

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

July 12, 2023
10:00 AM



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



MINUTES-RATIFIED

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

Ratification Date: August 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts **10:26 a.m.**

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

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

INVOCATION: Reverend Clifton Dawkins, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA**23-0436 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 Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

23-0437 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Lester Caldwell, III Remembrance Day." **(Arrington)**
May 20, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Bennie Anderson Remembrance Day." **(Hall)**
June 20, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Sheriff Melody M. Maddox Appreciation Day." **(Hall)**
June 24, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "DA Fani T. Willis Appreciation Day." **(Hall)**
June 24, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "KIPP WAYS Academy Family and Friends Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**
June 24, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "The Honorable Cathelene Tina Robinson Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman/BOC)**
June 30, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Pastor Wayne C. Thompson Remembrance Day." **(Pitts)**
June 30, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Sistagraphy Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
July 3, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Dorothy Underwood Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
July 24, 2023

Commissioners' District Board Appointments**23-0438 Board of Commissioners****FULTON COUNTY HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, CARE, AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

The Advisory Committee shall have the following members: Each Commissioner shall appoint two members. Such appointees shall be residents of or work in Fulton County, and shall have experience or expertise in public health, HIV prevention and/or care, or be otherwise deemed qualified to serve as an advisory committee member. The Advisory Committee has the discretion to create subcommittees to assist it with the assigned tasks. The members of these subcommittees do not have to fulfill the residency restrictions imposed on the appointed members of the Advisory Committee. Appointees to the Advisory Committee shall serve three-year terms at the discretion of the appointing Commissioner, and members may continue to serve beyond his/her term until a successor is appointed.

Term = 3 Years

Terms below expired: June 7, 2023

Ken Adcox (**Hausmann**)

Zina M. Age (**Carn**)

Daniel D. Driffin (**Arrington**)

Robert (Bob) W. Gibeling (**Morris**)

Jeff Graham (**Pitts**)

Matt Pieper (**Ellis**)

Jordan C. Raymond (**Pitts**)

Malcolm Reid (**Hausmann**)

Anne C. Spaulding (**Carn**)

John R. Warchol (**Morris**)

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Dana Pace for a District appointment to a term ending June 7, 2026.

**23-0439 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

Terms below expire: 12/31/2023

Elon Butts Osby (**Morris**)

Marcus Coleman (**Arrington**)

Tamika Jackson (**Pitts**)

Dr. Bernice King (**Hall**)

Rodney Littles (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Amanda Meng (**Barrett**)

Mike Russell (**Thorne**)

Michael Simanga (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Dr. Karcheik Sims-Alvarado (**Hall**)

Shanti Vissa (**Resigned**) (**Vacant**) (**Hausmann**)

Commissioner Thorne nominated Donté L. Thompson to replace Shanti Vissa for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2023.

**23-0440 Board of Commissioners
ANIMAL WELFARE HEARING BOARD (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE
CONSENT AGENDA)**

The Animal Welfare Hearing Board shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the Board of Commissioners. Each Commissioner shall appoint one member to serve for two years. Thereafter, all members may be appointed for an additional term of three years and until their successors are appointed.

Term = 2 Years/3 Years

Terms below expire: 12/31/2023

Al McDaniel (**Resigned**) (**Morris**)

K.E. Levy (**Pitts**)

Ms. Kathy Crawford (**Hall**)

Commissioner Barrett nominated Katie Factor to replace Al McDaniel for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2023.

Open & Responsible Government**23-0441 Finance**

Ratification of June 2023 Grants Activity Report. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Health and Human Services**23-0442 Department for HIV Elimination**

Request approval of a Resolution appointing the GY2023-GY2024 Metropolitan Atlanta HIV Health Services Planning Council members by Chairman Robb Pitts in his role as the Chief Elected Official for purposes of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety**23-0443 Juvenile Court**

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Juvenile Court, 22RFP048A-CJC, Specific Evidence-Based Delinquency Prevention Programming in the amount up to \$384,860.00 with Evidence-Base Associates, LLC (Powder Springs, GA) to provide ART-Aggressive Replacement Therapy; Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT); Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Multisystemic Therapy (MST). This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. 100% Grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0444 District Attorney

Request approval of an award without competition - District Attorney, 2022 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, Award Number 15PBJA-22-GG-04732-CVIP with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes named as a sub-awardee in the Grant in an amount not to exceed \$172,116.00. Effective upon BOC approval through the term of the Grant. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0445 District Attorney

Request approval of an award without competition - District Attorney, 2022 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, Award Number 15PBJA-22-GG-04732-CVIP with Up Therapy and Publications, LLC named as a sub-awardee in the Grant in an amount not to exceed \$172,116.00. Effective upon BOC approval through the term of the Grant. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0446 District Attorney

Request approval of an award without competition - District Attorney, 2022 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, Award Number 15PBJA-22-GG-04732-CVIP with Atlanta Police Foundation named as a sub-awardee in the Grant in an amount not to exceed \$171,000.00. Effective upon BOC approval through the term of the Grant. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0447 District Attorney

Request approval of an award without competition - District Attorney, Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) BJA National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Grant, Grant Award No. 15PBJA-21-GG-04323-SAKI, with the Atlanta Police Department named as a sub-awardee in the Grant in an amount not to exceed \$744,802.20. Effective upon BOC approval through the term of the Grant. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0448 District Attorney

Request approval of an award without competition - District Attorney, 2022 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, Award Number 15PBJA-22-GG-04732-CVIP with CHRIS 180 named as a sub-awardee in the Grant in an amount not to exceed \$171,000.00. Effective upon BOC approval through the term of the Grant. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**23-0449 Board of Commissioners**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by removing item #23-0461 as requested by the County Manager; revising items #23-0158 as requested by the County Manager, #23-0431 as requested by Commissioner Hall, and #23- 0465 as requested by Chairman Pitts. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

23-0450 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Regular Meeting Minutes, June 7, 2023

Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, June 21, 2023

Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, June 21, 2023

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

23-0451 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Dr. Joseph Henry Beasley Appreciation Day."
(Arrington)

Proclamation recognizing "Muslim American Heritage Month."
(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/ Ellis/Thorne/ Barrett/Hall)

PUBLIC HEARINGS**23-0452 Board of Commissioners**

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

6 Speakers: Greg Fann (Internships); Julie Allen (Item #23-0454); Julian Bene (Item #23-0464); Paul Hershey (Board of Registration/Elections); Desiree Thomas (Funding) and Richard Rose (Reparations)

2 Zoom Speakers: Kevin Muldowney (Item #23-0454/Board of Registration/Elections) and Ben Howard (Senior Services)

Emailed Comment: NONE

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****23-0453 County Manager**

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

23-0454 Finance

Request approval of a Resolution setting proposed 2023 Millage Rates for the General Fund at 9.3724 mills in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32.1(A)(9); authorizing advertisement of the proposed General Fund millage rate of 9.3724 mills along with the five-year millage rate history and advertisement of the dates for the required public hearings; authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to sign the pending appeals - for properties other than public utilities for the tax year 2023 to allow the Digest to be submitted to the State Department of Revenue; and Authorizing the County Attorney to petition the Superior Court of Fulton County for an order authorizing the immediate and temporary collection of 2023 taxes pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-310, if it becomes necessary. **(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve advertising the proposed 2023 Millage Rate at 9.37. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Nay: Pitts, Thorne, and Ellis

Did Not Vote: Hall

b. A substitute motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve advertising the proposed 2023 Millage Rate at 9.1. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, and Ellis

Nay: Pitts, and Barrett

Abstain: Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Hall, and Arrington

c. A substitute motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve advertising the proposed 2023 Millage Rate at 9.05.

