

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RECESS MEETING**

February 21, 2024
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: March 20, 2024

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, Commissioner (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, Vice Chair (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

24-0107 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)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis, and Hall

24-0108 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing “Dexter King Remembrance Day.” **(Hall/Arrington/BOC)**
February 10, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Jacques L. Jefferson Appreciation Day.”
(Abdur-Rahman)
February 10, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Napoleon B. Cobb Remembrance Day.” **(Arrington)**
February 10, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Reshard Snelling Appreciation Day.” **(Abdur-Rahman)**
February 12, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Usher Raymond Appreciation Day.”
(Hall/Arrington/Pitts/Abdur-Rahman/Thorne)
February 14, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Rhonda Thomas Appreciation Day.” **(Hall/Arrington)**
February 16, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Avery Sunshine Appreciation Day.” **(Hall/Arrington)**
February 16, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Eric Roberson Appreciation Day.” **(Hall/Arrington)**
February 16, 2024

Proclamation recognizing “Stephanie Mills Appreciation Day.” **(Hall/Arrington)**
February 16, 2024

Proclamation recognizing "Herschel Martin Jones Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
February 17, 2024

Proclamation recognizing "Kenneth The Maestro Lowe Appreciation Day."
(Abdur-Rahman)
February 17, 2024

Proclamation recognizing "Love and Courage Stroke and Heart Disease Survivor's
Program, Inc. Awareness Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**
February 20, 2024

Proclamation recognizing "Student Leadership Johns Creek Appreciation Day."
(Thorne)
February 22, 2024

Commissioners' District Board Appointments

24-0109 Board of Commissioners

FULTON COUNTY REPARATIONS TASK FORCE (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

The Reparations Task Force shall have the following members: Each Commissioner shall appoint two (2) members, for a total of 14 members. Each member shall be a resident of Fulton County at the time of the appointment. A member shall serve for a two-year term and subject to removal by the appointing Commissioner for cause. No member's term shall exceed that of the appointing Commissioner but shall remain as a voting member until replaced or reappointed by the successive Commissioner.

Term = 2 Years

Term below expired: 12/31/2023

Rodney J. Littles **(Abdur-Rahman)**

**Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman nominated Rodney J. Littles for a District
reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2025.**

24-0110 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY CITIZENS COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

The Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment shall consist of citizens from throughout Fulton County to be appointed by the Members of the Board of Commissioners. There shall be fourteen (14) members to serve on the Commission. In making such appointments, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners shall ensure that the terms of appointment are staggered. Each District Commissioner shall appoint one Commission member to a four (4) year term. Each District Commissioner shall also appoint one Commission member to a two (2) year term to ensure staggered terms. After the expiration of each appointee's initial term, the regular term of office for such an appointee shall be four (4) years. No term of any member shall extend beyond the term of the District Commissioner who appointed the member to serve on the Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment; however, each member may continue to serve beyond his/her term until replaced. After the expiration of any appointee's initial term, the Commission may recommend to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners a list of eligible persons for consideration as appointees to the Commission. The Appointing member of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners may remove his/her appointee(s) to this Commission at any time and within the sole discretion of that individual of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

Staggered Terms

Term = 2 Years

Term = 4 Years

Term below expired: 12/31/2022

Mandisha A. Thomas (Abdur-Rahman)

Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman nominated Mandisha A. Thomas for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2026.

**Development Authority of Fulton County TEFRA
(Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act)**

24-0111 Board of Commissioners
Execution by Chairman Robert L. Pitts of a TEFRA (Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act) for documentation pertaining to the proposed issuance of its Development Authority of Fulton County Senior Housing Revenue Notes (Shannon Reserve Apartments Project) Series 2024 or similarly styled instrument, in an amount not to exceed \$28,419,000 (the "Notes"). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

24-0112 Board of Commissioners

Execution by Chairman Robert L. Pitts of a TEFRA (Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act) for documentation pertaining to the proposed issuance of its Development Authority of Fulton County Georgia Tech Facilities Refunding Revenue Bonds. Series 2024A, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000,000 (the "Bonds"). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Open & Responsible Government**24-0113 Finance**

Ratification of the January 2024 Grants Activity Report. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

24-0114 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 15RFP96985C-DR, FIT Pick Micro Market, Vending Machine & Catered Events with Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, formerly Coca Cola Refreshments USA, Inc. dba Coca Cola Distribution Center (Atlanta, GA), to provide vending machine services for Fulton County facilities including the Government Center Complex, Justice Center Tower, Juvenile Justice Center, and other County-owned, or leased facilities. This action exercises the first of one renewal option. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: March 1, 2024, through February 28, 2026. This is a revenue generating contract. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Infrastructure and Economic Development**24-0115 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between Fulton County and the Fulton County Board of Education for the purpose of providing polling locations for the citizens of Fulton County; to authorize the Chairman to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement and related documents; to authorize the County Attorney to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement as to form and make modifications thereto to protect the interests of Fulton County prior to execution; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety**24-0116 Emergency Management**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Control Services between Fulton County, Georgia and City of Mountain Park for a period of time that shall terminate at 2400 hours on December 31, 2028. The purpose of this Intergovernmental Agreement is to provide vital and necessary animal control services for the County's homeless pets while enforcing the animal control laws of Fulton County in a manner that reflects quality and professionalism. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

24-0117 Emergency Management

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of South Fulton, Georgia and Fulton County, Georgia, by which the City and the County would agree to fire protection, fire suppression, emergency medical response, community risk reduction, rescue, hazardous material response, technical rescue, ancillary fire services and support assistance, and first response non-transport emergency medical services within the specific boundaries of the unincorporated portion of Fulton County, Georgia. The IGA is effective January 1, 2024 and ending on December 31, 2024. This Agreement may renew on January 1st of each successive year for up to three (3) years. This Agreement may not be renewed or enforced beyond December 31, 2027. Renewal of this Agreement shall require written notice by both the County and the City and shall not be automatic. The County’s funding obligation annually is the amount of three Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars and Zero Cents which shall be remitted to the City in monthly payments of Twenty-Nine Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

RECESS MEETING AGENDA

24-0118 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 the Recess Agenda as amended by removing item #24-0130. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis, and Hall

24-0119 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

- Recess Meeting Minutes, January 24, 2024
- Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 7, 2024
- Special Called Emergency Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 8, 2024
- Special Called Emergency Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 15, 2024

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Hall

24-0120 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing “Beulah Boys Appreciation Day.” **(Hall/Arrington)**

Proclamation recognizing “Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Appreciation Day.”
(Arrington)

Proclamation recognizing “Chairman Eldrin Bell Appreciation Day.”
(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Thorne/Ellis/Hall)

PUBLIC HEARINGS**24-0121 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 sixty (60) minutes at the Regular Meeting, nor will this portion exceed sixty (60) minutes at the Recess Meeting. In the event the 60-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. For more information or to arrange a speaking date, contact the Clerk’s Office.

(CONDUCTED)

8 Speakers: Katie Benson (Item #24-0135); Matt Rowenczak (Item #24-0135); J. Wesley Day (Justice); L.A. Pink (District Attorney Office/Item #24-0135); Derrick D. Blassingame (District Attorney Office/Item #24-0135); Paul Hershey (District Attorney Office/Item #24-0135); Julie Allen (District Attorney Office/Item #24-0135) and Maria Gaudio (Item #24-0135)

3 Zoom Speakers: Kevin Muldowney (Item #24-0135); Janet Hill (Crimes) and Samantha Kluglein (Item #24-0135)

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority

24-0122 Board of Commissioners
MARTA Quarterly Update **(PRESENTED)**

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS

Open & Responsible Government

24-0123 County Manager
Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report. **(PRESENTED)**

24-0060 Real Estate and Asset Management
Request approval of a statewide contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, SWC 99999-001-SPD0000183-0006, Police Pursuit and Special Services Vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$611,020.00 with Wade Ford, Inc. (Smyrna, GA), to purchase and deliver sixteen (16) law enforcement/administrative vehicles for the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office. This is a one-time procurement. **(HELD ON 1/24/24 AND 2/7/24) (APPROVED)**

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

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

Nay: Thorne, and Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

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

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, and Ellis

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

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

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

Nay: Pitts, Thorne, and Ellis

24-0124 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of recommended proposals - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 23RFP04262023K-BKJ, Design-Build Services for the Renovation and Refurbishment of Fulton County Government Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$28,035,619.00 with Winter Johnson Group (Atlanta, GA) (a joint venture comprised of The Winter Construction Company, LLC and Johnson Construction Services, LLC) to provide Design-Build Services for the renovation of selected areas in the Fulton County Government Center Complex and the Central Library. Effective upon issuance of Notice to Proceed (NTP) for 750 consecutive calendar days or completion of construction project as determined by Fulton County. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0055 Information Technology

Request approval to award a contract without competition - Department of Information Technology, 19RFP3152019K-DJ, Agenda Management System with Carahsoft Technology Corporation (Reston, VA) in an amount not to exceed \$267,200.35 to provide licenses and professional services required to upgrade the existing agenda management system. Effective upon BOC approval until final acceptance of project deliverables and milestones. **(HELD ON 1/24/24 AND 2/7/24) (APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0125 Information Technology

Request approval of a statewide contract - Information Technology, SWC 99999-SPD-NVPUT3229-0001, Data Communication Products & Services, in the amount not to exceed \$455,660.21 with Palo Alto Networks, Inc. through Presidio Networked Solutions LLC, (Norcross, GA) an authorized Reseller to provide Endpoint Protection. Effective upon BOC approval until Final Acceptance, the final delivered product is fully implemented in the County's live production environment as determined by the CIO. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0126 Information Technology

Request approval to award a contract without competition - Department of Information Technology. Upgrade of the County's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application with CGI Technologies and Solutions Inc. (Fairfax, VA), in an amount not to exceed \$10,200,000.00. Design, configure, and implement to the latest version (4.0) of the County's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software Effective upon BOC approval until Final Acceptance, the final delivered product is fully implemented in the County's live production environment as determined by the CIO. **(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

Abstain: Pitts

24-0127 Information Technology

Request approval to utilize Cooperative Purchasing - Department of Information Technology, State of North Dakota #146 Strategic Assessments, Upgrade of the County's Enterprise Resource Planning Software (ERP) application with International Consulting Acquisition Corp. dba ISG Public Sector (Stamford, CT) in an amount not to exceed \$1,250,000.00 to provide independent verification and validation services during the CGI software upgrade. Effective upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed and continue for eighteen (18) consecutive months. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

Arts and Libraries**24-0128 Arts and Culture**

Request approval of a statewide contract - Arts & Culture Department, SWC# 99999-SPD-0000136-0008, Professional Temporary Staffing in the amount of \$105,000.00 with Corporate Temps Inc. (Norcross, Georgia) to provide temporary staffing services for the Arts & Culture Department. Effective January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Pitts

Health and Human Services

24-0129 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fulton County, the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (BHDD) and the Atlanta/Fulton County Prearrest Diversion Initiative, Inc. ("PAD") to continue providing financial support for delivery of pre-arrest diversion services in the amount of \$400,000.00 for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Pitts

24-0130 Public Works

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder - Department of Public Works, 23ITBC060923A-KM, Uniforms, and Accessories in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 with Jonah's Enterprises Inc, (Brooklyn, NY) to provide uniforms and accessories. Effective upon execution of the contract through December 31, 2024, with two renewal options. **(REMOVED)**

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE RECESS MEETING AGENDA

24-0131 Public Works

Request approval to extend an existing contract - Department of Public Works, FAA Contract DTFAWA-15-C000018, Air Traffic Control Services - Night Coverage at Fulton County Executive Airport - Charlie Brown Field, in an amount not to exceed \$73,567.71 with Robinson Aviation, Inc. (RVA) (Oklahoma, OK), to provide air traffic control night coverage services at Fulton County Executive Airport - Charlie Brown Field for an additional three month period effective March 31, 2024, through June 30, 2024. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0132 Public Works

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder - Department of Public Works, 23ITB458876A-KM, Small Water Meter Installation in an amount not to exceed \$620,000.00 with Jewel of the South Inc. (Conyers, GA), to provide small water meter installation services effective 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: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Infrastructure and Economic Development

24-0133 Public Works

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Public Works, 23RFP140862K-CRB, Building Code Administration Services, Construction Management Services and Planning Services in an amount not to exceed \$185,709.50 with Nova Engineering and Environmental, LLC (Kennesaw, GA) to provide building code administration, construction management, and planning services associated with new development and redevelopment activity within the Fulton Industrial District area of unincorporated Fulton County. Effective March 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Justice and Safety

24-0134 Police

Request approval to increase the spending authority - Police Department, 23RFP139745B-EC, Armed and Unarmed Security Services in an amount not to exceed \$3,839,243.00 with Universal Protection Services dba Allied Security Services (Atlanta, GA) to provide armed and unarmed security services for Registration and Election. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS

24-0093 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners urging the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation sponsored by the State Senator Donzella James to amend the Official Code of Georgia to lift the ban relating to restrictions on rent regulations by local governments and allow Counties and Municipalities the ability to regulate the rent to be charged for privately owned single-family or multiple-unit residential properties for those residing within the state of Georgia; and for other purposes. **(Hall) (HELD ON 2/7/24) (HELD)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

b. A substitute motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to hold. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Thorne

Did Not Vote: Arrington

24-0135 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to amend the fiscal year 2024 Board of Commissioners' departmental budget for District Four and for other purposes. (ref: item #24-0094) **(Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve as amended by clarifying a \$200,000.00 reduction of the budget, striking the words "or as close to." The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Barrett, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Hall

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to call the question. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Arrington

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Open & Responsible Government

24-0136 External Affairs

Presentation of 2024 State Legislative Session Update. **(PRESENTED)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

24-0137 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: Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, Commissioners: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier.

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING CYBERSECURITY: Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, Commissioners: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Hall, Arrington and; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; Alston & Bird Cyber Breach Counsel BJay Pak; Via Zoom: Kate Hanniford; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier.

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

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

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to deny the request for representation in item #2 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Barrett, Hall, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Thorne, Ellis, and Abdur-Rahman

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to deny the request for representation in item #3 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis, and Arrington

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve the request for representation in item #4 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
RECESS MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2024
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC
"A Court Reporting Firm"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Good morning, everyone and welcome to the February 21st, meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is February 21st, 2024. It is 10 o'clock 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: "Commissioner Bob Ellis. Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall. Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chair Khadijah Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR 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: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **24-0107**, 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."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, any items on the Consent Agenda? Madam Clerk, none? Commissioners, none? All right, motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote "

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, Recess Meeting Agenda, **24-0118**, Adoption of the Recess Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have one item to be removed and held on page 9, under Health and Human Services, 24-0130, Public Works: Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder in an amount not to exceed \$125,000, to provide uniforms and accessories.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "To be held?"

CLERK GRIER: "To be held."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Why?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Good morning, Commissioners. There is a companion paper that needs to go this, the apparent low bidder. It was ordered back on September 6th. They refused to sign the contract. So now we have to go to the second low bidder, but the two papers need to travel together."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Understand. Thank you. Continue, Madam Clerk. All right, anything else, Commissioners? All right, motion to adopt. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I would like to -- no that's fine."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to adopt the Agenda as amended by Commissioner Barrett; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0119**, Ratification of Minutes, Recess Meeting Minutes, January 24th; Regular, Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 7th; Special Called Emergency Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 8th and February 15th, 2024."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to adopt the minutes. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne; seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0120, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. First proclamation is recognizing 'Beulah Boys Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall and Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. And let's see. We have -- we'll need to recess for lunch and Executive Session promptly at 1 o'clock, but if we stick to the Agenda, we should be finished by then anyway. It's not a -- we don't have a lot on the Agenda today. But we have a hard stop at 1:00 for lunch and Executive Session. All right."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Beulah Boys, come on down. Beulah Boys, come on down, and anybody else in support of Beulah Boys, come on down. Hey, good morning. Good morning. It's so good to see you. All right, is that everybody for Beulah Boys? You said, hold on one second? Okay, yes, sir. No problem. All right. It is an honor and a pleasure to present you with this proclamation. I saw you all perform at the senior event that the Union put together with SCLC Women, and it was an amazing performance. And the proclamation reads: WHEREAS, the Beulah Boys met in 2010 at Beulah Baptist Church Family Life Center on Clifton Road in Decatur, Georgia in an exercise in dance class. The seven members of the Beulah Boys are all retired gentlemen with the love of soul line dancing; and WHEREAS, the Beulah Boys range in age from to 61 to 81 years old and average two to three performances per week. They perform at local senior centers, churches, community centers, birthday and retirement parties, office events, and expos; and WHEREAS, the Beulah Boys are the only all male soul line dancing group in the southeastern United States; and represented the region at the Annual Soul Line Dancing Expo in July 2011; and WHEREAS, the Beulah Boys have won several line dancing competitions and have been featured on television shows, newspapers, magazine articles, conferences, festivals, and church events; and WHEREAS, the Beulah Boys members are Winston 'Nick' Bowersbka – oh, my goodness, Bowers, yes; Leroy 'Smooth Sac' Brewer, Jerry Heard, Chico 'Charmin Chico' Hill, Mac 'Chocolate Man' Cook, Leon 'DJ Bosco' Nolton, and Sam 'Sandman Swain. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the Beulah Boys for their dedication to entertaining and inspiring audiences of all ages; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 as the 'Beulah Boys Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I just want to say the work that the Beulah Boys does in keeping our seniors healthy and active is amazing and certainly to be applauded. Again, you know -- and 61 to 81, they've been doing it for a long time and they continue to do it well. So, thank you so much for your service to the community."

