-theory state that allows nonjudicial foreclosures. This concludes the email comments."

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "No further items to come before us, we are adjourned."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.