Vice-Chairman Ellis withdrew the motion.
Commissioner Thorne withdrew the second.

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve advertising the proposed 2023 Millage Rate at 9.2724. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Pitts, and Thorne

Did Not Vote: Hall

23-0455 Finance

Request approval of July 12, 2023 Budget Soundings. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis, and Arrington

23-0158 Human Resources Management

~~Request approval of the proposed plan design to extend a childcare/elder care benefit to eligible employees as part of Fulton County's benefits package.~~
(APPROVED AS AMENDED)

Request approval of an agreement with Care.com in an amount not exceed \$632,000.00 for a term of 12 months, effective from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024, with no renewals to implement the proposed plan design to extend a childcare/dependent care benefit to eligible employees as part of Fulton County's benefit package. To protect the interests of the County, the County Attorney is authorized to approve the agreement as to form and make any necessary modifications thereto prior to execution by the Chair.

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

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

Nay: Ellis

Abstain: Thorne

23-0456 Human Resources Management

Request approval of revisions to the Lateral Transfer Policy - 317-16.
(APPROVED)

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

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis

23-0457 External Affairs

Request approval for Fiscal Agent Agreement between Fulton County, Georgia for the benefit of, and on behalf of, the Fulton County Reparations Taskforce with Atlanta University Center Consortium (AUCC) to facilitate the study of empirical data on behalf of the Fulton County Reparations Taskforce. Amount \$210,000.00. Effective upon approval and continue through December 31, 2023, but subject to automatic renewal from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, unless sooner terminated. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the Agreement as to form and to make necessary modifications thereto prior to execution.

(APPROVED AS AMENDED)

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Barrett to specify the deliverables/scope of work. The motion passed by the following vote:

- Yea:** Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman
- Nay:** Thorne, and Ellis
- Did Not Vote:** Pitts

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

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

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman 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, and Thorne
- Did Not Vote:** Ellis

23-0458 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to increase the spending authority - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 22ITB134621K-JAJ, Roof Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement Services Countywide, in the amount of \$494,624.40 with Ideal Building Solutions, LLC (Norcross, GA), to provide replacement and installation of new roof system at the Evelyn G. Lowrey Library at Cascade located at 3665 Cascade Road, Atlanta, GA 30312. Effective upon BOC approval until satisfactory completion as determined by Fulton County. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Arts and Libraries

23-0459 Arts and Culture

Request approval of five (5) contracts related to the FY2023 Special Projects Commissioner Initiatives Arts Funding recommendations totaling \$134,000.00 for the following organizations: Alpharetta Symphony Orchestra (\$9,000.00), Music South Corporation, d/b/a African American Philharmonic Orchestra (\$15,000.00), Music Education Group (\$75,000.00), Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra (\$20,000.00), and Q. Parker Legacy Foundation (\$15,000.00). Funds have been identified and are available in the Department of Arts & Culture’s FY 2023 budget. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Nay: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

Health and Human Services**23-0460 Senior Services**

Request approval to increase the spending authority - Senior Services, 23RFP137278A-CJC - Comprehensive Nutrition Care in an amount not to exceed \$1,134,963.80 with Open Hand Atlanta, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) to provide congregate and home delivered meals, meal delivery, nutrition education and nutrition counseling for Fulton County residents aged 60 and above. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis

Justice and Safety**23-0461 State Court**

Request approval to increase the spending authority, State Court, Substance Use Disorder (“SUD”) monitoring in the amount of \$180,000.00 with Avertest, LLC, (Richmond, VA) to provide SUD monitoring services delivered via Aversys, a proprietary web-based application, drug testing services and products for the Fulton County DUI Treatment Court. Effective January 1, 2023 to September 25, 2023. **(REMOVED)**

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS****23-0383 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority), Article 2 (County Governing Authority), Division 2 (Rules of Order and Procedure), Section 101-66 (b)(1) of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances in order to impose a distribution requirement before a member of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners may place a proposed Resolution or Ordinance on the Agenda for consideration or final vote; to require that the proposed Resolution or Ordinance appear as a discussion item at the first meeting in which it is introduced and voted on at the second meeting; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD ON 6/7/23 AND 6/21/23) (HELD)**

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

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

Nay: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Ellis

23-0384 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority), Article 2 (County Governing Authority), Division I (Generally), to create a new section 101-75 of the Fulton County Code of Laws to provide a fair, open and transparent procedure for the Board of Commissioners to make Full Board Appointments to various Boards, Commissions, Taskforces, Committees, Councils and Authorities affiliated with, or operating on behalf of Fulton County, Georgia; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD ON 6/7/23 AND 6/21/23) (HELD)**

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

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

Nay: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Ellis, and Arrington

23-0462 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to exercise Fulton County's Home Rule Powers to amend Local Law 2019 Ga. L. 4181 to clarify the process for appointing members of the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections (BRE); and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (FILED)**

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

b. A substitute motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to file. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Barrett, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Hall

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne to modify Legislation to allow the parties to appoint and approve the members to the Board of Registration and Elections.

Chairman Pitts ruled the motion improper.

23-0431 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority), Article II (County Governing Authority Division 1 (Generally), subsection 101-38(a) of the Fulton County Code of Resolutions relating to budgetary controls for members of the Board of Commissioners to provide for the inclusion of paid interns as a permissible use of Commissioners' budgets, and for other purposes. **(Hall) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED ON 6/21/23) (DENIED)**

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

b. A substitute motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to deny. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Barrett, Hall, and Arrington

23-0463 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend the General Provisions and County Governing Authority to create a new Section 101-76 of the Fulton County Code of Laws to define and provide a procedure for the Board of Commissioners to make District nominations to the various Bords, Commissions, Taskforces, Committees, Councils and Authorities affiliated with, or operating on behalf of Fulton County, Georgia; and for other purposes. **(Barrett) (HELD)**

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

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

Nay: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Ellis

23-0464 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the County Manager and the County Attorney to negotiate and present to the Board of Commissioners an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County, Georgia, the City of Atlanta, Georgia, and the Atlanta Board of Education to share in the costs related to an independent audit of the appraised value of certain commercial properties located within Fulton County, Georgia, and for other purposes. **(Barrett) (HELD)**

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

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

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

Nay: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Ellis

23-0465 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution amending Resolution #22-0546 to authorize the donation of \$500,000.00 to the Atlanta Technical College Foundation, Inc. ("The ATC Foundation") instead of the Atlanta Technical College ("ATC") to reflect the donation to the foundation to support ATC's expansion of its commercial driver's license program (the "program") in Fulton County, Georgia, to enhance economic opportunities for the citizens of Fulton County, Georgia; directing the County Manager and County Attorney to negotiate a contract between Fulton County and the ATC Foundation regarding the use of said funds for the program; authorizing the Fulton County Finance Department to expend such funds after the County Manager identifies the source of said funding under the approved County budget; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Barrett

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Open & Responsible Government

23-0466 Human Resources Management

Presentation of Fulton County's new Mental Health Resiliency Program. **(HELD)**

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY THE COUNTY MANAGER

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

23-0467 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Open and Transparent Government **(Thorne) (HELD)**

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER THORNE

23-0468 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Ordinance to Amend the Rules of Order and Procedure of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to change the Recess Meeting on the third Wednesday of each month to a Committee of the Whole Work Session; to define the rules for the Committee of the Whole Work Session; to change the process for adding items to the Regular Agenda of the Regular Meetings; and for other purposes. **(Barrett) (HELD)**

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED COMMISSIONER BARRETT

EXECUTIVE SESSION**23-0469 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-Chairman Ellis, Commissioners: Thorne, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier.