RECIPIENT: "Good morning. Good morning. It's an honor to be here, and the most pleasing thing of this is that we were able to put smiles on the senior faces. But while we are here, I noticed there's a lot of men in the audience. And we don't just dance to

have fun; we dance to fight prostate cancer. All we ask you men to do, go get checked. Please go get checked. Don't go to the store and buy a \$300 bottle of cologne. Don't do you no good. Go to the doctor and get checked. Remember your PSA count. If you can remember Atlanta Falcon's game score, you should know your PSA count. Please, go get checked. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. All right. Will the gentlemen of the Atlanta Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi please join me -- join us. All right. Welcome. Welcome. Welcome. Appreciate y'all coming out. We have the two smoothest brothers in here. All right. So, yes, I forgot my jacket. It is such a pleasure to be able to present this proclamation today to the Atlanta Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi celebrating 100 years of service and achievement. Let's give them a big round of applause. My uncle Joe first became a Kappa and then my dad, and then me and my cousin Joe as well, so -- and my cousin Gerald -- all Kappa men; so, certainly proud to be able to present this proclamation today. The proclamation reads as follows: WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. is the second oldest existing collegiate historically Black Greek letter fraternity; the first intercollegiate fraternity incorporated as a national body, and the first National Pan Atlantic Council Organization to be nationally incorporated; and WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated was founded on January 5th, 1911 in Bloomington, Indiana at Indiana University by ten founding members Elder Watson Diggs, Byron K. Armstrong, John M. Lee, Henry T. Asher, Marcus P. Blakemore, Guy L. Grant, Paul W. Caine, George W. Edmonds, Ezra D. Alexander, and Edward G. Irvin; and WHEREAS, the fraternity proudly boasts of members who epitomize the very essence of achievement in every field of human endeavor; including not only myself, but Mayor Andre Dickens from the city of Atlanta, Sheriff Patrick Labat, Solicitor Keith Gammage, Judge John DeFoor, II, and numerous other public servants and business leaders; and WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated has over 125,000 members with more than 700 undergraduate and alumni chapters in nearly every state of the United States; and international chapters in Nigeria, South Africa, the West Indies, the United Kingdom, Germany, Korea, and Japan; and WHEREAS, the Atlanta Georgia Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated was chartered on February 22, 1924 making it one of the oldest chapters and the largest alumni chapter in the Southeastern Providence; and WHEREAS, the Metro Atlanta Coalition of Kappa Alpha Psi chapters extended into Fulton County, Georgia all with which include College Park 1981, Alpharetta Smyrna Alumni Chapter 1989, and the Newnan/Fairburn Chapter in 2013. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the Atlanta Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated for its tireless commitment to service and achievement for the local community and beyond; and does hereby proclaim Thursday, February 22nd, 2024 as 'Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Let's give them a big round of applause."

RECIPIENT: "So good morning, everyone. Commissioner Pitts, Brother Commissioner Arrington, ladies and gentlemen, thank you for allowing us to come in today and share some time with you and celebrate. We are very proud of our residency here in Fulton County. We've been here since 1924. Brother Arrington just read some of the servants, and we're glad to have you here with us. Our Solicitor General, Keith Gammage, we're glad to have you here with us well; and we're just proud of the accomplishments and the achievement that we set out to do. Because when we set out in a community, we really think about how can we serve the citizens of Fulton County, Georgia. What can we do to make their lives better. So that's really what our purpose is. We talk about achievement in every field of human endeavor, so we look for where people are where they reside and meet them there. So just on behalf of the great man here that you see, my brothers, the Atlanta Georgia Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, I say thank you for this opportunity and we appreciate your support always."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Chairman Eldrin Bell Appreciation Day' sponsored by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can I get all of the family and friends of Chairman Bell. I want to apologize. Chairman Bell is -- unfortunately, the transportation that was supposed to get him here is thinking that they need to get him here at noon as opposed to 10:00 a.m. And so, we're going to ask since we do have the chief of police here and also city of Atlanta and Fulton County, we're going to go ahead and present him, his cousin, with -- his relative with the proclamation, and we're going to have something -- a reception for him a little bit later because of the mix-up with the transportation company. And so, it is -- come on this side, some of y'all can come on to this side. It is with great admiration -- Chairman Bell graduated from Howard, and if you look at the hall, the wall of fame at Howard elementary school now. It may be middle school now. You'll see Maynard Jackson, you'll see Eldrin Bell, and you see Victoria Travis Jackson, which is my late mother; her and Eldrin were very close. Eldrin actually sung at her 70th birthday party. Those that may not know, he is an accomplished singer -- sings very well. And so, in this month -- Black History Month, we wanted to celebrate the second police chief of color. Unfortunately, I said the first police chief out of error. The actual first police chief was my classmates, the Napper's, father. He served during the missing and murdered. Eldrin came in as the second police chief of color for APD; however, he was the first commander of the Red Dog Unit. And if any of you all are from Atlanta you know what Red Dog means. It means run every drug deal out of Georgia. And so, we want to celebrate what Chairman Bell has done with his illustrious law-enforcement and political career. WHEREAS, Chairman Eldrin Bell received his education in the Atlanta Public Schools and graduated from David T. Howard High School. He furthered his undergraduate studies at Morris Brown College and Georgia State University; and his graduate studies at Harvard University Law School, Northwestern University Institute, and Atlanta University. He receive professional training at the FBI's Academy, National Executive Institute, and he is a three-time graduate of the Secret Service Academy; and completed the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia certification program; and WHEREAS, Chairman Bell has been a public servant for 41 years and started as a

beat officer in a segregated department where he rose to Chief of Police for the city of Atlanta. He was elected in 2004 to Chief of Police for the city of Atlanta; he was also elected as the first African-American to serve as the Chairman of Clayton County Board of Commissioners and served for eight years; and WHEREAS, Chairman Bell founded the Clayton County Library Foundation and sponsored online live tutoring -- tutorial programs for the Clayton County Children. He spearheaded the 2008 special purpose local option sales tax which produced over \$300 million in revenue, which supports parks, green space, roads, libraries, recreational and senior citizens facilities in Clayton County; and WHEREAS, Chairman Bell developed the Aerotropolis concept which supports the economic development for cities and counties adjacent to the Atlanta Airport. He is also a beloved Elder at Salem Bible Church; and WHEREAS, Chairman Bell is a member of many civic and professional organizations including the Regional Transit -- Transportation Planning Board, Clayton County Regional Health Board, Atlanta Regional Commission and life member of Clayton County NAACP; and WHEREAS, Chairman Bell's proudest accomplishment is his family. He is the father of 13 children, nine adopted, 16 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. He began a program with eight families and now has a 172 grandparents raising 280 children. Those that went from no dropouts to a college graduate and no reported substance abuse. It is with humble pride and joy that NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Chairman Eldrin Bell for his many years of dedicated service to the citizens of Metro Atlanta; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 as 'Chairman Eldrin Bell Appreciation Day' in Fulton County. Would you, please, put your hand together. I'm going to turn the mic over to Debra Colbert and then the APD Chief of Police as well as the Chief of Police for Fulton County for comments."

DEBRA RICHARDSON COLBERT, RECIPIENT: "Good morning, everyone. Thank you so much to the Board of Commissioners, especially Commissioner Khadijah for thinking enough of my cousin/uncle. He wanted to be promoted as uncle because he's the only elder cousin that we have living in our family. He has been everything to I know my sister, LaTonya Richardson Jackson, as well as myself, Debra Richardson Colbert. He's been like a father and everything we needed. When we were in school, he was there along with our cousins, his children. I can't say enough about what he's done for his children and our family. We're sorry for the mix-up. I know that he really wanted to be here, but we just want to thank you for everything that you all have done and thinking enough of him to call this day a day of remembrance for the things that he has done. Thank you so much. This is his godson, this is my husband, and we are glad that we did come to represent some of the members of our family. Thank you again so much."

DARIN SCHIERBAUM, CHIEF, APD: "Thank you so much, Commissioner Khadijah, for putting forth this proclamation, Chairman Pitts and Member of the Commission. This month is Black History Month. If you will notice when you see officers of your department on patrol, many of them will be sporting our honorary patch that we have designed just for this month. And when wear this patch we are honoring a lion of the department in Chief Bell. I was a rookie sergeant many, many years ago. I'm not going

to date myself. And as my mentor sat down with me to tell me how to be successful in serving the citizens of Atlanta being a good supervisor, she quoted me a quote. She said it's important wherever you go you inspect what you expect. And I started hearing that throughout my time on the Police Department only years later to find out that was Chief Bell. When he was Chief of Police of the Atlanta Police Department telling us wherever we go as supervisors of this great department, to inspect what we expect. I want you to know, that phrase is ingrained within this organization. Citizens of Atlanta deserve top-notch law enforcement. Chief Bell ensured that that was ingrained in everyone that served while he was from an officer to a Chief of Police. My other favorite Chief Bell quote was one time we had a shooting in a part of the city; that did not sit well with Chief Bell. He picked up the phone and called that major. He said you better get out there and remind the citizens of this city they have a Police Department. And so, everyday we go to work, Commissioner, we're inspecting that we expect, we make sure every citizen of Atlanta knows, thanks to Chief Bell, they have a police department protecting them, holding up the highest standards of this profession. So thank you once again for honoring a lion of the Atlanta Police Department."

WADE YATES, FC CHIEF OF POLICE: "Good morning. Wade Yates, Fulton County Police Chief. I did not work for the city of Atlanta and never have, but when I was going to college, I was kind of aimless, didn't know what I wanted to do. I thought about police work. And every time I turned on the TV, I am dating myself, this was the early nineties, Chief Bell was on; and more than anything, letting us know that everything was going to be okay, and that he was going to take care of the problems that we were having. And that gave me the inspiration to become a police officer. And I never thought I would make it to become the Chief of Police when I was a young man first starting out, but I always told myself that if you ever made it to be the Chief of Police, try to be like him. He was a wonderful person and let's thank him for his service."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, Public hearings, **24-0121**, 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 online by 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 60 minutes. In the event the 60-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comments 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 have received nine speaker cards in Assembly Hall today. Will the first five speakers, please come

forward: Katie Benson, Matt Rowenzcak, J. Wesley Day, LA Pink, and Derek D. Blasingame.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Excuse me. Speakers; when you have 15 seconds left of your two minutes, I'll say 15 seconds. That's your clue to begin to terminate -- conclude rather, your remarks. We're doing great on time. So first speaker come on down. It is 10:32 a.m."

KATIE BENSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. I'm here today to express my full support of action item 24-0135. Commissioner Hall acted out of line, and we, the taxpayers, should not be at fault for taking the brunt of her bills. District Four deserves better representation in a commissioner who actively engages in inappropriate relations with employees. Then acts inappropriately in their firing, who then takes zero responsibility while on the stand by pleading the fifth numerous, numerous times. It appears the taxpayers have already had to take a hold of the great burden of time that has been taken away from Fulton County due to improper conduct; from her stalking her Chief of Staff to falsely coming up with ways to fire him, to then having to make it to court appearances. It appears Commissioner Hall has been taking ample time and energies away from the Fulton County residents in order to support the mess she herself has gotten into. We, the residents of Fulton County, should not have to bear the weight of such tasteless behavior. If anyone pays, it's time Commissioner Hall does and not us."

MATT ROWENZCAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. Matt Rowenzcak, Fulton County resident. You know, it's often that whenever you see a poll where it asks Americans their trust or approval of our government, it's a failing grade every single time. It gets better as you move more locally, but it's still a failing grade. So as an elected official, you would think this would be something that we would keep in mind. So with this been said, Commissioner Hall, you decide to allegedly hire someone that you met at a library. Sounds like a sound decision; then you decide to have an inappropriate sexual relationship with your Chief of Staff, sounds like a sound decision; and then you put tracking devices in his vehicle. That sounds to be like a sound decision; then you retaliate by firing him. Sounds to be like a sound decision; and then instead of making a simple apology maybe to the public at a minimum, you go on the victim tour to the church and you go right next to you is our corrupt DA. So instead of showing some remorse, I think a resignation letter would actually be more appropriate and not seeking reelection, you decide to go on the victim tour. So I fully support Resolution 24-0135, 200,000 should just be the starting point. I would assume that that actually came out of your paycheck, you'd be on the other side of this issue real fast. Thank you."

JAY WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Keith Gammage, the Solicitor General, does not like gay people. Greetings. My name is Jay Wesley Day. I hail from Chicago, and I am a current resident of District Four with Natalie Hall. In 2018, I was beaten into a coma and only survived due to a ventilator machine at Grady Hospital. The first

injustice is that Keith Gammage charged me with a misdemeanor, affray in spite of me having my assailant on cell phone camera taunting me with homophobic slurs and threats. The second injustice is that Keith Gammage dismissed the case by the main assailant who's on camera beating me. The third injustice is that Keith Gammage upgraded my misdemeanor charge for recommendation of a felony to Fani Willis' office. As a result, I lost my job with Delta Air Lines because I reported to them I had a pending misdemeanor. But it was Delta that first informed me that I indeed had a pending felony, and I was terminated. I had to take my son out of the University of Wisconsin. How is this fair, smart, or restorative justice? Which makes the fourth injustice at the hand of Keith Gammage. Now, we are approaching the fifth atrocity as the second assailant from my 2018 case will potentially have his case dismissed by the District Attorney's Office, Fani Willis. I ask you to contact Judge Wall --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JAY WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and Fani Willis to ask them not to dismiss the case against my second assailant, William DeShawn Scott. I have faced an unconstitutional atrocity at the hands of Keith Gammage and the Fulton County justice system. Thank you."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Much too much, too much. So we're back again. So Dana, don't think we're done with you. We're coming for your job along with Labutt, you know, ignoring our inmates, taking \$87,000 towards his wife's campaign. We got our DA -- well, not mine's -- but Fani Willis on Grey Goose, getting loose. Then we have you, Commissioner Hall, chasing balls. I am so tired of us having to come back and forth up here. I go so hard about you, you particularly, because do you remember me going door-to-door to campaign for you? Knocking on doors, allowing people to take up signs, candidates against you, to put your sign down only for you to abandon the community of Grove Park. But trust and believe me, why you sitting up there smiling talking on your phone time to time on here as well as Arrington cheering you on, sleep on the job, we're coming for y'all's jobs. And even though y'all try and block it so that we cannot, trust me, the embarrassment that you continue to get online won't go away. It will not go away. We will keep on and keep on while you said that it will fade away. It ain't fading away. We're going to go harder, because it's time for y'all to be replaced. It's time for y'all to do your job and not sleep in the hall -- in County Hall. Oh, I forgot. This is not the City Hall, this is the County, but when you're doing it in both places, that's where the problem lies --".

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- to its face. So trust and believe we coming for you -- your job. So that's not a threat, it's a promise, to your job."

CLERK GRIER: "Last four speakers, please come forward: Paul Hershey, Julie Allen, Maria Gaudio, and Amanda Timson."