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve representation in items #1 and #2 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

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve settlement authority in item #5 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Ellis, and Hall

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve the contract identified in item #6 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis, and Hall

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve the settlement authority in the add-on item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Ellis

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 12, 2023
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solution, LLC

(Whereupon, the meeting was called to order at 10:26 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Good morning everyone and welcome to the July 12th Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. I'm Robb Pitts; I chair the Board of Commissioners. Madam Clerk, please call the roll for purposes of a quorum."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chairman Bob Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Present."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Please rise for the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. It's 10:27 a.m."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **23-0436**, 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 Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any items on the consent agenda?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "If not, I'll entertain a motion to approve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, Regular Meeting Agenda, **23-0449**, Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, there are items to be revised on today's Regular Meeting Agenda. First, we have an item to be removed on page 9, 23-0461: Request approval to increase the spending authority to provide substance abuse disorder monitoring services. The item is to be removed from today's agenda and to be heard at a later meeting. Items to be revised: On page 8, 23-0158, Human Resource Management. This item was revised to amend the requested action and to add the service agreement: Request approval of an agreement with Care.com in an amount not to exceed \$632,000 to implement the proposed planned design to extend a childcare/dependent care benefit to eligible employees. On page 10, 23-0431, item revised to include an amended Resolution sponsored by Commissioner Hall: Request approval of an ordinance to amend Fulton County Code of Resolutions relating to budgetary controls to provide for the inclusion of paid interns as a permissible use of Commissioners' budgets. And also on page 10, Commissioners' Items, 23-0465 item has been revised to include an amended Resolution and associated contract. This request approval of a Resolution amending Resolution 22-0546 to authorize the donation of \$500,000 to the Atlanta Technical College Foundation instead of the Atlanta Technical College."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else?"

CLERK GRIER: "That's all I have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. There's a motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "23-0450, Ratification of minutes. Regular Meeting minutes, June 7th. Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, June 21st; and Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, June 21st, 2023."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "23-0451, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing 'Dr. Joseph Henry Beasley Appreciation Day sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, it's 10:32. Commissioners, we have a rather extensive agenda here and after this meeting, we'll adjourn this meeting and immediately convene the follow-up work session meeting. So we'd like to keep us on a schedule. We got to make up 30 minutes, which I know we can do; and I'd like to convene the second meeting today no later than 2:45."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It is certainly an honor to be able to present this proclamation today to Dr. Joseph Beasley. The proclamation reads as follows: WHEREAS, Dr. Joseph Henry Beasley was born to sharecroppers on a rural plantation in Inman, Georgia on December 27th, 1936 and received his primary education in a segregated one-room schoolhouse; and WHEREAS, Dr. Beasley's family relocated to Cincinnati, Ohio where he excelled in the local public schools. He later earned his bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Park College and attended graduate school at Clark Atlanta University; and WHEREAS, Dr. Beasley was the southern regional director of the National Rainbow PUSH Coalition founded by the Reverend Jesse Jackson Sr., and President of African Ascension, an organization he formed to develop economic and political ties throughout Africa and the African Diaspora; and WHEREAS, Dr. Beasley served as a board member for the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York City, Afronet in Lusaka, Zambia, Afrobras in São Paulo Brazil, Christ Institute in Atlanta, and is chairman of both the Benedita da Silva International Foundation and the Asian American Center, both in Atlanta, Georgia, and serves on the Board of the African Leadership Magazine; and WHEREAS, Dr. Beasley has received many awards and recognitions for his humanitarian work including an honorary doctorate degree and features in the New York Times, Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, and numerous other publications in major television networks, the library at Zumbi dos Palmares College in São Paulo Brazil is also named in his honor. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Dr. Joseph Henry Beasley for his tireless work as a human rights activists; and does hereby proclaim today, Wednesday July 12, 2023, as 'Dr. Joseph Henry Beasley Appreciation Day' in Fulton County. Let's give them a big round of applause."

"I understand Dr. Beasley couldn't be with us today, he's feeling a little under the weather, but is there someone that wants to accept this on his behalf or speak on his behalf?"

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: "Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Oh please give a round of applause for Dr. Beasley. I'm going to be real brief, because at least two more people want to say something we'll be really brief. But, for housekeeping purposes, Dr. Beasley lives one block up. A group of us are going to walk this proclamation up. He was set to be here today. He has been under the weather for a couple of years now. But Dr. Beasley is a giant -- I mean if you know this gentleman, he literally brings the world right here in the heart of Atlanta, right here in the heart of Fulton County. How does he do that? Dignitaries and leaders from all over the world convene in that awesome condo that is like a museum, if you've ever been there. So, please, just one more time for Dr. Beasley."

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: "You know I just want to quickly briefly give some more context of Dr. Beasley. Dr. Beasley is one of those gentlemen who met with Nelson Mandela when he was in prison. And when Nelson Mandela was freed, they brought them here to Atlanta, he and others, organized a presidential campaign and then went back to South Africa to organize a voter Registration Drive in South Africa. Hence, we all know the history that the ANC became a global body and Mandela won the election and ended a step forward to the modern-day of ending apartheid. That vision of that time is still living today. As mentioned in the proclamation, the dos Palmares University in Brazil was established for the African Brazilians who did not have access to education, and this is something that Dr. Beasley led. He and others and a group of us went to the Vatican to meet with the Pope of Rome to discuss Haiti and the land that the Catholic Church owns in Haiti today. And Dr. Beasley, who is so gracious, was able to bring forth a conversation about the doctrine of Discovery that has yet to be dealt with, and he has been -- that's been one of his missions. I've had the fortune to work with him, travel around the world with him, be a part of the foundation, a part of his work. And I just want to say, again, this is a very, very beautiful moment that the county that he lives in and resides in, has been a diligent worker in, and has been on the opposite side, both sides of many situations, and he is being recognized. So to the Commission, to Brother Marvin Arrington, to all of y'all just we're just so grateful that you all acknowledged this. Thanks again."

TIM: "Very briefly, I just want to say I'm very proud and I'm very excited that you all are recognizing my mentor. Joe Beasley's been my mentor for well over ten years. He taught me how to negotiate with power. You remember during the occupy movement, when we were running around beefing with police, Joe said y'all fighting the wrong ones. You're fighting the wrong institution. And instead of shaking his finger, Joe brought Reverend Jackson down -- Jesse Jackson, and 50 pastors and he said, Tim, I want you to get all of the leaders, bring them down to SunTrust, and he marched us inside and we did a sit in; and he was able to negotiate a major victory around, you

know, economic reparations that were needed to be paid alone for folks who have been ripped off by SunTrust. And that changed the course of that movement. Without -- without that, we wouldn't have had the housing justice league. Because Joe taught me how to go to the root of the problem, and he also taught me how to, you know, think globally about the issues that we're fighting here. So I am really excited to stand here in honor of my mentor and the person that I stand on the shoulders of, and I'm really excited to walk this over with ya'll. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. We're going to get a group photo."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Muslim American Heritage Month' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can we get all supporters, members of the Muslim community, all our Imams, all of our business owners, all of our doctors, our lawyers, our community organizations, our supporters, our friends; even the friends of the Muslims, would you please join us, Bishop Fann and others. All of the clergy that's here, please, join us. This is a great and momentous occasion; whereas, Fulton County is taking the lead and has with the interaction of me and the Voices of Muslims, to show appreciation for the Islamic community and the contributions that the Islamic community has made. And so, as we wait for our -- my Imam, Imam Farrakhan, if you could come on the other side -- today is a great, great day because you see many faces of diversity as I stand here. You see Muslims and Christians that understand that we should run all in a race to all that is good for the community. And so, it is with great immense pride that I ask Brother Marcus -- can you stand with us as well, brother. You've done so much work in the community with the Muslims and the non-Muslims. And please stand with us as well; I would be so honored. And, brother -- I'm sorry; I can't think of your name; charge to my head and not my heart -- Tim, Tim. I'm sorry, Tim; if you come stand with us as well. And if it's anybody else that feels the need, because this is about unity in the community today. It's not about Commissioner Khadijah. It's about people working together to all that is good. It is with immense pride that this proclamation: WHEREAS, Muslims make up 25 percent of the global population and Islam in the world's fastest growing religion; and WHEREAS Muslims around the world and in the United States, specifically, constitute a racially and culturally diverse group that is bound together by a shared belief and diversity and strength and unity as power; and WHEREAS, Muslim Americans have contributed to every part of the economy, culture, education, and identity of Georgia and the United States in making advancements in architect, the arts, business, culture, diplomacy, government, law, medicine, the Armed Forces, and national security, religion, and sports; and WHEREAS, there's a need for public education, awareness, discourse, and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Muslim Americans; and WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Georgia has implemented House Bill 360 relating to holidays and observances of Muslim Americans in Georgia, and has designated the month of July in each year as Muslim American Heritage Month in the State of Georgia. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of

Commissioners recognizes the contributions of Muslim Americans and encourages all citizens to participate in appropriate ceremonies, programs and activities that commemorate and honor the contributions of Muslim Americans; and does hereby proclaim the month of July 2023 as 'Muslim American Heritage Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. And this is a complete proclamation signed on by all of the Commissioners standing here that I take immense pride in they being able to announce that. Would you please put your hands together. I've got some brief remarks. I'm going to turn the mic over to Voices of Muslim, Brother Donald -- I'm sorry, brother. I always talk to you by your nicknames. I don't want to do a disservice so I want you to, Don, just make sure that you recognize that and tell everybody who you are."

BROTHER DON: "As-salamu alaikum. That means peace beyond to you to everybody that may not know. My name is Don. I wanted to say real quick to Brother Rahim, thank you very much for being able to put all of this together. I am one of the executive members with Voices of Muslims. I joined mid last year with them, and they're doing great work. We're doing great work in bringing Muslim American Heritage Month to you guys. We have a 30-city tour, four counties. Fulton County, we're really appreciative of you guys taking the lead to bring this to fruition and we're looking forward to working with you guys more so. Thank you. Oh, and Tedgina is one of our other core members. Without her hard work, I want to give her a shout out too, so thank you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And for those of you that want to know, Tedgina's usually dressed just like this and I'm usually dressed like her. So she didn't get the memo last night, but that's my sister and I love her dearly. Brother Imam -- Imam Kleeman, please offer a few words as we close."

IMAM KLEEMAN: "Yes. We'd like to also thank the Fulton County Commissioners for making this proclamation; and a special thanks to our Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman for all the hard work that she has done to make this possible as she does every day here in these chambers. As you see, we are a very, very diverse, two billion Muslims throughout the world, probably 12 million here in the United States, 200,000 here in Georgia, and then a good number of that 200,000, probably the majority, live in Fulton County. And the Pugh Study says that 79 percent of Muslims vote. So -- but also, there's a good number of us like myself who are born and raised, like Khadijah, born and raised here in Fulton County, here in Atlanta, and we just thank you all. And we take great pleasure in this proclamation also coinciding with the day dedicated for Joseph Beasley who's a hero to all of us. Thank you, thank you very much."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And on that note, unless any of my colleagues would like to say anything, we're going to take the photo."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners? All right, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, Public Hearings, **23-0452**, 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 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 30 minutes. In the event the 30-minute time limit is reached, prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we will start with the speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received six speaker cards. Would all six speakers please come forward: Greg Fann, Julie Allen, Julian Bene, Paul Hershey, Desiree Thomas, and Richard Rose."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, speakers when you have 15 seconds left of the two minutes, I'll simply say 15 seconds and that's your key to -- to conclude your remarks. Morning Bishop."

BISHOP GREG FANN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners, Chairman -- Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Greg Fann. Hey, Dick, how you are doing? I'm here today representing the South Fulton Ministerial Alliance, and I'm coming to express our condolences to Commissioner Arrington for the loss of his father. We know that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal, and love you, brother, and we're here to support you. Also, I want to talk about agenda item 23-0431. You know I'm an employee fighter. I fight for employees. I know you all haven't seen me in a while, but I'm back, Dick. I'm back. I want to tell you that, you know, you guys - this issue is dear to my heart because young people need an opportunity to learn how government works. And the biggest place that they can learn is from those of you who are elected officials because these will be our future elected officials. So I'm asking you if you would support this agenda item, and I've already talked to Sharon. Sharon, I would like to have a little meeting to talk about how we can do it in a global way in bringing forth to you guys in terms of how we can help our young people globally as we deal with these interns. Thank you so very much. Oh, Bob, good seeing you, too. And you guys as always, God bless you, God bless your family, and God bless America. Thank you. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

JULIE ALLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I'm Julie Allen, Dana Barrett's, District 3 constituent notably mentioned in her most recent podcast. Let's see if Commissioner Arrington, if you can make it through public comment today without abandoning us. My concerns are with the millage rate proposed on today's agenda. As an engaged constituent, I support Commissioner Barrett's concerns that residential taxpayers are

taxed excessively due to the disparity in assessed valuations for commercial real estate. I'm also here to remind you that free and fair elections should be a bipartisan concern and that this Board's willingness to engage in litigation over the interpretation of the word 'shall' in county ordinance section 1433 is wasteful. Making it easy to vote and harder to cheat isn't Jim Crow, its common sense. Why did you refuse to appoint Jason Frazier who, according to his March 16th report to the Board of Registrations and Elections save Fulton County money as a volunteer reporting 20,000 duplicate registrations for which the county is required to have a ballot marking device for every 250 people on the voter rolls? What is the cost of Fulton County for each duplicate voter? I'm here also to remind you that the use of taxpayer funds by the Board of Registrations and Elections to pay criminal attorneys to halt a motion to unseal and inspect absentee ballots previously ordered by Judge Brandon Merrill was wasteful. I must also ask you if we don't have money and need a millage rate increase, why did you wastefully fund \$250,000 to fund -- to study reparations. Lastly, I want to commend Representative Mesha Mainor, too. Far too long the Democratic Party has gotten away with using and abusing the black community. Her courage to support educational freedom from underperforming schools for her constituents and refusal to support her party's efforts to defund police make her a catalyst for real effective change needed, and justify her decision to walk away --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JULIE ALLEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- from harassment of private school educated white male Democrats like Josh McCloran who defends party loyalty over conscience. The Democratic Party left her and all of us wanting to embrace left-wing radicalism. Fulton Strong is not Fulton Divided."