DEREK BLASINGAME, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All right. It's my turn. Derek Blasingame, the government watchdog. I'm from the Glenrose Heights community, and I'm here today to talk about what's going on with our district attorney. I'm disappointed that she took an oath of office, but yet she failed to read the Code of Ethics which says in Section 2.68B.; no officer or employee shall directly or indirectly solicit, requests, exact, received, or agreed to receive a gift, loan, favor, promise, or things of value in any form whatsoever for himself, herself, or another person from any prohibited source. Now, the special prosecutor is an agent. He's not an employee, but he is an agent of the County because he has a contract. That's a prohibitive source. Now, she already admitted on the stand that she did accept gifts and favors from the special prosecutor. Now, the issue is that the conflict of interest occurred not when she reimbursed him it occurred when she accepted the gift. See, you can't be a politician and say thank you for a gift and then go home and think about I'm an elected official, I have to give that gift back and reimburse them. You've already committed the offense when you accepted it. Here we have Natalie Hall found guilty and costing taxpayers nearly a million dollars for a love affair with her staff member. Marvin Arrington, you interrupted the board meeting back in November on behalf of Natalie Hall, and I see why because you want the Board of Ethics to be abolished because they were investigating you for having special interests with the DA's office that you oversee. Finally, Fani Willis and her solacious love affair with the special prosecutor is also going to cost this County millions of dollars. Now I want to say this about District Six: We're not going to take \$200,000 from District Four. That hurts the community, that hurts the voters, that hurts the taxpayers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

DEREK BLASINGAME, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Take her salary down to one dollar. Take her money and let it -- let it hit at home where it most matters. Do not hurt the people of District Four because we deserve our \$200,000. Derek Blasingame. I appreciate your time."

PAUL HERSHEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Morning. Paul Hershey; I'm having trouble walking. Number one, I think you, Board Members, need to understand that there isn't any deficiency act. It's both federal and state. Fani Willis sat on the throne and admitted to violations of that act. You as a board have a responsibility for that money. You're complacent, and I am surprised that an attorney sitting on this board has not realized that. Because that's a deficiency and a violation of his oath as an officer of the court. Number two, Commissioner Barrett, you talk about police. What a joke. You got members of the DA's staff -- don't look down, look at me. The bottom line is she got members of the DA staff that were part of the group to defund the police and to fund the Atlanta training facility. Do your job. Do your homework. Do the vetting of everybody in there. You've got a Chairman of the Board of Election that has a video with a town meeting stating that she doesn't have to follow the law. She's an attorney. She's an officer of the court. What are you all doing? We are a joke in this country right now."

Every one of you sitting up there are a joke. Now, you've got Natalie Hall. You've done nothing about that. Chairman Pitts, you are the chairman; be a leader. Be a leader. You should be demanding her resignation. If she doesn't give it, fine. Then you find ways to do something about it. The bottom line is you people up here are not doing your job."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

PAUL HERSHEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and people are tired of it. And I'll guarantee you this, I know people in South Fulton. I belong to a ladies group down there. I'm an honorary member, and they're going to come after Arrington, because he's not doing his job and he runs his mouth about all this stuff. And anytime you want to talk to me about anything --"

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

JULIE ALLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Julie Allen of District Three. I'm here to talk, unfortunately, about two lying lovers, wasted taxpayer's money on romantic vacations while prosecuting the former president, and concocted the most unbelievable coverup in Georgia history. Fani Willis returned to church to accept award and deliver a brief sermon on her court hearing. Atlanta Berean Church hosted Willis this Saturday. The church's leadership and several other Fulton County elected officials, including Natalie Hall, gathered around Fani. The church presented Willis with a black history achievement award. Willis proclaimed the scripture they keep sending me is 'no weapon formed against, you shall prosper'. They did not say the weapons will not form, and that's the part I didn't hear until recently. The weapon formed against Willis was an allegedly year's-long affair with a married man that she merely described as a mistake and an imperfection. They may not mean to mock God, but this is tantamount to asking God to bless lying, cheating, stealing, and more. It is astounding to me how you, Natalie Hall, sit here among us having robbed Fulton County taxpayers of \$902,487 in payment for your sex crimes. Yet you campaigned on slogans of loving your seniors, your youth, and your programs. But you show up on the day that the budget's to approve and want to boost the millage rate over ten percent; so disgusting, you need to resign. This is bizarre and dangerous, a double standard, a two-tier justice system that has taken hold in Fulton County. Fani and Natalie can steal from taxpayers; consider themselves above the law while Fulton County prisoners are dying while waiting indictment. And no one seems to care that there has been an average increase in the number of deaths in Georgia, over 2019, across seven Metro counties of 27 percent in 2020 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JULIE ALLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- 15 percent in 2021, and 42 percent in 2022, ages 15 to 44. Why is the young working age population of seven Metro Atlanta

counties dying in record numbers? So many distractions. Who will be courageous and pass a Resolution calling on the legislature to make --"

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

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Maria Gaudio, Fulton County. According to the Fulton County merit system of rules and regulations, which were adopted in 2010 and are present on your website, all contractors and subcontractors are required to submit bids in the form of a notarized affidavit. I'd like to know when Nathan Wade submitted his bid for the special prosecutor's position? I'd like to know when was the request for proposal or request for quote sent out and by whom? Who were they sent to or what person or companies? What was the date of the RFQ and what was the date that the bids were due to be submitted? Who all responded? Who convened to review those bids? Where is Nathan Wade's bid? I'd like to thank you for supporting retribution against Natalie Hall for the Commissioners who are trying to do the right thing, and attempting to spare her staff because they don't deserve to be the whipping boys or whipping girls. I'd like to thank Khadijah and her staff for reviewing and combing through the court documents to find over a hundred stalking events by Natalie Hall. The first one is only a misdemeanor in the state of Georgia, all the others are felonies. If a man was to do this to a woman, he would be hanging by his toenails in jail, but she gets away with it. We're done here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have three speakers on Zoom."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good morning, Commissioners. The first person to speak is Kevin Muldowney."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. Kevin Muldowney, District Two, Fulton County resident. I fully support Khadijah Abdur-Rahman's Resolution, 24-0135, to claw back a small portion of the \$900,000 that the County taxpayers were forced to pay out due to Commissioner Hall's excessive randy behavior and resulting jealous rage that followed. The Resolution reads like an explicit steamy novel. The sexual relationship did not remain consensual for long, because Hall initiated the dizzying array of deceptions through monitor and control of Brock's interaction with other women. Most significantly, Hall purchased and planted three covert surveillance devices in Brock's personal automobiles. She expressly intended for these devices, both for live eavesdropping on Brock's private conversations with other women and for pinpointing his precise location. It sounds like the soft-spoken Commissioner got a little hostile. The Resolution goes on to address the hearing, and again I quote, the Administrative Law Judge noted that Commissioner Hall asserted her

Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination more than a hundred and fifty times during the final hearing in this matter in response to questions about the placement of tracking devices in Calvin Brock's vehicles. Commissioner Hall, it sounds like you're evading the truth as much as you're attempting to evade the true reason you fired Mr. Brock."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "It also seems, according to your social media and recent public appearances that you're positioning yourself as the victim. The true victims are Mr. Brock and the taxpayers of Fulton County that are liable for this horrendous waste of money. You should be ashamed of what you have done. Face the music and tender your resignation."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Janet Hill. Janet Hill."

JANET HILL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Yes, good morning. Thank you, Commissioners, for your time. Again, I am here today to remind Commissioners that defraud and property theft has still not been resolved. Commissioner Hall, Commissioner Pitts, Chief Judge Cassandra Kirk, Clerk of the Courts, Che Alexander have all been personally noticed about this horrendous crime in Fulton County. Additionally, Chief Judge Kirk, Commissioner Pitts, and Che Alexander has also been noticed by a whistleblower from the federal government of these horrendous crimes that are taking place in Fulton County by Susan Property Management with assistance from Fulton County resources, who continues to engage in crimes known by Fulton County. We will not stop reporting these crimes. We will not stop presenting to this Commission and any other law enforcement agencies that we need to, to get help. You have a responsibility to address this issue and resolve it. And this is my additional respectful demand for you to do so. Thank you for your time."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The last person to speak is Samantha Kluglen. Samantha Kluglen."

SAMANTHA KLUGLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: Yes, good morning, Commissioners. Good morning, Chair. I'd like to speak briefly with a somewhat endorsement of Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman's motion, 24-0135. Folks have spoken ad nauseum about the egregious behavior that has been engaged by Commissioner Hall and other officials of the state. She took that upon herself in doing that, and I believe it appropriately the cost of that should be accrued back to Commissioner Hall and unfortunately to her district. I also think that the \$200,000 is probably not sufficient. They have a budget for the year of 760,000. And while that's very uncomfortable, I believe that the residents of that district need to be incentivized to immediately request for recall. Thank you."

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

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, no further speakers. Continue, Madam Clerk. It is 10:54. So far so good."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 7, Presentations to the Board, **24-0122**, MARTA Quarterly update."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Greenwood, come on down."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Thank you, Chairman Pitts. Good morning, Board of Commissioners. I'm Collie Greenwood, CEO and General manager of MARTA. With me today is one our board members, Mr. Al Pond, in person and also watching online is Stacey Blakely and Freda Hardage. Also pleased to be joined by Carrie Rocha, Jennifer Larosa, and Colleen Kearnin of MARTA staff."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Where's Ms. Mullinax?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "She is watching."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "She is watching."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: I just wanted to start -- I assume I can say next slide and this will go on, or is there a remote that I should be controlling myself? Just say, next slide, thank you. All right. So I just want to thank you for this opportunity. The next slide will start in with the agenda which is rather typical, of course, when you start talking about, you know, what MARTA has been doing over the past few months in terms of operational moves, capital program expansion, and other MARTA news. Next slide. And next slide. Again, this one is the -- the slide that we've been sharing with you over the past four years. It is, you know, it's the lifeblood of any transit system which is its ridership, and you can see over the past four years that we have had a steady year-over-year increase in ridership, not where we were pre-pandemic, although when I say that, I should stop because mobility in streetcar have both returned to pre-pandemic levels. And so, you know, we're pleased about that. Quite frankly, the workhorse of our fleet is the bus and the rail system, and they are steadily making those improvements, so we'll continue to watch that. Of course, you know, when this thing started, nobody knew -- you can see where in March 2020, that ridership fall off precipice. We didn't know where the floor was, we didn't know when it would end, but we're -- and so, not knowing that, we didn't know what the return was going to be like, but we're pleased to say that it's been steady and we have every reason to believe that that will continue.

Next slide, please. Just wanted to share with you the update on the bus shelters and amenities update. As you know, this was a five-year commitment that MARTA made to Fulton County. And at the end of those five years, we are -- we're owing you 250 amenities. At this point in time, we would need to have 126 amenities done in FY24 to meet that commitment. And I stand here to say we will do that. Of those 126 owing, 52 of them are already installed, 30 are under construction, 15 are in permitting, and 29 are in design. The way the program was structured was that the elements that required a lot of engineering and a lot of planning, the shelters themselves were done earlier, and now we're really into largely the city seats and benches to round out the 250. So no doubt in my mind that we will be able to meet that need. Next slide, please. And, of course, this is what, you know, what it means. It's not just dots on a map or numbers. It really means an improved level of service to the men and women that use -- that use MARTA. It means protection from the elements overhead, it means protection from puddles as you're standing and waiting for vehicles. It means a place to rest, and a promise that MARTA still supports its people. In fact, at this location, you'll see that it's Holcomb Bridge Road and Warsaw Road. There's 18 weekday boardings, so nearly 20 people a day are benefiting from this effort, as we speak. Next slide, please. As good as that is, you still need a way to get people there safely, and we're pleased to be coincident with the safe routes to transit program; and, of course, as a first phase, we're prioritizing pedestrian safety improvements along Roosevelt Highway in partnership with GDOT. Through effective collaboration, GDOT is tackling and taking ownership of the more major improvements, and MARTA is taking ownership and working with the municipality for those sites that can be more quickly delivered. Next slide, please. The bus network redesign continues to move well. It's an overhaul of our entire local bus network, first time in 40 years that MARTA has done this, and continues to progress; and I can't stress enough the importance of involvement here from elected officials, leadership, and members of the public. The importance of community engagement in this effort cannot be overstated. In October 2023, we completed our core design workshop and then informed our draft network, which is now undergoing final tweaks, making sure it's consistent with Title VI requirements. And then we'll begin briefings with you and other jurisdictional partners, and then other key stakeholders, and then we'll begin public engagement. We'll have about two rounds of public engagement to make sure -- two more rounds of public engagement to make sure that we get this right and, at that point, we'll bring the new network to the MARTA Board for authorization. It's been a measure twice, cut once approach. We wanted to make sure that when we are finished, and I anticipate by the end of next year, the buses will be rolling in this new -- new format, but I anticipate that the real -- real win will have been the opportunity for everyone to get engaged and give us their feedback in terms of what they'd like to see. Next slide, please. And while that's happening, we're going to continue moving along to some larger capital projects toward better moving forward in Fulton County. Next slide. Beginning with College Park Station. So MARTA's state of good -- back one, please. Thank you. College Park's station's hugely important, of course, and the state of the good repair program is going to continue delivering upgrades to the public facing areas at all our rail stations to improve the customer experience. So the College Park overhaul station -- College Park overall station rehab is expected to be complete by the

end of 2026. Our paving project also includes repaving the north lot, increasing parking space sizes. The parking lot will now be fully ADA compliant to current standards, and we'll add three additional ADA spots; 36 is what we currently have, and is what is required. And MARTA is putting in 39, including seven more van parking spaces; and, of course, the parking spaces themselves will be made larger. New-way finding signage, sidewalk extensions, and crosswalk pavement marketings to better define pedestrian walkways from the curve through the lot to the station. Next slide, please. The I-285 Express Lane Transit program is moving well. We are now underway with this. It's a planning project in partnership with the Atlanta Region Transit Link Authority, and MARTA is serving as the project manager. So our goal here is to bring the concept design for a bus rapid transit project to be delivered alongside GDOT I-285's Express Lane project. Our planning staff and technical assistance and consultants have started by evaluating the plans that the mayors -- that the top end mayors have completed. We'll reviewing and documenting existing conditions and we're also completing transit market analyses to inform the design of the project. We'll update the ATL and GDOT boards on our progress this Spring. There are at least seven cities involved in this effort including Sandy Springs, and we're looking forward to the results of this endeavor. Next slide, please. And in other news, your MARTA continues to advocate for a better community experience along the way. Next slide, please. But, of course, Fulton County Commissioners, you know what I'm talking about. You have been partnering with us in this endeavor for so long. We can just go back one slide. If we can just move back one slide. Thank you, yeah. And so what I wanted to do is thank -- commend the Fulton County Board of Commissioners for the \$3 million award from the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development announced just last week. I know that it will go a long way to improving conditions for some of our less fortunate, and I promise you that MARTA continues to partner with you in this effort. I want to give a quick snapshot of some of the success that MARTA has enjoyed with Hope Atlanta in just the past ten months. So you can just take a look up there, and you'll see 14,000 engagements, 423 shelter placements, 14 family reunifications, and moving people into permanent residency status. Over a thousand social service referrals, and there you are, there's the 14 permanently housed individuals as well. So those are -- again, these are not just numbers. These are lives being changed, lives being affected and improved through this continuous work that we're doing together between the HOPE program, MARTA, and the Fulton County Continuum of Care. I'm very proud of this work. Our Hope team was also heavily involved in the annual point in time count that took place over two days last month in North and South Fulton County, and we'll extend our efforts to engage with other -- and support other key representatives, grantees, and other supportives either through MARTA Hope Outreach Referrals or as participants in our transportation assistance program for the homeless. Next slide, please. So on this next slide, we'll talk about the fact that we do enjoy a strong partnership with Fulton County Arts and Culture, and I wanted to give you two brief updates. So on the left, the Art Bound Program is looking for 20 Metro Atlanta-based musicians to bring their art and their talent to MARTA stations and patrons. Interested musicians can visit it'sMARTA.com before midnight March 3rd to get involved. So again, this is a call for talented musicians, and there's even room for perhaps a commissioner's quartet, if you're so