JULIAN BENE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners, Julian Bene. I'm here to speak about Resolution 23-0464, commercial property appraisal. We're losing hundreds of millions a year through under appraisal of these trophy properties, not tens of millions as stated in the Resolution. And it is time that this Commission got urgent about getting the Board of Assessors to fix this problem. It's not a state revenue law -- problem fundamental. Revenue wouldn't like prestige buildings like 725 Ponce, 1180 Peachtree, and 170 17th Street sell for hundreds of millions more than their appraisals. We who want action support an independent deep dive into examples of these big valuation misses to learn what happened, that would be constructive. But the solution eventually is clear. The Board of Assessors need to hire independent appraisers who are expert in trophy property valuation and a season outside real estate tax attorney to win the appeals. To fund that team, the county may need to allocate a slightly a bigger budget to the assessors. It will be the highest return investment that you could make. Your constituents deserve fairness. Commercial property paying tax on an average 53 percent of market value is not fair. It starves our schools; it starves affording housing initiative and other priorities. Please let's fix this. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

PAUL HERSHEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners, and I'd like to offer my condolences to Commissioner Arrington on the loss of your father. Those are tough. I'm here to speak today and thank you, Commissioner Pitts, for recognizing me on the floor today. As a recognized member of the floor, I'd like to make a motion from the floor to produce the memorandum or the motion that was authenticated to extend Mike Wingate on the Board of Elections. And if that is an automatic extension, that's not following Robert's Rules of Order. So I would like to see that motion that he was seated and authenticated as a additional term or an interim term, or an intermittenary -- prior to the filing of the lawsuit. And when you look at the lawsuit, there was no -- there was no seat to fill. So where is the motion? Why wasn't it public? Why did two Commissioners on your committee have no knowledge of that being done? And I'd like the County Attorney to look into that because obviously there was a meeting somewhere and violated the Sunshine Law. And as a member, I would like that motion authenticated and hopefully somebody will second it. I just heard a second. So the bottom line is I want to see that motion, and it's required under Robert's Rules of Order. Thank you."

DESIREE THOMAS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi, good morning. My name is Desiree Thomas, and I'm a resident of the 6th District, and I'm also the local campaign manager at the Amplified Georgia collaborative, which is a reproductive justice organization that's based here in Atlanta. I'm here today to ask Fulton County to match or exceed the donation that the City of Atlanta has just made to ARCE Southeast, Access Reproductive Care Southeast, which is Georgia's only abortion clinic. Since the overturning of Roe v Wade last year, ARCE has distributed \$421,000 to 1,240 Georgians who are seeking abortion care. The total cost of the request was over \$1.5 million, folks; so you'll have to do that math and fill that gap. And so, that is over a one million-dollar gap. I'm asking the Commission to meet or exceed the donation that the City of Atlanta made of \$300,000 to ARCE Southeast. I've e-mailed all of your offices to try to set up time to talk about why this is important, and I would love if y'all could follow up. I will send those e-mails out again this afternoon, so be on the lookout for that. It's important to fund abortion. Since Roe versus Wade, the Georgia six-week abortion ban has gone into effect, meaning that people who need abortion care in Georgia have to go as far as Maryland, DC, Illinois, New York to access abortion care. All of the surrounding states around us have just passed abortion bans as well ranging from six weeks to 12 weeks. And so that means that people are having to go further, spend more money, get longer childcare, take more time off of work to get the care that they need. And so that's super messed up, and I know that you all know that and can feel that, especially those of you who know somebody who's had an abortion. All of us love someone who's had an abortion, and so I just really want to encourage the Fulton County to do that. In some of the conversations that I've had with you about that, there's been conversations about there being the funding being restricted to Fulton County residents, and I would love to talk to you about why that is it --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

DESIREE THOMAS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and so, yeah, be on the lookout for those e-mails, I would love to have these conversations with you about abortion funding. And the City of Atlanta is challenging, y'all, to make that donation, and so I know y'all don't want to look like y'all ain't standing up like Atlanta. So thank y'all."

RICHARD ROSE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, I'm Richard Rose. I appreciate this opportunity to speak to the Commission. To Marvin, Jr., condolences for the loss of your father. I wish it were true that racism is a problem of the past. I wish it were true that racist laws, racist policies, and racist practices have not created an underclass of citizens based on race. I wish it were true that government, federal government, state government, Fulton County government would be free from racism. I wish. As we recited the Pledge of Allegiance, I was reminded that in 2023, a hundred and fifty-eight years since the end our Civil War, there is still considerable support in and out of government for the flag of the defeated Confederate States of America. This is duplicity at best. They claim allegiance to the flag -- the flag -- the American flag, but honor the principles of white supremacy that was the cornerstone of the Confederacy. This duplicity is promoted by Brian Kemp and the Republican led Georgia legislature and should be recognized. Let us be reminded that intentionality is required. The encountered effects of over 400 years of racial oppression at every opportunity. I urge this Commission to take every opportunity to counter oppression as you deliberate. And I applaud your refusal to appoint the voting rights terrorists to the Fulton County Election Board. Thank you."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, we're doing great. Come on, speaker."

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

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. Kevin Muldowney, District 2 resident. I'm sure you all agree that most of your constituents are facing tough economic times. Inflation is at a forty-year high, housing for many has become unaffordable. This is hardly the time to raise the millage rate on top of the increase in appraised value that we will be subject to. A cursory glance at today's agenda reveals many requests that read, 'Request for approval to increase spending authority'. In these tough times, Fulton needs to become more efficient in delivering essential services. Point and fact, the department I some familiarity with, the elections department spends more than four times per voter what neighboring Cobb County spends. There's also a request to spend another \$210,000 to study reparations that automatically renews in 2024. This is to study the best way to pay folks that were never enslaved, money from folks that were never slaveowners. More and more pork barrel spending. When the millage rate came up last year, Commissioner Hall, I believe you said I just can't see us increasing a millage rate on our residence. Nothing has

changed. Inflation is a heavy burden, and we need -- we need efficiencies. We don't need to keep feeding the beast. Commissioner Arrington, your proposed agenda item, 23-0462, seems to clarify nothing but the Board's ability to reject a screened and qualified candidate for no defined reason. We have such a candidate, but it's a Fulton resident that is not running for office. He conforms to the criteria and should be approved for the BRE. Thank you very much."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "We do have one additional speaker and that is Ben Howard."

BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings one and all. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. Prior to leaving for their vacation, Senior Services Management should have arranged to have the agenda for tomorrow's July 16th meeting of the Commission on Elder Affairs posted to replace the June meeting agenda which is still online. And why does quote: 'senior services update' unquote continue to be a one-liner on the agenda with its myriad aspects instead of having dispute to the bullets as in Section 8 of the agenda committee reports? And Riddle me this: The Fulton County Housing Authority has two attorneys -- two on its Board of Directors, attorneys who fall under the egis of the Georgia Bar Association and each took an oath to abide by and uphold Georgia state law which includes the Georgia Open Meetings Act; and yet our County Housing Authority does not post its agendas or its meeting schedule for the year; and brazenly does not post its legally mandated summary millage each month. Riddle me that."