inclined to join in. Just by March 3rd, before midnight, please, get into the MARTA website. Secondly, on the right, after a successful residency with Artis Max Boo in 2022, and Elia McKnight, Sarah Lawrence and Jason Clark in 2023, MARTA Art Bound is once again partnering with Fulton County Arts and Culture to sponsor an artist in this initiative. It's an initiative that explores the intersection of technology and the arts, and this year the project brief asks participants in the residence to use 3D printing to create MARTA collectables. Next slide, please. Yeah, on Thursday, February 29th from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., MARTA will host a special Black History Month event at College Park Station featuring live performances, MARTA trivia, and giveaways and the MARTA market, which offers locally grown projects. Also please stop and see Atlanta artist, Raffaella Byjingua, who will be live painting a piece celebrating black history and culture. Throughout 2024, MARTA will also celebrate Atlanta Civil Rights Leaders and their role in our history with specially-designed buses. These icons will include Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King, Juanita Jones Abernathy, Congressman John Lewis, Reverend Dr. Joseph E. Lowry, Evelyn Gibson Lowry, and Ambassador Andrew Young. MARTA officially unveiled the Dr. King and Coretta Scott King bus at the King Center on January 4th in advance of the King Holiday observance. MARTA will also recognize their barrier-breaking black employees throughout the month of February with custom breeze cards, posters at bus shelters and railroad stations, and on MARTA social media accounts. Additionally, MARTA social media accounts will feature a trivia campaign covering MARTA history, facts about MARTA's first black employees, and the history of Atlanta's role as the cradle of the Civil Rights Movement. Customers can also visit Spotify for a curated playlist featuring black Atlanta artists as well as black artists from the 1950s and 1960s, the height of Civil Rights era and additional information can be found on MARTA's black history month 2024 page. Next slide, please. Finally, I wanted to highlight an educational effort about BRT that we undertook recently, assimilating our first BRT project, so you can see on the right, by taking attendees from the Capitol to Mercedes-Benz Stadium for the Georgia Chamber's Annual Eggs and Issues event. We also hosted the Fulton State Delegation at Headquarters for General and Legislative Updates. And, on the left, you can see we had a very successful transit day at the Capitol hosted by Advance Atlanta and Georgia Transit Association. MARTA joined Ride Gwinnett, Express, and Augusta transit at the event to share information about each of our systems. It was a great showing of support for transit around the state. With that, Chairman Pitts, I'll return the floor to you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Thank you. Commissioners, any questions, comments? Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yesterday I attended the Council for Equality Growth South Metro Advisory Board meeting, and the question came up from the attendees about a route that MARTA is apparently planning or working on that will go from Clayton County into Fulton County and then up to the College Park station. Do you have an update on that particular route? It's a new route?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Is this the one that we're -- part of our expansion program, or are they talking about our bus network redesign?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "BRT."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Oh, Clayton South BRT. Yeah, okay. Do you want me to speak about that or?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, yes."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Yeah, so it's a -- you've got the metrics right in terms of where it's going. There's really -- there's really a lot of work to be done in terms of the planning stage of this. I'm not sure -- Carrie Rocha is here, our Chief Capital Officer. Maybe Carrie can give you of the details about the planning of the program and where we stand in terms of, you know, the advancing of the program and what the next steps are, but it is -- there's some major success here to be proud of, and without spoiling it, I'll turn it over to Carrie."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

CARRIE ROCHA, MARTA: "Good morning. I'm Carrie Rocha. I'm MARTA's Chief Capital Officer. So the project that I believe that you're speaking of is the Clayton Southlake BRT program. The original approved LPA did have the route going from the Clayton Southlake Mall to College Park Station. Recently, this summer, we went through an analysis to look at possible connections that may bring us directly to the airport. And so, through that study, we've been working directly with GDOT as well as Clayton County, and this is part of the Clayton expansion program, so it's a project funded by Clayton. We've looked at that alternative and right now, we are going out to the public to ask for input in terms of whether they would prefer an airport connection or the original LPA."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you so much."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Thanks, Carrie. And just, you know, to add to that the addition, you know, this additional LPA option is one that connects directly to the airport, which really gives the project a boost, because for all of these projects when you compete for federal funds, you have to compete against other transit projects across the country. And a project that connects underserved areas with the world's busiest airport clearly puts it in the next echelon in terms of funding; and it also serves, when it comes to Fulton, when we do get into the Fulton BRT planning phases, that also gives those BRTs the opportunity to connect again right into the airport. So it's one of those rising tides that floats all ships."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Can you go back to slide four potentially? Can we go back to that?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Can we go back to slide four, please?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And just a couple questions here on this slide. Obviously, this is where the ridership trend -- we've already seen -- it looks stubborn, okay, in terms of improvement. And I guess sort of two questions on it. One, is respects the bus stuff: how much -- is this all demand or is some of this potentially a labor issue in terms of your ability to support the routes?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Oh, no, this is demand."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "All demand?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "For bus as well as rail?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "For bus as well as rail. People getting on the system."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So, you know, we're -- I'm trying to look at the math on that. We're to 40, 50 percent off where we were?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "I think you'll find 55 to 60 percent on bus and rail, and a hundred percent on mobility and streetcar."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah. So this is what I'm saying, but on bus and rail, you know, 50 percent issue kind of thing off -- still off from 2020 numbers or pre-pandemic numbers. And I guess, underline my question with this is, you've had a lot -- there's been a lot of supplemental federal support that came in, right, through, you know, CARES money, ARPA money, that sort of stuff, right?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Both."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "That runs out -- I know for us it runs out certainly this year, the same for you all, correct?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "That's correct, yep."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "How much dependency is there in the system on that funding given this demand picture? And if we're here this time next year and that ridership looks the same, does that present -- does that start to present financial challenges?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "No. I appreciate the question, and it's one that is faced by transit systems across the country. And I will say that MARTA is in a better financial situation than most transit agencies. I'll start by saying that ridership, you know, to set the stage, ridership is about 20 percent of our total revenue for MARTA. So even if we are -- let's talk in chainsaw math. Even if we were talking about half, 50 percent, then we would still be -- we'd be seeing that ridership is now creating 10 percent of our revenue as opposed to 20, but our other indices are very strong. Sixty percent of our revenue comes from sales tax. And so, you know, Georgia is a state that's continued working throughout the pandemic, and we've been strong in that area. We've had over a \$110 million in federal support, federal and state support, over the last fiscal year in terms of grants. And again, that goes back to the competitiveness of the projects that we're putting forward. But no, MARTA's -- I can stand here and say that MARTA is not in trouble, and I hear you say that it's a -- it's a stubborn chart. It is stubborn, but it is stable and it is solid, and, you know, it continues to move in the right direction. I really don't have a benchmark in terms of where it ought to be now. It's true that Atlanta is one of those states -- one of those cities that's set to be a city that most enjoys the work-from-home status, and there are a lot of folks that aren't working yet. So, you know, our typical ridership has yet to be seen in terms of where that's going to land. But at the same time, we've got migration into Atlanta and into Georgia that's stronger than most areas. So there is a flux there in terms of what our standard KPI measures would be. But all in all, I'm very pleased with what we've seen here, and if the lesser two molds are any indication, that Atlanta will be back."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah, I mean -- well, the streetcar piece, I mean it's pretty anemic anyway. I mean, so I don't -- mobility, I understand why that's most likely stable because, you know your users really are probably much more dependent upon it. But, you know, there is -- I guess it's to be something that I'd be looking to hear in terms of future updates. If you're going to continue to invest in that capacity into the system, if there's public investment, there's got to be utilization that's going to come with it. Or at some point, there's going to be the "pay the piper," kind of time that's going to come to bear, right? And, you know, so I guess that's something that I'm looking in terms of future updates. You know, I'd like to get a little bit more insight on sort of that wrestle point of that question. You know, as we have new capacity, is the stuff the projects that you outlined and so forth. If we're at capacity down the line, but yet ridership still is sort of, you know, fairly anemic in its growth and/or flatlining, you know, it may not be an issue, you know, a year from now; but there's going to be a point in time where it's going -- where it will be, because the public's not going to be willing to continue to invest in something that there's limited utilization thereof."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "I think we're into a different conversation. Ridership is coming back. No one has a roadmap or blueprint in terms of how fast it should come back. We're not in control of the factors that lead into that. If we're talking about investment in public transit, that's a completely different conversation, and I would

say, you know, if there are a million people that don't get on these routes, those million people are still served by a healthy public transit system. If you ride your --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- I understand that. But at some point, there is a calculus that, you know, if there's not -- if there's not users, if users are not going up and investment in it is going up, at some point there's going to be a day of reckoning on that. And in terms of, you know, the cost to maintain, et cetera, and it is just -- it's just something -- I think -- I don't want us to lose sight of. I'm not saying we're getting ready, you know, run into financial issues tomorrow and that's, you know, but it's just some point that I think that we need to continue to look at and understand. Because it is -- I get all the dynamics and the factors; but we're in a -- we're in a pretty dynamic geography that's growing, that's got people that are coming into this market, right?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Right."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And we've got a lot of growth in-town areas and that sort of stuff that are near transit. And so, you know, at some point if those numbers aren't moving, given all those dynamics, it does sort of raise -- you know, I do think there are other questions that need to be asked around that. That's all."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Thank you, Commissioner."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you, Chairman. So only 20 percent of the revenue is generated from ridership. Is there a goal -- I mean, what it is? Is there a mark that is a goal to try to hit to increase added revenue to ridership? Is there a best practice across the country or anything?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "No. I think it really is -- I mean it's relative when you start talking about percentages. So we, you know, that percentage could be higher if we had less federal grants. Do you know what I mean? That percentage could be higher if we had less sales taxes. So that would be, I think, an artificial inflation of the facts. It's just a -- it's just a commentary on where our funding sources come from. Ridership is something that will, you know, as that increases, as the ridership increases and its modal share increases for transit across the state and the city, then I would expect to see that rate, that rise if all things remain constant, but my goal is to increase the level of funding that we get from our federal and state partners. So, you know, that's not necessarily going to cause a rise in that percentage."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, great. And it seems like you've done a great job in getting outside funding through sales tax, state and federal funding, and I want to applaud you on that. On slide 13, the Hope Atlanta 2023 snapshot; I was wondering if you could kind expand on that a little bit, because we get e-mails about homeless in the

MARTA stations and that we need to do more, but it looks like you guys are doing what you can do. So I just wanted you to just expand on this program, if you could."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Thank you. It's an opportunity for us to speak about it. You know, I've said before, and I know everyone here agrees that homelessness is not a crime, it's a condition. And so, it's not -- it's not something that we're about to say we need the police to move in there and take everybody out of the vehicles. It is hard work. The Hope Atlanta team and the MARTA folks that have gone out there and approach them will tell you the first time they encounter someone that's homeless, it's not necessarily the case that that person is going to listen to them, engage with them, let alone take their advice and direction. That is iterative, that is hard work, and that takes a special kind of person to do that. At the same time, we do need shelters. We need places that we can bring our people to. So one has to gain their trust and have them take your direction, but you literally need shelters in the region that we can take them to. And I would say that if MARTA was to be more successful, it would be finding partners in the community that can help us open shelters, keep shelters open longer perhaps. Some of the shelters or the shelter that is available actually closes before the system ends. So at the end of the night when we're assisting people off the system, those options are already gone. But, you know, this is a ten-month snapshot. This program has been in effect for about three years now, so you can imagine the numbers. They're not exponentially larger, but they're significantly larger in its totality; but what I like about the last ten months is the rate of increase. So, you know, those initial efforts were really investments, you know, under the sea level of the iceberg, all the work that nobody sees, but we're starting to see traction, and I think there's a level of trust that's starting to permeate the process."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. Just wanted to thank you for the presentation and all the great work that's happening I think in and around MARTA. I wanted to know specifically looking at some of the downtown development that's being planned and talked about, some of the underground area to Peachtree and some of those things that I know are sort of oriented around bus parking and more transit. Have you been sort of working in concert with city of Atlanta and some other folks in terms of what that may do in terms of increasing ridership?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Absolutely. We're pleased to be considered at the table when these discussions are happening. Transit is, you know, a very important part of any civic growth and any development that's happening downtown. And so, yes, we believe that focusing on density, focusing on where transit-oriented development is allowed to grow, will absolutely do two things: It'll be good for the community. It will bring back the vibrancy in the sense of the city that we want to be, but it'll also be selfishly good for transit because if it's convenient and you're right there, if work or home is right within the walk shed of a transit facility, then that increases our ridership."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, and just finally, I know you've mentioned briefly. I don't remember which slide it was on, but the safer routes to transit. If you could just talk a little bit more about the future of that program, because I do think that's a big part of it. I know for me, I actually live walking distance to a MARTA station, and I take it whenever I can to the airport as an example. But there are some times when I don't because I'm concerned about that last leg of my journey and maybe not feeling quite as safe getting around or whatever. So, you know, I'm just curious to see how that program will expand."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Slide seven, please. Thank you for the question. Yes, safe routes to transit is again relatively new. We've had our bus shelters and amenities program going on for five years, but it's in the past year or two that safe routes to transit has actually taken flight. You know, we recognize that there's MARTA property there at the bus stop, for example, and we'll do what we can, but we've heard from the community that it's just this -- it's a beacon on its own, and exactly as you've illustrated, we need a way to work together to bring people -- we can't put sidewalks down the entire boulevard, but we can work with GDOT and get programs. So what we've done, we've identified the most high ridership locations and we start there and we work with our communities to make sure that, you know, we've contracted -- contracted -- contacted, you know, many of you and in our other jurisdictions, to just get a sense of are we on the right track here? These are locations that want to build with the money that we have. The program doesn't go away. We're going to continue trying to raise funds to expand that, but it's a start, and really that's the summary of it."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, that's all I have. I appreciate it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other comments or questions? All right. No more. Thank you. See you next quarter, sir.. Thank you. Madam Clerk, continue."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7, County Manager's items under Open and Responsible Government, **24-0123**: Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. We do not have an operational report today based on lack of information access to some of the systems, but I'm pleased to give a few comments about the overall recovery efforts, if that's acceptable."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We continue to work through all of the forensics and basic server restoration. I want to applaud, of course, law enforcement's intervention and, Mr. Chairman, your announcement yesterday. We have largely completed uploading of all of our restored data, which was critical as a point on this recovery. So that's largely complete. As you recall, we have two -- three principal systems tax, court, and ERP hosted by two different providers, Tyler and CGI, who have been tremendously flexible in working with us in this recovery. I want to thank them. We are also now in a position where our servers are being certified now rapidly and for internal purposes can be used to begin to upload data and applications. I want to give kudos to obviously Kevin Kerrigan, but Latif Donald, Matt, Terrence, and a host of others who've been working around the clock on these issues with a lot of stress, but a lot of tremendous progress. Let me give you some progress on the internal systems first and then turn to the external facing. On the ERP system, very important. Our payroll was processed. That was critical. We have now processed the second payroll that includes the five percent COLA. So we are on schedule for that and for February '23, and no need to reset the cost-of-living date. We're also now in to verifying that we'll be able to pay our pension nears, and that will complete this week, and the payment is due 1st of March. So all looks good in terms of that. We're continuing to make vendor payments with some delays due to limited access. We have begun hiring for law enforcement only because we felt like that was most critical in the jail as well as a couple of other areas. Other hiring has paused until we have more access to our ERP systems. We do have purchase workarounds in place so we can place again on a limited basis, purchase orders, and do some limited new vendor registration. The communications infrastructure, which I should know better than anyone how to get this done, but definitely is making progress, but still has a ways to go. We have about 50 percent of our phone numbers now restored and imported to the new system, and it is a new system. It will be the new system going forward, IP-based voice system. We have a very rigorous now plan for the next week or so to try to bring all those phone numbers into, not only be configured, but operational on a department-by-department basis. And thank you -- if you hear from constituents and find out that a number is not working, one of you let me know that this morning. We did some research and come to find out, it was not in a critical area of work even though we thought that it was. So a lot of devil in the details as it relates to this, but there's no technical reason that this can't be completed in fairly short order. As you know, our e-mail system was not compromised, but we were blocked in terms of some receipts from other entities. The city of Atlanta has now restored our e-mail access, which we greatly appreciated. We also have access from computers in libraries now. There may be still some issues with printing, but they do have access in terms of the Internet. All of our network printing has been restored, our websites are all operational, our Internet's operating. Our Internet service is stable, and then public updates continue at fultoncountygga.gov/cyberresponse, so any public information that folks would like to have, that's the best place for that real-time information. On the tax system, as you recall, vehicle registration renewal has been available, but interestingly enough, I just got a note from a friend this morning who had a license plate stolen, and she said well, I'm not sure I can get my license plate restored; I think the offices are closed. They're not closed, and that function is

available. So again, we continue to push that information out. Residents can submit homestead exemptions online through SmartFile. That was a capability we introduced several years ago. That's now back available. We cannot receive electronic payments at this point in time, but we do have a path forward on that, thanks to Dr. Ferdinand and his team as well as Kevin and their team working with Solectron, which is another provider that interfaces with the tax system IES world, and as that becomes again cinched up, that will be also available and back online. Board of equalization hearings are continuing on a normalized basis. On the court system side of the equation, there is a enormous amount of data to upload to begin system testing. That data upload is now complete. So that put us in a position where that testing can now start with real earnest and gives us a better view of when this can be brought back online. I don't want to peg a date to that yet due to the testing has not ended, but I feel very -- very good that that data upload has been completed. Scheduled hearings continued. The JCAT system for juvenile court, that you may have heard about, is now back online. Title searches are still unavailable and there may be some delays. Good news at the jail, and kudos to Sheriff Labat, and I see Colonel Clark here. Electronic bookings have resumed. There is a backlog, and we're going to resource that backlog both with internal folks as well as folks from Tyler to shrink a backlog of about 700 bookings that need to be entered into the system. The jail population is still stable, so again with a great deal of work that's gone into that from all of the justice partners. First appearances are continuing. You can submit E-file, but it's just -- at this point, Odyssey is still not functional, so you can't operate against that. Last thing on Public Safety, CAD restoration, that's for our 911 services; it's underway. We believe that now the proper approach there is to bring it back up on premise where we do have servers that are coming out of the process and been verified as clean. But long-term -- longer-term, we will probably most likely move that to the cloud as well for better security. And then lastly, fingerprinting and background checks are available and underway. So I think, Mr. Chairman, that's a -- that's a brief update at a service-level. I really anticipate in the next week to two weeks we're going to have some major breakthroughs. So look forward to press conferences when that's the subject. And we're going to double down in terms of help for our IT staff with some additional technical support and project management support over the next critical period to shrink as much as possible this recovery timeframe."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you, Mr. Manager. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to thank you, Mr. County Manager, for your leadership on all this. I know it's been sort of a round-the-clock effort. I would love to name everyone. I want to, you know, also thank our CIO for his efforts, our CFO, our COO, the legal team. I just think everybody's done a phenomenal job and, you know, all the staff, Hakeem and purchasing. I can name 40,000 employees probably who have been working around-the-clock dealing with our systems being compromised and off-line. So I just want to make sure everybody really knows how hard everyone is working and really just express my gratitude."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Thank you, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other comments? All right."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "That concludes our report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk, it's 11:33. We're doing great."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0060**, Real Estate and Asset Management: Request approval of a statewide contract in an amount not to exceed \$611,020 to purchase and deliver 16 law enforcement administrative vehicles."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to approve by Commissioner -- Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Natalie Hall. Commissioner Ellis followed by Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like to offer a substitute motion to table this for the time being for two -- two specific purposes: number one, there is an outstanding request to the district attorney from the audit committee that's been outstanding for a month now and there's not been a cooperative response to that. You know, I like to table this until we receive a response. And then, in addition to that, in the -- I think just from a macro level, when it comes to vehicles, I think this Board needs to be presented with a better macro picture of how much vehicle purchasing we've done over the past three years and to see where it is, what department it's at, relative to users; and as we're evaluating these things going forward, are there places where we could -- I drive around some of these streets and I see Fulton County vehicles that seem to be permanently stationed in certain locations and never moving. And perhaps, there's an opportunity if there are needs, specific needs in certain areas, then they can be repurposed into areas of need versus areas where they're not. And I just feel like we've done a lot of purchasing over -- my sense is that we've done a lot of purchasing over the past two to three years; and maybe not really a whole lot of clarity on our end about the need for utilization of that where it's at right now. So, that's my request for to table this until we get those two -- those two things completed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Substitute motion to table by Commissioner Ellis. Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Thorne. All right, discussion on the motion to table. All right, let's vote on the motion to table."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion fails. Back to the main motion which was to approve. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Is anyone here from the DA's staff that can speak to this? There's nobody here, so we have nobody that can answer questions? So we're just supposed to blindly approve vehicles without knowing exactly what they're being used for? I mean, in the request it says law enforcement/administrative vehicles. So do administrators typically get vehicles in Fulton County? Is that a policy? Anybody?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Davis, can you help us out?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M: "As it relates to policy, if there's not a policy that dictates who gets a vehicle. Typically, that's left to the individual agency head. We facilitate the vehicle purchases based on available budget. Once those vehicles are assigned to the individual agency, the agency head then been determines who those vehicles are going to be assigned to or if they're going to go into a departmental or agency-wide pool for their use."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Well, I have here that in 2022 Fulton County purchased ten vehicles plus two replacement vehicles to the tune of \$442,000. Last year, we approved another 20 vehicles at 793,800.25. This total bill for the last two years of vehicles is \$1.23825 million. I got a list of all the vehicles in her pool. It looks like a lot of them have been unassigned. She has over 20 some that are unassigned here. I don't know. Why would she need more vehicles if she's not using the vehicle she has? It would be great if someone was here that could answer these questions, but certainly in light of all the allegations that are going on with --and her failure to comply with an audit -- the audit department, the request for an audit that the paperwork was due last month. I just can't see how we, as Commissioners, can blindly give a department \$611,000 without knowing exactly if it's needed, what it's needed for; and have some reason or justification. So that's what I wish her department -- any person. She has a hundred people, you know, on this list of vehicles; even if they came down to speak on it. I think it would be irresponsible at this point. That's why I voted to table it until we found out more. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Natalie Hall, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. We all received legislative details with text. That is the title of the documentation that comes with each agenda item. And within that agenda item, it clearly states the request action, the summary and background which in this case, it says to meet their ongoing need for vehicles due to the number of active cases and/or investigations. The District Attorney's Office desires to purchase 16 vehicles from Wade Ford. It also includes the scope of work, which answers the question as to the breakdown of the vehicles and the cost, and goes into a paragraph of detail about that. It also describes the impact to the community and the department recommendation. And there's a lot more detail as to why this particular agenda item was put forward for our approval. So any additional questions that need to be answered from what I can tell through the minutes from the January 24th, 2024 meeting, were actually answered by many of the people who are sitting right here and

from our county executives; and I won't go through the minutes because everybody has access to that, but it is obvious that this is a need for this office. I've heard many situations about the employees of the district attorney's Office literally breaking down in their cars in the worst neighborhoods and literally having to push the car to the side of the road. I don't think any county employee should have go through that, especially ones that are investigating the nature of the cases that they have to investigate. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Question's been called. Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second".

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote on the call of the question."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Question has been called and the motion on the floor is to approve. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS "I do still request this information, and I do think it's important they receive it, so I think -- it may take some time to compile it, but I think it's important that we do capture that inventory so we understand who."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And I will submit my documentation to the record so that other Commissioners could see."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, I would just like to have my -- procurement just confirmed that Wade Ford has no connection to Mr. Nathan Wade, for the record, for the public. God has a sense of humor."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, ma'am, please. Confirm that for the record right now on the mic in public right now."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk, continue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "She can't do it? Can procurement confirm?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "I cannot confirm at this point, but I will check and get back with you before the end of the meeting."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I did investigate that, and I can confirm that. So that question popped up a month ago. So, Mr. Wade no longer -- the person who started Wade Ford no longer owns it. He sold it back in 2003."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I know Steve Ewing owned it for a while and I think he sold it, so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. We're doing great. It's 11:44. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, **24-0124**, Real Estate and Asset Management: Request approval of recommended proposals in an amount not to exceed \$28,035,619 to provide design build services for the renovation of selected areas in the Fulton County Government Center Complex and the central library."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Natalie Hall, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0055**, Information Technology -- unanimously with Commissioner Ellis. 24-0055, Information Technology: Request approval to award a contract without competition in an amount not to exceed \$267,235 to provide licenses and professional services required to upgrade the existing agenda management system."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to -- is this correct? Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. I'm sorry -- Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Motion to approve. All right, Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I just wanted to briefly say that I had held this for a couple of meetings because I was wanting to make sure that the system that we were looking at was going to address not only the needs for within Assembly Hall and agenda preparation, but also the board's, authorities, task force, and commissions that we have been trying to find a system for. I was able to get a demo of the software that's being considered, and it is -- it looks like it should. It's very customizable software, so the implementation is going to be very critical. I am supportive of moving forward at this time, but I do want to request that as this sort of task force -- Madam Clerk, Mr. Chairman, and myself were sort of assigned to work on this issue of boards, authorities, task force in the administration of that, that we be included in some of that customization as that happens and as we are sort of all users of the system. So I just want to put that officially on the record and make sure that our CIO gets that message, too so that as a system implementation begins, we're included from the beginning. But otherwise, I'm fully supportive."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'd like to be on that task force as well, seeing that it's kind of my job implementation of software and working with UIUS. And from what I heard, it was a well-vetted project in hours and hours and hours, you know not a 20-minute demo, but hours and hours with multiple departments to choose this software. So I look forward to, Tonya, you having a better system to work with in the near future."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I don't want to be on the task force, but I certainly want to be involved as I have been the main one talking about our boards, authorities, tax commissions and all that from the beginning and how we need to reorganize them and make sure that they have staff so that they can be staffed properly. So I certainly want to be involved in that process as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Just wanted to respond to Commissioner Thorne. No disrespect to the purchasing and procurement process. I agree that the system was fully vetted and the only question was that module of that was supposed to handle the boards, authorities, task force, et cetera, and that was sort of a question mark and I think, in some folk's minds beyond just myself and the department itself. It was unclear if that was the right solution, so it was just to get some clarity on that piece, but no disrespect to purchasing or the procurement process."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve. Let's vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0125**: Request approval of a statewide contract in an amount not to exceed \$455,660.21 to provide import protection."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. A favorable motion by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman; seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0126**: Request approval to award a contract without competition in an amount not to exceed \$10,200,000 to design, configure, and implement to the latest version of the county's enterprise resource planning software."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Can we -- this is a 10 million-dollar contract. Can somebody explain what -- Mr. Davis or?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Mr. Kerrigan's is going to explain this. As you recall, this has been on our plate for some period of time; well vetted. However, the interruption that we suffered move this forward in terms of timeline and had it not been for this vendor stepping into the breach, we would not had not been able to run payroll, as an example. But there's still a lot of work to do long-term to put all of this into their environment, and Kevin can explain both the near-term and the long-term and how those fit together."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts. Good morning, Board of Commissioners. Kevin Kerrigan, CIO here at Fulton County. I appreciate your time this morning. I just want to say thank you for your patience and support as we work through this incident, to have the opportunity to really sit with you closely as we've tactually navigated through this accident week over week. And so, I just appreciate your interest, of coursing, in getting us back to where we need to be. So this was on our radar. We actually had sent out a memo right before the incident occurred that weekend, that Friday prior, explaining the need to upgrade our existing platform. So we're close to seven versions behind in our existing environment. I do have a presentation if you'd like to -- I could walk us through that. So really it sets the table for why organizations need benefit from an upgraded ERP platform, what a SaaS based solution brings to the table from a position of performance, efficiencies, and just overall delivery of capabilities within that space. If we could go to the next slide, I'd like to speak to some of that. So this highlights -- and I think many of you now know the importance and how efficient critical an ERP platform is to operating an organization right. This is how we pay our

vendors, how we pay our employees, our retirees; how we interact every day with our community, and so it really is the back bone of how we conduct business. So as you can see, there's some key statistics here that speak to the benefits of what an ERP implementation can do for business processes, you know, what it takes as far as gaining those efficiencies over a period of time, and really just throttles us forward. And again, we're going to go from an on-premise environment, where we are receiving versions, and that would take us time to then deploy in our environment and upgrade when we now move to a cloud SaaS solution. Those versions get pushed to us. We can't wait, right? So we receive new functionality, we test, and we continually evolve. So we're not able to stay stagnant. We continue to move forward with capability and functionality. Next slide, please. So we talk about what does it really bring to the table, right? So right now, it's clunky. Our interface is old. It doesn't really display well on modern devices, right? So we should be able to pick up a smartphone, a tablet, and access information, approve things, see reports, conduct business from anywhere, right? This is the modern way we work today, so you'll get that. You get greater decision-making insight with much more modern data analytics. You get just a better user experience both from a self-service perspective as an employee. I could do more with the platform from anywhere. I can change benefits. I can -- you know, change my deductions, things like that very easily in the environment. And it's, like I said, it's a platform for growth, right? We go to a modern environment in the cloud; now, you're getting that input from all of the other customers, and they're baking that right into the platform, and we're taking that and we're able to bring that functionality to Fulton County. And quite frankly, it's going to be a secure environment, right? It's multi -- tenancy. They've got other clients that they're protecting. They're going to have some strictest requirements around security, both physical security and cyber security, to protect that data and our technical assets. And it's just going to be available more. Right now, we take the system down to be able to run maintenance, to run jobs overnight. Those windows shrink. There's more computing power in the cloud, and they can't be down because people need to run their business 24/7. So that availability goes up exponentially as well. Next slide. When we talk about, we want to provide some use cases, right? So there's different experiences. So as an employee, you may have human resource functions like on-boarding and off-boarding. Right now, that's been challenging. You have limited availability for self-service like I mentioned. It's just not easy to use, right? It's an older looking platform. It's like, you know, comparing Windows XP to Windows 11, right? It just does not look the same. It does not act the same and it's just not user-friendly. So when we go to a future state, you know, open enrollment is streamlined, and we don't have to do a lot of processing on our side to conduct open enrollment for employees to be able to select their benefits. If they want to keep things simple, that's a click through and you're done. They'll have better access. Our staff will have better access to training. They'll have modern training platforms where they can consume training as they need to. Then they will be able to really step into the AI capability, right? So with these large vendor platforms, they're making large investments in AI, and we can adopt that benefit by moving forward with their technology. So things like chat box, they can provide intuitive information for employees that ask questions about how they can change their benefits, how they can

enroll in different features. So all that comes to bear as we move forward. Next slide, please. So this is really just an example, right? So this is an existing benefits enrollment screen. So quite busy showing you the breakdown of where your funds are going as your check is tied to what you have for your insurance types. It's just, you know, kind of an older-looking screen. If we go to the next slide, you'll see where the platform is going, right? So it's more modern look and feel, more intuitive navigation. It's fluid so the layout changes base on the device type that you're on. And it's going to have integrated AI capabilities like when you go to search, it will have smart search options where this is what most employees are looking for. Next slide, please. So when we talk about the vendor experience, right now, it can be cumbersome for the vendors to register with the county, receive payments. We're taking steps to where the new platform would make the whole vendor registration much easier to accomplish. Again, there'll be AI capabilities where vendors can ask questions and receive answers immediately, and will be able to process electronic invoices much easier and get away from any kind of paper that may exist today. So if we could go to the next slide, we'll show kind of the compare/contrast between what does our current vendor registration look like. And if we go to the next slide, you'll see what the new vendor registration model looks like. So you can see it's got navigation at the top where it's going to walk you through the process. As a vendor you know how many steps it's going to take; and it's just much cleaner and easier to use interface. So we will see this kind of UI improvements across the board for any interaction that either a vendor and employees are going to go through. Next slide, please. Then we talk about if you're in, you know, in a leadership role in the county or you're, of course, on the board and you want to see information, right now it's again, navigation is an ongoing challenge. Reports can take time to generate and maybe are providing you the insights or the level of detail you want to see, and that can make it hard to drive decision-making. And so, new interfaces will be much more graphical, easier to get to the data you want to see, how you want to see it, and really have analytics to better drive decision-making support. So we'll show some kind of before-and-after now as well. So the next slide shows what the current performance budgeting site looks like. So you, of course, have click-throughs down your reports. But if you go to the next slide, you'll now see -- now you have instant visibility into where we are with specific budgets, breakdown of spend, you know, much more graphically driven through charts that could show you key information and you can customize this right. You can set up what views you want to see, how you want to navigate these pages, to create the insights that you really care about. Next slide, please. So I've touched on a lot of these, but what I mean this really rolls up to there's a number of benefits, and this could be pages long. But like I said, the current system has really reached end-of-useful life. I know we've moved to an environment with CGI, but we're basically in our old customhouse, right? They've made room for us in their new data center. That's not a long-term solution. We need to move to their new hardware benefit from their latest version and be able to receive the updates that they will provide three times a year, actually. And just like I said, the system interface is not modern, it's not easy to use. There's not the kind of training that we're going to gain from their modern platform and their modern academy that offers training on every module, and you can actually get, especially our power users, certified within certain