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

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No further speakers. We're doing great. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 7, County Manager's Items, under Open and Responsible Government, **23-0453**: Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, by the way for those of you who are interested, homeboy is in the first set in the Wimbledon and will keep us updated -- Commissioner Thorne and Coach Thorne all of us who play ball, we always refer to the coach's wife as coach as well. So her -- you may not know that her husband coached Brother Eubanks at Georgia Tech. Continue. And we'll keep you posted. Oh, wait a minute. He lost the first set, 6 to 4, up 4 to 1 in the second set. All right. And you ought to be there, Commissioner, so anyway. All right, continue, please. Yes, sir."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. Good morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. Our operational report has been forwarded to you. A couple of three highlights. You'll notice in the ORCA section we are now past 107,000 cases being disposed, so that continued work is important in accelerating. The scorecard for the justice system does show an eight day increase in average length of stay to 77 days. And, of course, you know that's a significant driver of the jail population and as well, the felony cases inside the jail on 57 percent being cleared in 365 days also represents a decline in performance. The jail population in 3596 is a hundred worse than the last reporting period, last week or so. So there's plenty of challenges with 33 percent of the detainees unindicted at this point. The jail bridging plan is underway. It's delayed until mid to late July due to still negotiations with NaphCare on providing health care support at the Union City facility, and Alton Adams will describe -- or will discuss some of these in more detail. We've had a couple challenges over the July 4th holiday, one that -- or both I think you are aware of. One is at the fire at the Cleveland Library with extensive damage. I did visit there, and we'll ask Joe to provide a report on that. But we're going to be reassigning that staff for a period of time and also assessing the impact to not only the building, but the books themselves. Also, the disruption at Big Creek Water Reclamation Facility, as you are well aware of, resulted in E. coli increases into the Chattahoochee River. It was a very difficult problem to solve starting with thinking that it was just a pipe, that is the normal case, and finding out ultimately it was a disruption to the biological process. The good news is that David Clark will mention this morning as effectively we're back at normalized levels. So a lot of hard work and, again, thanks to that group over the holiday weekend in staying on top of that. We'll continue to monitor it, and he'll again discuss the details of what we did. And then lastly, we had the -- really great pleasure to participate in something that the Chairman drove with the Atlanta Regional Commission holding a healthcare summit. We were one of the primary speakers there with Dr. Roshell presenting our study that was done with Morehouse and E&Y and how that has led to a conversation regionwide on health equity gap. So again, very pleased to report that to you and she'll discuss that as well as these other two items in more details. The ARPA Financials, which we always include, are in good shape. We do want to report to you that we received five million in reimbursement from FEMA, so that's good news; narrowing that gap of everything that we submitted now to about 11 million still outstanding. The general financials, as you can tell, are in good shape, of course, still with a 14 percent vacancy rate and difficulty in filling positions. So the good news on that side of the equation is it generates salary under runs. The bad news is still dealing with, I think, salaries and inflation rate impacts. We will recommend today as you see on the agenda, a millage rate of 9.3724, which is consistent with the budget assumptions originally adopted. And I think with the increase in the growth rate, which is a good news story that will allow us to accommodate the jail bridging cost already considered and being planned for. In the retreat this afternoon that the Chairman noted, we will bring back a deeper dive on the primary methods for jail financing. I think they're becoming more and more obvious. We had a meeting yesterday afternoon with Commissioner Barrett, and I think she was right on point that as we continue down this path, it's becoming again more obvious that a Geo bond is not

the route to go, but there's still some nuances with P3 and a third-party issuer. And then of course, being able to layer in a sales tax is the thing that would be most beneficial and we are doing further work on that. And had a very good meeting with ACCG staff on others that are, as well, looking at sales taxes to finance the facilities. The big news, I think from the retreat -- and Mr. Chairman, if we don't -- if we end up running short on time, the retreat can be reduced or you can simply take this material under advisement, is a framework, I think, by Sharon, Hakeem, and Sabrina, the finance staff, to really chart out over a five-year period what I think is a manageable millage rate. As you know, it's been extraordinarily daunting at times to look at what the millage rate impacts would be. But with a more conservative finance view, the increase in the base this year and some modest expense controls, I think we would be in the, again, mid 10s at a flat rate from 9.37 and be able to absorb these costs. So if we can layer in sales tax on top of that, then even better; but that's again the good news from -- from the work that's been done. So with that, I'll say, Mr. Chairman, we're ready to move into this starting with Mr. Adams and we'll stop at the end of each section with any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir. Mr. Adams."

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Ellis, Commissioners. I am going to go through the presentation rather quickly and stop for any questions. I know that you've received it previously. First page, as County Manager Anderson indicated, we did pass the hundred thousand cases disposed of a couple weeks ago. We have an additional 40,000 cases remaining to be disposed between now and October of 2024. The next slide shows the trend over the last three months. It also shows a breakdown of disposition by the various agencies. The next slide talks specifically to what happened in the last month, and the progress towards the plan by agency. For the most part, each one of the agencies continues to make progress. The solicitor general, I will point out that their numbers tend to go up and down based on the number of diversion programs they launch in a particular month. Last month was particularly aggressive month in that regard, and I'd also like to point out that they have a largest variance of plan terms of their cases. So overall, we continue to be positive to the planned 37 cases to the good in terms of what one would expect using the straight-line forecast that we put together. This slide shows the hiring plan. As you can see, we still have a number of vacant positions and the right-hand column shows the actual number of positions that were filled or the number of individuals who may have left over the last month or so. For the most part, and no big surprises here, the district attorney did have some attrition. But for the most part, we continue to kind of hire two people at a time, and we lose one person. But for the most part, I think we're holding steady in terms of the number of individuals that we have in the organization. One of the things that -- that is happening, which is actually very positive. I had a discussion with the public defender and he indicated that some of the individuals, in fact, nine individuals that had been hired as part of the ORCA Program had now moved over and taken permanent positions -- permanent vacancies in the public defender's organization, which is a very, very positive thing. We always felt that ORCA could be a good way of helping us deal with attrition as we move forward and

through the program. Next slide, please. This is the justice system scorecard. As County Manager Anderson indicated, you know a couple of things that I'd like to point out. One is we did have an increase in the average length of stay that's caused by a number of things. But here again, that is something that we monitor very closely and certainly aspire to be a lot -- a lot closer to 30 days than we are with our 77 day number today. These numbers will jump around from month to month based on anything from including bookings and the pace of court cases and the like, but certainly something that moved to the negative in the last month. We did see an improvement in the clearance rate for felony criminal cases. That was actually a hundred percent in June, which means the cases -- we had the same number of cases disposed of that came in a very positive development in that regard. We had a bit of an improvement in terms of individuals indicted without other charges. It's a 33 percent of a 36 percent couple of months ago, so that continues to move in the right direction. Next slide, please. As the County Manager indicated, we seem to have plateaued somewhere between 3500 and 3600 individuals in the Fulton County Jail. We did have an increase in the number -- excuse me? We did have an increase in the number in part due to the net increase in terms of bookings in that particular of time. As you can see from the breakdown, we continue to have some increases in terms of the number of individuals housed at AC/DC. And this just gives you a sense for where the individuals that we have in the system are housed. As Mr. Anderson indicated, we will in fact be opening up Union City; so beginning next month we'll be able to indicate to you how many individuals we have at the South Annex as well. Next slide, please. This just gives you a breakdown of that on the table form: Same information, but just perhaps easier to digest if you want to look at the trend. The next slide talks specifically to an analysis of the unindicted individuals, indicted individuals, in the Fulton County jail system. And as you can see, as we sit here today, 33 percent of the individuals are unindicted. We have a number of those who are unindicted with holes and the like. But here again the target for that pre-Covid number was closer to 10 percent, something we aspire to; we are moving in the right direction down from 36 percent two months ago. Next slide, please. All right, this gives you a sense for some of the initiatives and their progress that are designed specifically to deal with the jail population. And we have eight major parties -- focuses. I won't go into detail with any of them. The two that I would point out, one is, we were launching a weekend court officially -- a trial of weekend court officially this weekend. It's the first time that we have done that. And it's really designed here again to add additional capacity to the system. Judge McBurney has volunteered to be the judge for this week. As he pointed out in the meeting yesterday, he's not volunteering to be the judge for every weekend, but he is in fact participating in this pilot. If it, in fact, works it will give us the ability for the first time to really dispose of cases during the weekend and here again, add additional capacity here again, impact positively the average length of stay if we, in fact, able to scale this and continue to make it work. The bench is voting on the competency court -- competency court next week. They have; in fact, -- their committee have looked at what's going on in Savannah with their competency court. Given the number of individuals who we know have struggled with mental health issues in our jail, we think this is a very, very important step. And we really think it represents a best practice, certainly in the northern part of the state in terms of how you deal with