functions of the platforms that we know that they know how to use the system properly. So those are things that will come to bear as we move to this new platform. And then there's just an improvement around real-time capabilities, and just -- like I said, this technology is legacy. We need to sunset it. It's got security concerns, and we need to upgrade. Next slide, please. So this talks about the major modules. I've touch on a few of these, but when you talk about an ERP, right? It's really a set of key pieces of software that integrate together to drive new business. So of course, it's the financial piece that's your budget, that's your general ledger, it's your accounts receivable, your accounts payable, all of those core financial modules. It's, of course, HR, your payroll; really the whole human capital management stack, right? So that's how we're on-boarding employees, off-boarding employees, managing their benefits, taking them through open enrollment. And then you have performance budgeting, right? That's how we take you through our annual budget process, how we prepare our budget, how we break down our budget, and then the new -- one of the new major modules is going to be the learning management piece, right? So this is the academy that comes with this platform. There's all kinds of capabilities to train our employees. I would say that we would take new employees and indoctrinate them into the platform whether they're an end user or a certain level of power user where they go through this training and it's required before we even give them credentials into the platform. And then, of course, there's the procurement piece which I'm sure Felicia's excited about, where they'll have modern capabilities to run procurement that will tie in with our existing Bid Net platform. And then I've spoken about it many times, but business intelligence, right? So that's all about the modern data, data and analytics capabilities that can help us just make better decisions as we move forward. Next slide, please. Of course, this is the money slide. So we talk about what is this going to cost? We do have ARPA dollars set aside, roughly 10.9 million to cover the majority of these costs as we wind down our existing environment and move into this SaaS environment. You'll see a lot of the costs are related to CGI, who is the vendor and provider. They're professional services. Of course, then we have the fees to run the new environment. There is some training costs, of course, you may want to stand up the training environment. And then we're also partnering, which is the next agenda item, with a company or firm called ISG who really help us as an independent verification and validation firm, make sure that we're implementing the platform, leveraging best practices, having tight governance around implementation, as well as helping with overall organizational change management so that we're adopting the platform effectively, that we're training our employees properly, and that they know what's coming and when it's coming. So that's the other piece as ISG is helping us. They have partnered with CGI in the past; they know their platform, and they know the right way to implement it. So they'll be helping us really on the Fulton County side making sure that we're getting the most value out of this upgrade. And then you'll see as we go into year two, there is additional professional service costs, a smaller amount of SaaS fees as those are tied to the roughly 18-month implementation; existing ISG fees for the second year, and then we really get into a steady state where we're at about 1.95 million in SaaS fees year-over-year with a small increase over each year for years '27 and '28. But as you can see in the footnotes, currently to run our environment on (inaudible) is 1.865 million. And that's straight

costs. That's not accounting for staff time to run that environment. So while it's going to be a little bit more in the cloud environment, we're also going to be reducing our infrastructure footprint, and we can repurpose that staff time to other areas of our IT infrastructure. So I think ultimately we're going to be coming out a bit ahead especially with -- especially, with all the new capabilities we'll get from the platform. Next slide, please. This is really just a high level schedule as far as implementation. We're approaching this to come to the Board we had estimated a start in March. I think will shift a little bit as we go through our recovery and ramp up and play a little bit of catch-up with data entry into our existing platform. But at the same time now that we're going to have our data and our environment in their data center, I think we'll be able to shorten that 18 months because we'll just have access to our system in their environment to move us faster the 4X version. This gives you a layout of approximately 18 months. I would still say we're targeting Q3 '25; and, of course, we would have CGI supporting us for a few months with really VIP support post go live to make sure we're steady, and it's reliable, and it meets our needs. So with that, I'll pause for any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So quickly, a contract without competition?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "So this, we actually went and did a very detailed RFI with -- are you asking about the ISG piece or the CGI piece; the software selection?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What did you say?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Are you asking about not for competition for the CGI selection?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, yeah. So it's a contract without -- I just want to understand: a contract without competition."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "So we actually did a very intensive RFI process where we brought in -- I want to say close to a dozen different ERP vendors, scored them against a bunch of criteria including key specifications and requirements, and the committee selected that CGI should be the vendor of our -- that we will be selecting for future implementation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So I'm not -- I can't tell."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "So, good afternoon, Commissioners. Mr. Kerrigan is right. We did do an RFI, which is a request for information. But the reason that this is an award without competition is because we're upgrading our existing system."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That doesn't make sense."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "So we're doing an upgrade to our existing system. And the code section that allows us to do that is 102384 -- I'm sorry. And all of that information is included in the write-up. So we're actually upgrading -- the county has had this ERP system for over 25 years. So whenever we do an upgrade, the procurement methodology is to award without competition."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam, I have all the confidence in the world of you. I'm sure I don't understand what you're just saying. I need to understand. I heard 12 firms were -- hold on, now. Hold on. You said 12, I think. And it says contract without competition. I'm trying to understand what you just said."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "So there are two parts to this. So when the county decided that wanted to either upgrade or purchase a new ERP system, we issued a request for information to make that determination whether we should invest in upgrading our existing system, or whether we should go out and buy and purchase a new ERP system, totally different than CGI. So, we -- the county issued an RFI; we received 14 proposals. There were different platforms. There were Oracle, SAP, CGI, Tyler Technologies. We had a full plethora of demonstrations that lasted two weeks. And in the end, the evaluation committee determined that -- that there was not enough compelling evidence presented during the product demonstration to move the county to a different ERP platform, and the recommendation was to upgrade the existing CGI to 4X. So that was one part of it. The other part is what: is the procurement methodology that allows us to do that? That procurement methodology is 102384, which is award without competition; and within it has -- it has, when necessary, to maintain compatibility with existing equipment or systems on a specified makes and models of technical equipment, software, and any parts will satisfy the county's needs for additional units or replacement items, and only when sources are available. So pursuant to that procurement methodology, that's the reason it is being presented to you as award without competition because we're upgrading our existing system. I hope that helps with the clarity."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It does not. But let me yield to Commissioner Arrington and others. It doesn't help me, but."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I guess before I get into my questions, I think we -- it sounds like we got to this company because they helped us make payroll -- well, they're already in place -- they didn't help us make payroll?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "They did help us make payroll, but, Commissioner, this process started last year, so actually the RFI was issued back in March 11th of 2022. So we started this processes of whether to upgrade our existing ERP system or to replace our ERP system. So in order to do that, you have to issue a request for information to make that determination. So it helps you determine whether you want to upgrade your existing system or whether there is something new out there that is above and beyond and it's worth the time and effort and money to move to a

different ERP platform like an Oracle or a Work Day or something different than what we already have. So there were extensive product demonstrations. Each one of them had to come in and demonstrate their product to purchasing, HR, and finance. Each demonstration took all day and the evaluation committee did it over two to three weeks when we bought all of the vendors in to demonstrate the product. So we went through an extensive process to make this determination."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So do we usually do an RFI and RFP?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "We didn't do an RFP. We just --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- oh, I understand it. I'm asking about what would we normally do. And the question is why was something done differently this time?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "So in the technology world, we looked at how the city of Atlanta, state, and other entities have looked at an ERP system. And all of them issued a request for information to make some determinations regarding it. If the county has decided after the RFI that it would be better for us to do another -- to go to another platform, then we would have issued an RFP for the new platform. So that was how the determination and the decision was made. We looked at how other entities do these large ERP systems, because this is a heavy lift. It's something that once you get it, you can't just switch it every year. The implementation cost in some of these is extremely high to move to a new system, so there's a lot of pieces that go into it, and we looked at how the IT field handles it, and that's how we moved forward."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What is the shelf life of this upgrade? I mean, I understand, you say we've been on the system for 25 years. Does this get us 25 another years? How long will we be able to use this before we have to -- before they come back asking for another \$10 million?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "So that's really the beauty of moving to a SaaS model, right? We're on a version model that's in our --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, I know what SaaS is, but I don't think the public knows what that is."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "So, I'm sorry. So it's their solution and their environment, and as they build new functionality, we gain that functionality and just deploy it to us. Before, we would have to install software in our data center, in our environment to receive that, do heavy testing. They're taking on that responsibility to bring that new capability in their infrastructure for all of their customers to benefit from, and they're pushing out that new functionality three times a year. And so, when you move to that type of a solution, you're going to get these updates continuously. You're not stuck on a

version like we were where it could become even very challenging in our environment to do a version upgrade without it being very disruptive to our workforce, because there's just a lot of testing that's required, and it has to sit on our infrastructure and there may be complexities and customizations that are challenging for that software to run. When you move to this type of environment, you're really not allowed to customize. Customizing is very difficult than to upgrade and expand. So you can configure, so they become much more configurable and then you can adopt those capabilities. So once we're in their environment, as long as they're a viable company, we don't have to go through a major upgrade like this again. We don't have to pay millions of dollars for professional services to move to a new SaaS or a new ERP. Now, if we want to change from our common vendor to an Oracle or a Work Day, then certainly it would be professional services to migrate away. But once you're now in the new home, it's more like renting it, right? It's like an HOA; they're going to come and paint, and they're going to take care of it, and you just pay the fee and you benefit from it."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Be careful about your examples. Like an HOA, that might be good; it might not be so good. Software as a service, it's SaaS, right?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. So y'all all using all these terms, CGI and ISG, and I don't know that the public knows what any of that means, so maybe you could help explain that for the public."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: So you're right, SaaS software is a service. It's just a way of delivering software, right? Subscription versus a licensed model, and you're benefiting from their environment and their capabilities. CGI is just the name of the company that we're using for our enterprise resource planning, the ERP platform. And ISG, it's just another company that's helping us with the verification and validation of the implementation of the platform, so that's just their company's name; it's ISG."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I think this is a much needed upgrade and I think if there's a silver lining in anything, instead of kicking the can down the road for another year, I think it's great that we have the opportunity to go ahead and upgrade these systems right away. I was just speaking with the financial director of elections, and she was saying that she can't get reporting. She has to go through Hakeem or Sabrina to get pulled down reports. And with this system, she'll instantly be able to get that, and I told her, well I'll push for a new program. Well, I did not know that I didn't really have to push, that you guys were already doing it. So I think it's great. I just have one question: You mentioned something that it's being hosted now, but it's temporary and that we

have to find someone for hosting in the future or I couldn't quite grasp what you were talking about, hosting. Who's hosting our data?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Right. So because of our security incident and not knowing what it was going to look like to bring our current platform back up in our data center in our environment, we were able to take a snapshot of our data and send that to CGI's data center in Arizona, and they stood up the necessary infrastructure in their environment for us to then load our data, our configuration, and get us up and running there. And so, this is kind of -- you know, as a short-term solution so that we could operate again. But then once that's a steady state which we're just a couple of weeks away from having full capabilities within our ERP environment in their data center, that's a temporary home, right? We still want to move forward with the upgrade to their modern infrastructure and their modern platform. And so, we'll start that here shortly once we've level set on our remediation and we've played a little catch-up with data entry as we've had to implement workarounds. Does that answer your question? Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "On that issue, you did mention that the timeframe would shift a little bit, and I thought it was my understanding that it also would get a little bit shorter because of that interim step that we just took. So do you have an estimate for when?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "I don't have a clear estimate. I don't want to give you false information. Those are discussions we're having right now. So it kind of depends on how long does it take to fully get us up. We think we have a good estimate there. What is it going to take to play a little bit of catch-up on data entry, and then eventually we talk about -- right now that you have our environment there, you have our data there. In parallel, you could be loading that into your new environment. It's already there. It's a much easier process, so I can see that shaving some time off, but we still need to work out what that looks like."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. I am supportive of this moving forward, but I do also have a question about the request for information and RFP process and all of that, because you know it does seem to me that while this is an upgrade because it's the same company that we were so many versions behind, that is almost like starting over based on just the costs you put up in terms of the implementation. Like an upgrade, as you mentioned, going forward, once we do this won't be \$10 million. It will just be part of the normal business. And I guess because of that, I am a little bit curious about, you know, what the pricing was that was presented for some of the other options in terms of both the start of implementation costs as well as the ongoing cost, and if we've looked at that in the RFP process."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "We did. We did."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Was it comparable?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "No, not really. In some cases it was and in other cases it was not. But we asked for all of that. In addition to that, our functionality matrix was like 12 pages long where they had to tell us whether they had the functionalities, whether they had it, it would have to be customized. They were developing. So we went through a long list, and I will share that Excel spreadsheet because it was quite comprehensive, and we did include costs. We had asked for their costs, they're implementation and ongoing costs as well."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, thank you. I felt like I'm not sure, once again, respecting the process that it was done well, but when it is this big of an expense and as long of a time frame, it's just sort of good to know what all the background is, so thank you for that."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Absolutely."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other questions? Just lastly -- I mean, I personally would've have benefited from a much more in-depth explanation of a \$10 million expenditure, and it looks like it's -- the 10 million is coming from ARPA money, and that's an allowable expense for ARPA funds and no doubt about that?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, Mr. Chairman. We're comfortable that this meets the requirements for ARPA -- for use of our ARPA resources."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. And related to that -- in fact, we need an accounting of that 206 million in ARPA funds so we know exactly where we are. I want to bring this up: Is there any minority female participation in this 10 million?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "No, Commissioner, because this is just the system. This is not any other services. There's no contract."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I understand that, but the answer is, no?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "The answer is no."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Barrett? All right, motion on the floor is to approve."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0127**, Information Technology: Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing in an amount not to exceed \$1,250,000 to provide independent verification and validation services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, under Arts and Libraries, **24-0128**: Request approval of a statewide contract in the amount of \$105,000 to provide temporary staffing services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, a motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Commissioner Ellis?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Quick question: In terms of -- and it looks like there's two parts to this, but it looks like the bulk of the services that are using this temporary staffing contract are three programs offered at the Aviation Center complex; is that correct?"

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS & CULTURE: "Several of them are -- David Manuel of Fulton County Arts and Culture -- but also throughout outreach in North Fulton and South Fulton with some of the senior centers and the recreation centers, as well as Chattahoochee Nature Center and others."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. In the paperwork, it looked like it was more descriptive of specific to programming at that location except for -- it was a little bit in terms of administrative staffing. So it was the way the paperwork -- it looked like it was described. And I guess sort of more specific to that component of it where we're delivering, you know, that's sort of the only area where we're delivering that type of services, and we're delivering it in the unincorporated footprint, should we not consider having that be funded through that particular SSD funding?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Commissioner Ellis, that's something that we can certainly look into."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I believe arts would be allowable in that case."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS "Okay. All right. If you can get back to me on that, that would be great. So I don't necessarily need us to hold this up. But I just wanted to raise that, just sort of this -- you know, as a point."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So are you suggesting that -- you're going to look for and to see whether it's possible to use SSD funds for the 105, are you saying?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Well for -- yeah, for the portion where they provide the services at that location, yeah."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir, the prorated portion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right, Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry. Maybe I didn't get an update to the paperwork or something, but it feels like the paperwork that was included with the item is for 2023 contract? So I'm confused about that. Can you check that? Literally, the attachment that was put with the agenda was a signed 2023 contract that included in the 105 money for staff at West End also? So I'm just confused about what I'm looking at."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes. Attached was last year's contracts. I'm not sure why that was attached. We would prepare a new contract once it's approved by the Board."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So, okay. But then the numbers are off. I mean why would the numbers be the same, because the needs are different, I would assume."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Well, this is their not-to-exceed amount. It is not a -- it is not the specific amount, but it is the not-to-exceed based on the number of people and this contract can only go through June 30th of 2024, because it's a statewide contract, and that's when their contract expires."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But the -- I hear you. Thank you. I'm just confused about still half of that, about 50,000 or so that was for temporary staff at West End, and we don't need that anymore, correct?"

DAVID MANUEL: "Well, with West End, as we all know, it now belongs to the city of Atlanta. But in terms of our programs and our initiative, our outreach has increased. So although we don't have the building, we're still reached out, not only in that community, but all across Fulton County in terms of programs, initiatives, and projects."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So just to be -- thank you for that. So just to be clear: this is a not-to-exceed, but we'll have a contract back for our approval later; is that correct?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "For the second half of this year, yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So -- okay, I'm very confused. Are we going to have a contract?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "This approval -- after the Board approves, then we are authorized to prepare the contract. It would be in an amount not to exceed the \$105,000. As they are invoiced, it would draw down on that amount. For July through December, we will be coming back to the Board. We'll have a better idea of how much they actually spent and how much they would actually need for the second half of the year."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, that make sense."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "When we're utilizing our statewide contract, we have to adhere to their contract terms."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, it was the 2023 numbers. I think that really confused me, but -- so I just think for the next one it might be better to lay out what the actual needs are for the current year versus just showing us the an old contract, but I'm caught up now, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Barrett, did you get all your questions answered? Okay, so for the viewing public, we are going to vote on to not exceed the 105, correct?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And then you are going to give all the Commissioners the updated contract that unfortunately did not make it into the packet, correct?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Correct. Because we don't prepare the contract until after the Board approves."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion on the -- Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Just something else just while we're on this topic. You know, we've gone through this transformation as a county where we removed ourselves and gotten out of these facilities and cities, mainly because we sort of deemed that to be really a city delivered service. And what -- what I sort of heard you say and I don't necessarily want to get into this as sort a point right now, but I think we don't need to be attempting to go back then and duplicate providing and trying to do stuff that we were doing in these facilities through other means. I mean it needs to be sort of a clear targeted thing, you know. We're doing it within the confines of our senior centers or something like that. But when I hear you say we're going and we're doing outreach in this city and that sort of stuff. To me, that feels like we're duplicating what really should be the city's responsibility to do, particularly since we, you know, gotten out of having these hard facilities where we were previously doing that work. So, you know, I'm not necessarily looking to get into that, just stayed focus on voting on this particular item, but that is a point of something I'd like to kind of for us to kind of continue to take up and have some discussion around is what is really -- what's really our role in the provision of providing, you know, these direct related services in the municipalities, and what really should be the cities' roles? I'm not arguing about the validity and the value of those services, but it really comes down to we do need to figure out what our role is and should be and what it isn't, just like we do with any other service delivery area."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, I agree with that. We need to have that discussion because we were very deliberate in removing ourselves from providing services. So that's, I guess, is a discussion for another day. All right, the motion on the floor is to approve. Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item. It's 12:28."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Health and Human Services, **24-0129**, Behavior Health and Development Disabilities: Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for PAD to continue providing financial support for the delivery of pre-arrest diversion services in the amount of \$400,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And again, sort of as a similar comment to what we were just talking about on the art stuff, and I don't have any real questions for you -- for our distinguished director of BHDD. It's just really more as to the statement around this is -- this is an Atlanta program. Yes, we originally started sort of in a pilot with them. I get all that sort of stuff, but it is their program. And there is, you know, that issue of whose

responsibility, who should own it, and that sort of stuff. You know, we've got specific things that we're doing in this area that we own or that we got specifically a joint agreement with them around, i.e., with the operation of the diversion center when it comes online. But, you know, when we look at situations where what's our responsibility, what should be somebody else's responsibility, given the funds that the individual entities received through sales tax or whatever and other funds that we may not receive, you know. It's just -- this is just something that we need to be aware of. And, you know, at some point in time it may not make sense for us to continue to provide funding to this, and it should be the sole responsibility of the city."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Commissioner Ellis, I have to respectfully disagree. I think that this needs to expand into the other cities. Because of the way that our criminal justice system works, it can't just work in the city of Atlanta without assistance from the solicitor's office and the DAs office and coordinating with all the different justice partners which fall up under Fulton County. So I do respect your point in regards to, a) if it's a city service, then the city should be handling it; but frankly, this needs to expand, and we need to be talking to the other 14 cities because pre-arrest diversion helps keep our jail population down. And so, you know, but obviously Atlanta is the biggest perpetrator, right? More than 50 percent of our jail population comes from the city of Atlanta. So I think your point is well taken generally, but specifically, as it relates to pre-arrest diversion, I don't know that there's anyway to do it without including our justice partners. And, you know, so I think we need to be working to have this expand throughout the county and perhaps having additional cities contribute as well in addition to the county."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Mr. Chair, one last point. And we've got to -- going back to my original piece, the diversion center, it will be a countywide facility, right? And that's part of kind of the nature of our participation in that and our funding around it. You know, other entities may need to, yes, ramp up or consider, you know, diversion alternatives, but in this case, this is really is an extension of the Atlanta Police Department and in other cities, it would be an extension of their, you know, their police facilities. But we got this, it will be a central facility that all the county could access, and I think that really should be where our focus should be in terms of funding and so forth. I realize that there all kind of have to be people to be involved in the aspects of justice, but we got that right now, and their pieces of it we solely fund and we get no contribution from any of the cities, municipalities. So it's just -- I'm not looking to dispute the validity of this. It's just -- I just highlight again it's just sort of one of those areas where, you know, it's well intended where we are, but sometimes you have ask the question of is this something that we should continue to be funding or have the capability to fund, you know, if every other city wanted to do the same and ask for, you know, this type of participation from us."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: " Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0131**, Public Works: Request approval to extend an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$73,567.71 to provide air traffic control night coverage."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0132**: Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder in an amount not to exceed \$620,000 to provide small water meter installation services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 10, under Infrastructure and Economic Development, **24-0133**: Request approval of a recommended proposal in an amount not to exceed \$185,709.50 to provide building code administrative construction management and planning services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a favorable motion by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Justice and Safety, **24-0134**, Police: Request approval to increase the spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$3,839,243 to provide armed and unarmed security services for Registration and Elections."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Chief, would you give just a quick 30-second explanation of this? You know, I'm supportive of it."

WADE YATES, FC CHIEF OF POLICE: "Good afternoon, Chairman, Vice Chair, Commissioners; Wade Yates, Chief of Police. So in the last general presidential election, we provided election security at all their locations and, at that time, we used their staffing vendor to work as a pass-through to hire the off-duty police officers that we're going to staff those locations. This year we assume the same would happen. Their staffing vendor this year wanted to charge what I felt was an absorbent fee to do that. It was an excess of 30 percent, so we contacted our existing vendor, which is Allied, that provides all of the security at all of our county facilities, and they've agreed to do it for 14 percent. The majority of the money, all but 14 percent, is to pay police officers. We have a little bit more voting than we had four years ago. We've got the primary, we got 36 locations to cover seven days a week for three weeks in 12-hour shifts, and then again come November, we'll have the early -- or in October and then actual voting day, we have 185 locations."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Chief. Motion is to approve. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner's Action Items, **24-0093**: Request approval of Resolution by the Fulton Board of Commissioners urging the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation sponsored by the State Senator, Donzella James, to amend the official Code of Georgia to lift the ban relating to restrictions on rent regulations by local governments and allow counties and municipalities to apply the ability to regulate the rent to be charged for privately owned single-family or multiunit residential properties for those residing within the state of Georgia; and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. There's a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall. Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman followed by Commissioner Barrett."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. In theory, I want to say I want to support this; however, certain concerns were brought to my attention. I don't know if this is something that is time sensitive, but I would ask that it be held again in order for those that are in opposition. I, as a sitting Commissioner, would like to listen to their side. Like I said, in theory, I support this but in order to be fair, several individuals who I respect their thought on a lot of situations when it comes to housing and rent restrictions, I have not had adequate time to have a conversation with them. So I would like to make a motion to hold this until I can get further information."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right substitute motion to hold. Is there a second? All right, properly moved and seconded. Let's vote on the substitute motion to hold."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to hold. And the motion passes; five yeas, one nay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0135**: Request approval of a Resolution to amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Board of Commissioner's departmental budget for District Four; and for other purposes. Sponsored by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there motion? There was no motion. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Commissioner Arrington followed by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. It's 12:39. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I don't believe that this sets a good policy. I don't believe it sets a good standard. There but for the grace of God go I; and you do this today to one Commissioner, it could be tomorrow to you. It sets a very bad precedent. I understand the intent behind this; however, practically it's impossible to achieve the intent, because you're taking -- the complaint is, oh, this is public money going to pay this judgment. Well, either way it's going to be public money going to pay the judgment. It's public money. Either way. It sets a very bad precedence. We've already adopted our budget. Everyone already has their budgets. The idea that someone's staff could be affected by this and that we could end up in potential litigation, and it's duplicative. They've already censured her. They've already kicked her. She was down. They kicked her while she was down; now, they want to spit in her face. This is so unnecessary. We have such a toxic and hostile work environment that we're having to work under over the last two or three years. This is not the way to deal with this. We do not punish any other elected officials. We had Commissioners in the past that had sexual assault charges; we had county attorneys and county managers that had the same thing in the past. Five-million-dollar judgments at the jail. We don't punish those people. And this doesn't punish the District Four Commissioner; this punishes the residents of District Four. And as I stated last time, arguably this staff and the Commissioner in District Four might need more training than anybody else. Why would you take away their training money when the judge has ordered them to be trained? So how are they going to get the training? They have to wait until next year to get trained? I mean, this just does not make any sense, colleagues. I would implore you to not support this; so hypocritical. So hypocritical. We want to jump all over the Commissioner from District Four for not violating the rules, but we don't give a shit if the Board of Ethics violates the rules. They can violate the

rules all day, all night. The Constitution, the Georgia Constitution, and we don't do nothing about it. We sit up here and sit back and not do one thing about it. We're scared to do anything about them violating the rules, and yet we want to go after and double -- double and triple punish someone for something that happened. Hypocrisy. The height of hypocrisy. The height of hypocrisy."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. In the Resolution, I would like where it says close to 200,000; I want you to strike the close to 200,000. I want it to say 200,000. I do not want it to say close to. So please strike that and amend it. Let me say this, first of all. It's amazing that Commissioner Hall is portrayed as the victim; when the victim is Calvin Brock; the victim is Fulton County taxpayers. The victim or potential victims is any Fulton County employee who right now may be going through this -- I hope they aren't, but any Fulton County employee right now who may find themselves in this situation, and we're sending a message to them that if you are an elected official, the rules do not apply to you. I stand here today not taking any special joy as a woman of color, an elected woman, a Democrat, but it's sad day when because of the person's gender we're treating them as the victim when we know if the situation was reversed and Commissioner Hall was a man, you couldn't count the amount of protesters that would be outside. You wouldn't count the amount of times that that person would be forced to step down. So let's have some real difficult conversations right now. I'm willing to do that. In the wake of me being attacked, my children being threatened, and so many other things that I have personally had to put up with because I decided to stand on the duty of first and foremost as Commissioners we have a fiduciary responsibility to the accountability of the taxpayers. Secondly, this could have been mitigated with a smaller amount because certain Members of this Body wanted it to go as far as it could on a taxpayer's dime is the reason that we are almost a million dollars, and that's not including the resources. But let me just take you down the road right quick. Predator behavior refers to actions and conduct characterized by exploitation and or manipulation of others for personal gain, satisfaction, or gratification. Predation involves four steps: search, recognition, capture, and handling. There was a 64 -- excuse me, 68 page of what the judge saw as the reasoning to the conclusion that he came to on an inference. A Inference is something that you see proof of and a reasonable conclusion can be made. Walk with me on this journey. Fulton County, through the actions of Commissioner Natalie Hall, unlawfully discriminated against Calvin Brock on the basis of sex, in his employment when Hall, tried to force Brock to remain in an exclusive sexual relationship with her, stalked him for months, and ultimately fired him. After meeting him by chance at a furniture store, Hall hired Brock for a position on her staff where she yielded complete control over his continued employment including any promotion, raise, or bonus, even though Hall and Brock began having a sexual relationship soon after. Even though the relationship began mutually, it did not remain consensual, because Hall initiated a dizzying array of deceptions designed to monitor and control his action with other women. I submit search and capture. That's two of the four. Most significantly, Hall purchased and

planted three covert surveillance devices in Brock's personal automobiles. She expressly intended these devices both for live eavesdropping on Brock's private conversations with other women and for pinpointing his precise location. Ultimately, she terminated Brock because she heard him making plans with another woman; Hall offered no evidence whatsoever to refute her covert surveillance of Brock. In fact, in response to every question about the surveillance of devices, she asserted her Fifth Amendment privilege against self -- self-incrimination, which she had a right to do. How about the inference? How about the judge could only infer and go by over 200 pieces of evidence that was presented to him. Hall also alleged that Brock resigned voluntarily and that even if she wanted him to leave her office, it was because he allegedly made Hall look bad in a conversation following a social event. Commissioner Hall also claimed that Brock was let go due to an office reorganization, but that was mere pretense. Hall orchestrated that the reorganization to create the mistaken apprehension on Brock's part only that Hall fired all her employees taking together her exclamations represent an arch typical, unlawful pretexts for discriminatory termination. I submit to you that that is capture and handle. What I say to you is, today the reason it is so important because the message that we send, the message that we send is that an elected official can come down here, do alleged predatory behavior on the taxpayers' dime, cause resources, i.e. the county's attorney's office, to be used and take no responsibility. I know this is not popular, but I'm going to say it anyway: How can you support going after Trump for election interference, and you turn a blind eye to a case that has been litigated, and we are held on the line for a million dollars? You know how? It's the same reasoning that individuals like R. Kelly was able to be a predator and people turned the other way. I know we don't like this. I know it's an uncomfortable conversation, but it's one that's got to be had. A million dollars has to be paid out of taxpayers' money. It doesn't matter that it's in the risk fund. We are down here as steward of taxpayers' money. Now, what I say to you in conclusion, Commissioner Hall is not the victim. I'm going to say it one more time. Commissioner Hall is not the victim. Calvin Brock is the victim, Fulton County employees are the victim, any woman, whether she's of color or not who have found themselves in a situation where they were at the -- at the whim of their employer for sexual discrimination, is the victim. You can't holler me too just when it's a woman involved. Either we're going to be serious about requiring accountability or we're going to have status quo and business as usual. Now, I see that the Chairman is wanting me to speed up, but Chairman, I've got to say this: How do we turn this around and make Commissioner Hall the victim? Commissioner Hall saw something allegedly that looked good in a furniture store, per the testimony. Commissioner Hall offered an expedient way to get employment to that which look good to her over a weekend, per the evidence. Commissioner Hall also promoted an employee who had no college degree in an expedient time while she was having a sexual relationship with him. All facts that came out, and the final fact of the matter is: How can you have surveillance -- and we can say alleged, surveillance, but because there was no repute of it, I can only go by the evidence. You have surveillance with trackers purchased per the testimony of law enforcement by Commissioner Hall of an employee in her employ, in her office. Now, if nobody has a problem with that, I submit this to you: You send your son, you send your grandson, you send your nephew, you

send your brother to work in that environment and then get back at me. Listen to me Fulton County, this is wrong, and the only way for it to be made right is to make sure that the taxpaying citizens get some kind of retribution, and this is the purpose of this. Alleged predators don't always have a penis; sometimes they have a vagina."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of points to make. I spoke my piece on this at the last meeting. While there were some changes to the Resolution at the current meeting, it does not materially change what this Resolution is seeking to do. While I certainly agree, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, that Natalie Hall is not the victim here, I think we are -- I think we need to be careful about what we're talking about. Because the victim of this Resolution is the people of Fulton County, the people of the district, District Four, who will be served in a unfair manner compared to the rest of the districts. I agree with Commissioner Arrington completely when he says that the intent is to give the taxpayers relief. This does not accomplish that. The taxpayers are footing the bill whether it comes from the District Four budget or whether it comes from the risk fund or whether it comes from any other line item and nonagency other. It is coming from the taxpayer, and taking it from the District Four budget victimizes the citizens who will be served with less funds than their counterparts in other parts of the county. It also victimizes the District Four staff that are currently employed who may be forced to either lose their job or take a pay cut. Those are the victims of this Resolution. I think it's also worth noting that this is a dangerous precedent, also mentioned by my colleague, Commissioner Arrington, and by myself at the last meeting. It means that by precedent, any four Commissioners can take a vote and remove entirely the staff of another Commissioner. This is not what the voters of Fulton County expect. They expect to put someone in a seat on this Commission and have that person be able to equally do their job and represent them on this Board. I think it's also worth noting that this is not a court of law; is not our job to re-litigate a case that was brought against Fulton County as it relates to Calvin Brock. That was already handled by a judge, and the judge already made a ruling about what the outcome should be. For those reasons as I said last time, I cannot support this, though I do understand the intent of relief for the taxpayers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Colleagues it's 1 o'clock, and we have folks waiting for us. Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Ellis, Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The voters -- there's an election coming up. The voters will have an opportunity to hold Commissioner Hall and others accountable for their actions. There's an election coming up, qualifying is in less than 30 days. The election is in May. So in less than 90 days, there will be accountability. The question I have for Madam CFO and Hakeem over there, because last time there was a breakdown of where this money was going to come from. Is that money still even there? How much money -- there was, what, like 45 or 50 something from salaries and