individuals in accelerating their ability to work through the system once they have, in fact, been found competent for trial. The other big milestone for the first time last week since the beginning of COVID, we're now able to give individuals an actual calendar for their preliminary hearings. At the time that they go through first appearance; it's a big deal for us and something that here again will help to accelerate the cases through the system. So with that, Chairman Pitts I'll stop and happy to answer any question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. First before we get to that, news flash, Mr. Eubanks won the second set 6 to 1. So they're tied. All right, Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just a few comments. Thanks for reporting -- I do think on -- we'd previously passed a Resolution related to some details related to kind of the Sheriff. Hopefully, we can get that more codified and in line with the Resolution at the next meeting. So just a couple of things within -- I mean this is really more a statement. You know, we've -- we've heard for a long time now about a number of these reduction initiatives and that sort of stuff, right? But, you know, what we continue to see is really a lack of progress. So it's just --that remains concerning. So, you know the initiatives on paper sound very good, very promising. I know that some of them may have only just started, but the fact that we're not seeing any sort of material progress yet, you know, bears concern. On the -- just so I -- just so I've got this right to -- I've got the number right, I know we'll the numbers more lined up in line with the Sheriff's Resolution when you next report on this; but the number of beds we have access to at AC/DC is 700 or 750."

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "It's 700."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "700, okay. And we've got 468 people there, right?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And the capacity of the Union City facility is --"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "-- approximately 320."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "320. Okay. So between that 320 and what is that, another 200 -- 230 or so people, right, at AC/DC? There's 550 beds that we have access to at the moment that are not being utilized."

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "That's correct. I think the biggest challenge --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- I'm not asking for challenges, I just want to verify what the number is, 550?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "It is. That's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right. And then on the amount of vacancies we have relative to the ORCA roles that were created, it's just really more a statement to just in general. It would strike me then that we are underrunning what we had originally allocated for ORCA out of the ARPA money. And that in conjunction with some of these reimbursements coming in, just highlights for me that potentially we should consider knowing some of the challenges we've got with our budgetary constraints for next year, more aggressively looking at offsetting some of our budgetary spend with ARPA money in 2024. So I just want to note that for the record."

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "If I can, on the ORCA spend, the hiring, we actually took the hiring into account when we extended the budget through October 2024. So if you look at the expenditures there --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- right. But that's still a -- that assumed at some point we were going to catch up and have a reasonable, you know, kind of catch rate, but that vacancy rate's remained fairly persistently low. Did we assume that it was going to be, you know, the vacancy rate -- well, the vacancy rate was going to be persistently high. Did we assume that?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "We did. Because what we had anticipated that we actually made an adjustment to reflect the actual run rate, and then in the forecast, we assumed that we would start to see a decrease in terms of the number of individual beginning in January of 2024 to allow us to extend the period for that additional 10 months."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So what's the -- what's the total number of jobs that we originally allocated versus are vacant? What's that total out to? I see we got the functional area, but what is that?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "We had -- we had originally allocated 310 jobs. The actual number obviously has fluctuated from month to month depending on -- well, I can get you the -- for the next update I can get you the -- kind of the average that we have --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, we don't know what that vacancy number is right now. Is that what you're saying? You don't have that --"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "I don't have that offhand. That's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Well, my point on that still stands. If the number indeed winds up to be sort of a fairly significant number and regardless of that, if we are getting reimbursement, you know, kind of -- you know, funds and that sort of stuff, I do

think we should look at ARPA funding as a potential offset to help us with some of the budgetary gaps in 2024. So I'll stand by the statement. That's all I've got."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Just a couple of quick things. On page 10, you mentioned this was the one where you showed the increases and decreases for average length of stay -- jail population, et cetera. You mentioned the increase in average length of stay and sort of referred to various reasons; but I think my question is really, given that we've had, you know, a positive result in clearance rate for felony criminal cases at 31 percent increase there, why is the average length of stay up? Are we -- are we only -- are we clearing like easy cases or non-jail cases or what's -- why is that not correlating better?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "I think you identified one of the reasons which is everyone who was charged with a felony is not in jail, so you're not going to have a one-to-one correlation. And so, that's -- that's part of the reason, Commissioner. I can -- I can delve a little deeper into that. That's probably the biggest one. I mean we have, you know, thousands of felony cases, but the large -- a large percentage of those are not in the Fulton County Jail. They have been (inaudible) on bail and the like."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I think in one of your comments you mentioned prioritizing jail cases, I'm just wondering if there's anything else we can do to sort of push buttons to make that the case so that we are prioritizing the folks that are in jail versus not?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "One of the things that the judges do get on a, I think, a daily basis is a roster of the individuals that are in the jail and if you go on the Fulton County website, it does list the actual number of individuals by judge who are detained in the Fulton County Jail. So that information's available. And it's my understanding that it's being pushed to the judges on a regular basis by the administration in Superior Court."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, obviously we like to encourage them to take those first when possible. The only other question I had, and this might be more of a County Manager question. When we spoke about this, I believe it was the last meeting; we --I talked about getting our maintenance report as it related to the jail. Is that something that is going to be in the DREAM report separately or will it come with this report normally, or how are we going to do that?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No, ma'am, I think the plan would be when we have -- when we begin that work, we'll include it in this report, that's being reported monthly. But no work has begun yet due to what I said, which was the Union City facility not available yet to transfer prisoners there until we have a medical provider in place, so that therefore we haven't started the blitz plan as outlined."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I think, just for clarity's sake, and I'm not sure if I've made this clear last time, but in addition to just getting the blitz report, I think it would be good to have an overall maintenance report, how many requests in and how many were turned around, you know, where they came from and that kind of thing."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We covered that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, so -- do we have the ETA for the blitz report also?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Well, the blitz report would be as soon as we began operating in that mode, which is probably -- I hesitate a little bit because the last thing we heard was the end of July, but in speaking to the Sheriff, he's still trying to aim for mid July to begin. So between, I think, middle to end of July we will be getting it and that report will be available."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, great. Thank you so much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Other comments? Mr. Manager, continue, sir."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Dr. Roshell."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS: "Good morning, Commissioners. Just to add some additional context to the County Manager's remarks about the health summit. The county will use the recommendations that ARC is going to compile. They have committed to compiling the recommendations from that summit. We will be using those recommendations and incorporating them into the five-part solution set that we are continuing to work on. On August 17th, we will host a bevy of stakeholders in the health disparities space to look at our roadmap for addressing health disparities, especially in South Fulton, and we'll again use those recommendations as a part of that roadmap. Next slide, please. Moving on to the Cleveland Library: As you are aware, solar panels contributed to a fire at the Cleveland Avenue Library. The library continues to be closed. As you can see here, the library has sustained extensive damage in addition to Joe's team assessing the damage and determining a reopening date and restoration plan. Gayle Holloman is also looking at any opportunities to salvage any of the materials; however, in the past when libraries have sustained water damage and books have been damaged, it has not ended well as far as restoring books. So Joe, I'll turn it to you for any additional comments about restoration and reopening of the branch."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "Good morning, Commissioners. Right now, our contractor is completing the initial water extraction and debris extraction that was the result of both the fire itself as well as the firefighting effort that put a lot of water in the facility. Right now, we are anticipating sometime in the middle of next week once that