45 or 50 something from training and 93,000 from contingency. Are those amounts still even in the account? Because that was two weeks ago."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "Commissioner Arrington, no. We do not have those balances that we had as of the last BOC meeting or the last resolution. But this new resolution doesn't have those line items listed. So in that case, no, it's not something that, you know, we'll be looking at in order to execute this resolution if approved."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So Madam County Attorney, how does this work? If they vote to take \$200,000 from her budget and she doesn't fire anyone, where does the money come from?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "There are a lot of variables, factually, that could occur. It is not a certainty that everyone who is currently on the staff will remain on the staff. We're at the early part of the year. They may not be on staff for various reasons towards the end of the year. I think that require -- the question you're posing requires some factual speculation. The way that the resolution is currently written, it doesn't touch upon that directly. It just says an amount that is designated to be removed from the total budget."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, ma'am. But how can -- okay, let's assume that they all, all of her employees remain employed. And Hakeem, you said you don't have an update on the current amount for those different categories?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "I mean, I do have an amount on the overall budget. Right now, we have \$106,000 available within the operating budget, and then \$543,000 in the personnel budget. So that is the breakdown that we have right now in the budget."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "But isn't that money already claimed? The 546 in personnel, that's already --"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "It's already --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- allocated, correct?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "It's allocated for four -- for five positions."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So how much is unallocated?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "None for personnel."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, but how much -- because it doesn't say it's for personnel. The resolution doesn't say it's for personnel. How much of the District Four budget is unallocated?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "If this resolution is approved the way it is now, in order for us to get to \$200,000, we will be reducing 106,000 from the operating budget. And then the remaining amount would have to come from the personnel budget."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "How do they do that, Madam County Attorney, if everyone stays employed and they take money from her personnel budget, how will that be accomplished?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I don't know that that's a legal question, but practically speaking, if there is a deficit in the budget at some point towards the midpoint of the year, then the appointing authority, in this case it would be Commissioner Hall, would have to make a decision as to how to utilize the available monies in order to cover the expenses in the way that she chooses to prioritize."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "We going to court, y'all. Watch it, watch and see. We're going to -- we're going to waste some more taxpayer money. People act like they were -- they're worrying about wasting taxpayer money. And then they want to take actions that have unintended consequences that going to send us back to court and waste more taxpayer money. This is a bad deal, people. This is a bad deal. This is targeting. This is targeting. And the victims of this resolution are the residents and constituents of District Four. And so I'll leave it there, but this is a bad deal. It sets a very bad precedent. The idea that Commissioners could vote to lower another Commissioners budget. Four Democrats get together and say they're going to take away the Republicans budget. Or four Republicans get together and say they're going to take away the Democrats budget. This sets a bad precedent. This is a bad deal. And the voters will have the opportunity to hold all of us accountable or those that are up for election in less than 90 days. The odd -- the even districts I think, 2, 4, and 6 are up for election in less than 90 days; qualification in less than 30 days. The voters have the say. If the voters don't like what happened, then they can make a change. But this is the wrong way. This is -- it's going to lead to unintended consequences. And it's going to waste more taxpayer dollars."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Colleagues, it's 1:07. We have people waiting for us. The clock -- I mean, not the -- yeah, the financial clock is ticking back there. So Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Ellis, Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Just doing a lot of listening today, listening to the comments from my fellow Commissioners. And I never really looked at it -- you know, Commissioner Hall is not a victim in this case, no matter how you try to turn it. For me to be -- I imagined myself working in an environment where someone hired me and then

wanted sex. That's just a scary, dangerous position to be in, and then you no longer want to be in that relationship, but your livelihood relies on your job. And I just can't imagine what Calvin Brock went through. So I've just never really looked at it that way. You know, it's -- Commissioner Hall, that's sexual predator. That, anybody who does that, puts someone in that position, I think a normal employee, we would have fired, for sure. They would have lost their job. You say this doesn't set up a good policy or a good standard, a couple Commissioners say that. We set policies and standards in place and they're not even being followed. So we have to do something. There has to be some consequence of actions. You say it's public money and you were paying it either way, no matter if it comes out of her fund or the Risk Management fund. No. We're taking money out of her fund to reimburse the Risk Management fund. And then next year, we won't have to reimburse as much to that fund. It will give relief to the taxpayers, the taxpayers of all of Fulton County. You say this is a hostile and toxic work environment. Oh my gosh, Commissioner Arrington, with all due respect, I can't believe that's coming from your mouth. What work environment was Calvin Brock in? Think about it. What work environment? If your livelihood depended on your relationship with your boss, is that not a toxic work environment? And hostile? I've experienced lots of hostility of this, being just a member on this Board, just speaking out. You say it punishes the residents of District Four. Commissioner Ellis brought up how several of us up here are able to operate well under. If we took 200, 250,000 out of our budget, we would still be able to operate based on our expenses last year. Commissioner Barrett has one staffer, I just hired my third staffer. Commissioner Ellis has three, and Chairman Pitts, who works round the clock, has two. She doesn't have to fire a staffer. That -- that is not an option. She could just reduce pay if she wanted to, and keep all her staff on board. I just feel like -- I was in DC at NACo. I went, I took a staffer with me. Commissioner Hall took two. Was that really necessary, knowing that this is being -- that this motion was held last week? I think you would have tried to save money. I would think that you'd try to cut back so you can preserve those positions that you can preserve having to maybe, potentially, cut salaries. That you would have maybe streamed down the trip a little bit. I've gone, I went to the NACo Legislative Conference by myself. I didn't take any staff. I've gone to ACCG without any staffers, and I'm a new Commissioner. I'm having to learn a lot and having to sit in these sessions. I went to LOC by myself strictly because they had a jail facility. I was interested in seeing how Orlando reduced their recidivism rate by half. They went from 4400 to 2200. Commissioner Hall and a staffer came as well. Did they go on the tour? No, they didn't go on the tour. So I learned a lot, and I'm still learning a lot. But what I hear, I saw people come down and give public comment, all wanting us to do something, wanting us to hold someone accountable for this injustice. I've received emails, countless emails of people telling me, please, do something. We have to do something punitive. Unfortunately, it has to be to a fellow Commissioner. I didn't see one single person come down here and say, don't do it. I didn't receive one email saying, don't do it. But from what I understand, District Four, they don't -- they support it, support Commissioner Hall, that's what I'm being told. They're willing to even pay the 200,000 that we take away. So, so be it. I just think we have to do something. We are the -- we are responsible for the taxpayers' money. And the taxpayers' money need to have

confidence and trust that we've got their back, and we're looking after them. So that's why I'm voting for this resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis, it's 1:15 -- 1:14, colleagues."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Question's been called. Is there a second? All right. Let's vote on the call of the question."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on call the question. And the motion passes; six yeas, one nay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on floor is to approve. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch and Executive Session. We'll take up issues of real estate, litigation, and personnel. Motion by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

(Recessed for Executive Session at 1:14 p.m.)

(Resumed Regular Session at 2:23 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Without objection, we will resume the regular order of business. Items from Executive Session, Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a motion to deny the request for representation set forth in item 2 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So moved. Second? All right, properly moved and seconded. What? Motion by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Hall. All right, y'all said you were ready, now."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam County Attorney?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you. Is there a motion to deny the request for representation in item 3 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "And finally, is there a motion to approve the request for representation in item 4 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Please -- is that -- all right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Madam County Attorney. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 11, **24-0136**, Presentation of the 2024 State Legislative Session update."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. Jessica Corbitt, Director of External Affairs. And please bring the slides up. I'm here today with Jasmine Campbell, who's been working very hard on our behalf at the Capitol. And we're going to go over a few Bills today, and also just take any questions. And I will probably defer to Jasmine on a lot of those. Hopefully, they can get the slides up, but wanted to just share that we are about one week from Crossover Day. So there's a lot of Committee activity right now, a lot of Bills that are being heard in Committee trying to get them to Rules Calendar before Crossover Day next week. Next slide, please. Again, just a quick overview of our Legislative agenda, with a few of these items at the top of our list really being the priorities we have focused on during the session. Next slide, please. A couple of very quick updates, as I just said, next week, the 29th, which is Leap Day is also Crossover Day. The Senate is now working to adopt the amended FY24 budget. And we are now in the process, preparing for this House to amend the -- or approve the FY25 budget in the next week. We are seeing a lot of Committee meetings from the House, and they'll be preparing to bring that forward. Also, as we reported last time, sadly, our previous Rules Chairman passed away, and Representative Parrish has now been appointed as the Chair of that important Committee. Next slide, please. Our Delegation has had a couple of meetings. Last week, they heard from the Atlanta Intergovernmental Affairs Office, we

presented to them previously. They're going to be meeting tomorrow afternoon. And we'll be hearing from some of our Election team members. And wanted to mention that there is some legislation related to the Board of Commissioners' base salary. Next slide, please."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Excuse me, that should be adjustment, instead of being --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Adjustment, thank you, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's correct that."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Will do, thank you. One of our top priorities has been closing the funding gap for the Behavioral Health Crisis Center. And this will be about \$1.8 million in funding that is -- will help us annualize the funding amount that was adopted -- was finalized, I should say, in the FY24 budget. Last week, the Appropriations Subcommittee and Human Resources met on the 13th. Dr. Roshell did a wonderful job representing the County, and spoke about the importance of closing that gap. We are now looking for the appropriate -- for the budget out of that Subcommittee, and again, working towards the passage of the FY25 budget in next -- before Crossover Day next week. So we are working with leadership on both - in both Chambers to address, close that funding gap, but it's very important, and we're talking with the leadership, again, from both in the Committee level as well as in the House overall. And we just wanted to mention too that we've had really good continuing conversation with Georgia DBHDD. The request that we are making aligns with the request they submitted for their FY25 budgets. We're essentially supporting their original budget request. Next slide, please. We're really continuing in conversation with the jail funding. This is a complex project. And we did -- we did expect going into this session that it would likely take more than one session to really identify the right solution. But those conversations are continuing. Next slide, please. I really wanted to talk about -- spend a few minutes here on SB349, which is Legislation that really aligns with some work that we have done here at Fulton County for several years, and will now kind of move into a statewide posture on a number -- or help with many issues that are occurring statewide. One is a statewide 3 percent, essentially, floating homestead exemption, which we have had at Fulton County for nearly 20 years. So this is not -- will be revenue neutral for Fulton County. But for any jurisdictions within Fulton County that do not already have a floating homestead exemption, this Bill would allow for that. And essentially that would cap, really insulates homeowners from drastic, year-over-year increases in valuation, which we have seen in communities that have had a lot of redevelopment and those kinds of issues. It also would allow -- it tweaks the process for a millage rate rollback, and allows local governments additional flexibility. And then it also -- one of the confusing things we hear about every year is about the way the notice of assessment is created. And that process, really the estimate of taxes, I think the spirit of that was to be educational, but it -- the reality is, it creates a lot of confusion. Because the notice of assessment is created an issue -- before any of the jurisdictions

can create their -- can set their millage rate for the year. So it's almost intentionally incorrect. Not really intentionally, but that's the de facto outcome. And then the most important part for us is about the appeals process and kind of adjusting the three-year freeze that is very important for property tax relief. It has also unfortunately, been -- created some confusion and issues in the appeals process that have led to some disparities between, especially between sales price of large commercial properties and the valuation of those properties. So it's a very long technical piece of legislation, and has been advancing. And we are pleased to say that ACCG has played a very important role in this Bill, and their support has been essential in that. Next slide, please. The State Court -- okay, that wasn't for me -- the State Court Retirement Bill, which is again, adjusting a provision that is very specifically to Fulton County State Court Judges, has passed out of Committee, it is currently in Rules. And so we're waiting for that to be heard in the next several days. We have also had additional conversations about Judicial Officers in Superior Court. We are continuing to talk with sponsors about that, and are working to have a notice placed for that Bill. And then we're talking several pieces of legislation related to the evictions process. And I want to clarify that these are addressing both evictions as well as what are sometimes referred to as squatter issues. And we've seen a lot of news reports about that happening in Fulton County and around the metro area. So this legislation would potentially, empower Marshals to have a more -- have greater clarity in their role in addressing that issue. We are -- the Marshal's office has been engaged in giving feedback on some of these Bills to make sure that they can -- they can appropriately administer them. And next slide. I wanted to very quickly, touch on SB19. This Bill is one -- this has changed a lot since the original version that was introduced. But it is one that, again, you all have discussed previously, so just wanted to mention it. Next slide, please. Wanted to - - these Bills are all still in Committee. So I'm just going to kind of scroll through these. And again, if there are questions, we can take those, again, related to procurement, reporting, et cetera. Next slide. I'm not going to go through all of these, but just wanted to, again, just go through these really quickly and we can take questions. Next slide. Next slide, please. Next slide. And I think this is the last one. Again, some of these have overlapped with other legislation. Next slide, please. And there are a number of Bills related to elections. I'm not going to go into all of these. But again, if there are questions about Bills, we can do our best to answer them. And tomorrow's Delegation meeting, we will -- is expected to -- the Delegation requested that our Elections team be present. Next slide, please. Next slide. Wanted to just take a moment -- I'm not going to go into these in detail, but did want to mention that the Subcommittee, the Public Safety Subcommittee in the Senate on the jail, has continued their work. Last week, I'm our Chief -- excuse me, Chief Judge Glanville, Judge McBurney, Judge Kirk, and Clerk Alexander all presented to that Subcommittee and did a great job. So just wanted to mention that there are a number Bills related to public safety that we are tracking. Next slide, please. Then again, with public health and specifically looking at issues on women's, mother and maternal health and opioid issues. Next slide, please. And last but not least, the issue of sports betting has had a lot of attention during this Session. So we've just highlighted a couple of those Bills here. Next slide. So as I mentioned, tomorrow, today, I guess is Legislative Day '24. So we're getting very close, Sine Die on

March 28th. And I just wanted to mention that the ACCG Legislative Breakfast is on March 7th. And with that, Chairman, we can take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Did we take a position on sports betting?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "No, sir. If you, Chairman, if that's your pleasure, let us know and we'll -- we will communicate that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You okay? Yeah. Let's go on record and support it, the sports."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Was that an official position, Chairman?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah. Those in favor, say aye. Opposed, no. Ayes have it."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Madam Clerk will back me up."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You got it. Okay. Any other matters to come before us today?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "All right, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm sorry. Commissioner Thorne."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Oh, I'm sorry. Yes, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "On SB390, the government funding, your description says it eliminates library certification and continuing Ed. But you failed to mention that it is going to be a state run, that they -- there still will be certification that we implemented, but it'll be implemented through the Board of Regents."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And continuing Ed. So that's kind of a false misleading paragraph there, if you read the Bill, I have the Bill here. It's three pages long."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Okay, thanks, Commissioner. By the way, there is -- that Bill is being heard in Committee, and there's a substitute. So we haven't had an opportunity to see the substitute. But we'll be sure to share that."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments? Thank you."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other matters to come before us? All right. No other matters that come before us today, we are adjourned. Thank you very much, 2:38 p.m."

(Whereupon, the meeting was concluded at 2:38 p.m.)