work has been completed, to have the full project plan as it relates to repairing the roof, repairing the interior of the facility, replacing the books, and things of that nature. But we hope to have a full timeline in the middle of next week that we'll provide to county leadership as it relates to when we can project with reasonable certainty the reopening timeframe for the library."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Next slide -- I'm sorry, go ahead, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. So my -- solar panels caused the fire. So is the manufacturer going to pay for the cost to repair this? I mean like, is that a product liability case?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "Commissioner Arrington, the initial thought, if you will, was that it was the solar panels. However, the City of Atlanta fire inspector, upon their further, you know, inspection of the facility, can't reasonably determine that it was the solar array that caused the issue. However, that particular solar array is one that we own. It was the first that we installed, that was a function of a grant that we received; however, we have reached out to the installer to be a part of the overall assessment. We've also reached out to our other solar partner to get their engineers to take a look at it to give us another bird's eye view, so to speak, to determine whether or not it was actually from the solar array. It's very odd that we have solar arrays on about eight facilities in the county for us to have this type of a problem, particularly given the fact that it occurred on the morning of July 5th. But we do not know at this point with a certainty that it was the solar array. In fact, the initial report or response that we received from the City of Atlanta fire inspector is that it's really difficult to determine what actually caused the problem."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Dr. Roshell."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Continuing to the Big Creek update, David Clark and his team have done an amazing job with addressing the issue there. They have implemented an aggressive strategy to restore the biological process to the appropriate levels, so I'll turn it over to you, David, to provide an update on what public works team has done."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Sure. Thank you very much, Dr. Roshell. David Clark, Director of Public Works here. First, I just want to give you quick little bit of background on the Big Creek facility. The Big Creek facility is Fulton County's largest wastewater treatment facility. Normally, we are treating between 22 and 24 million gallons a day of waste water through a conventional biological treatment process. However, the day-to-day operations of the facilities actually are handled by a third-party vendor. That company's name is Veolia. Veolia works side-by-side with

Fulton County staff to make sure that the daily operations of the plants, not just Big Creek, but all of our wastewater treatment plants meet our high level of expectations as well as meeting all EPD permit requirement. Since this incident has happened, Veolia has been extremely responsive. They've brought in subject matter experts on biological processes to help us restart the process, and they've been with us on the front lines every step of the way. Second appraisal is how did we get to this point? What have we done since then? The staff became aware of an issue with high levels of E. coli in the Chattahoochee River when the Chattahoochee River keepers and National Park Service reached out to us on Wednesday afternoon, June 28th. We immediately started the investigation of trying to figure out where that might be coming from based on eyewitness reports that we received by those two groups, we were led to believe that it was an overflow manhole or a possible broken sewer pipe somewhere in or around the Millennial Park area. So the first several days, Wednesday evening, all day Thursday, all day Friday, we were investigating all of our systems in that area. We went on the river several times with the river keepers as well as the National Park Service looking for areas. The bottom line is we weren't able to find anything. So by Saturday morning, we pretty much felt confidence that our sewer pipes were intact and our infrastructure was good, so we started turning our attention to the operations of the wastewater treatment plants. We are required by EPD to take samples of our wastewater effluent, that's the discharge when you return back to the Chattahoochee River, either five times a week or three times a week, depending on the parameters that were looking for. E. coli, we're required to test three times a week. Our last test was on Wednesday morning, June 28th, and that revealed everything was fine. And so, at that time, we did not know there was a problem at the plants. The test that we took on Friday that came back on Saturday, E. coli test at 24 hours was processed before we have results. So when we found out those results on Saturday morning, it did show an elevated level of E. coli, so then we knew on Saturday, the 30th -- I'm sorry, July 1st, that there was an issue with the plants. We investigated the plant all day on July 1st and July 2nd and came back to the points of we have a failed biology process. What I mean by that is, in wastewater treatments, it's not a chemical treatment process, it is a biological process. There is something that we call good bugs, we use the word bugs in the industry, but it's actually microorganisms that are grown in the plant that consumed the organic material of the wastewater that comes into the plants. Sometime, we think on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning, something entered the plant that was toxic to those good bugs. It could be a something as benign as a large discharge of swimming pool water, for instance. And people want to know how can they kill bugs, and we always say, well; people chlorinate swimming pools to kill bacteria. If that water gets into water treatment plant at one time in large quantities, that chlorine will kill our good bugs just as well as it kills the bad bugs that you don't want to be swimming with. So we don't know what caused it yet, but what happened was it basically knocked out about 80 percent of our biological process. The plant was still operational. The wastewater that was coming into the plants still was receiving all of the screening to remove inorganic matter from the wastewater. It was being partially treated by those good bugs that were still working for us. It still received filtration and disinfection before being released back to the Chattahoochee River. Unfortunately, the volume of wastewater coming in was more

than what the remaining good bugs could do so, therefore, we were releasing high levels of E. coli into the river. So what have we done since that became aware of? First and foremost, we started diverting untreated wastewater from the Big Creek plants over to Cobb County. About two years ago, we had the foresight to institute a diversion line that takes well-treated wastewater from us and sends it to the capacity box at the Cobb County facility. So we started diverting between five and seven million gallons a day starting on Sunday, July 2nd, over to Cobb County. That allows us to have less flow going through our wastewater treatment plants and obviously less flow out into the river. The second thing that we did is we increased our disinfection activities to try to kill as much E. coli and fecal coliform that was making its way through the plants before it reached the river. The third thing that we started doing is we had to restart the biological process, and the way we did that is we started bringing in healthy bacteria, good bugs from John's Creek facility and instituted them into the Big Creek facility. We started that on Monday, July 3rd and we actually started seeing some remarkable improvements with them being happy in their new home, so to speak, starting on Thursday and Friday of last week. Over the weekend, we actually saw them starting to do the treatment process that we want them to be doing and we are well on the way of doing that. Altogether, we have seven parameters that EPD requires us to monitor to make sure that we are in compliance with our permits. All seven at the height of this were out of compliance, but they are now coming back into compliance, but we have two of those seven that are in compliance right now. The numbers that we saw yesterday regarding E. coli and fecal chloroform suggests that we will be back into compliance by the end of the week. For instance, last week our E. coli numbers were over 100,000 parts per hundred milliliters of wastewater. Yesterday, those numbers were down to 385. Our permit requirement is 252, so we have made tremendous amounts of activity towards getting these plants back into operation. The question that we've been getting a lot of is when will the river be reopened? That is the decision that the National Park Service will make. We've been providing them all of our test results on a daily basis. Parts that is what led, I believe to their decision to open a portion of the park this past couple of days ago. And hopefully, they'll be able to open up all of them all together. I mean, just finally, this has been a long two-week process. It is something that unfortunately happens with biology. I mean we can guide the process as best we can. We can't control it necessarily when it comes to biology. But overall, we've had tremendous help with the Chattahoochee River's Keepers, the National Park Service. The cities of Roswell and Sandy Springs have been completely understanding. And, certainly, I can't speak enough for my staff, especially our lab people who are always in behind-the-scenes; nobody ever knows they exist because, fortunately, all of our lab results come back so well. But we have put them in overdrive for the last couple weeks, and they have risen to the challenge, so we're very happy with that. So with that, I'll certainly open it to any questions you may have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir. Commissioner Hall followed by Commissioner, Coach Thorne."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. The question is not for you. Let me start. Let's see, page 35, monthly financially met, we haven't gotten there yet. Let me go back a little bit. I've got quite a few questions. Page 20, jail bridging plan."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I got page 21, Madam Clerk."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Is it?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Mine doesn't have -- I thought it was page 20."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Eubanks is leading up 3-2 in the third set by the way, just while we're waiting. Five-four now. Thank you. Five-four."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. It was on the screen. I think if you go back one. Yes; the column that says, public affairs. When reading that, it only states what the department does. It does not explain why an extra 50,000 is needed and how it will be used. "

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am, I'll try to address that. So --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- before you start, Mr. Manager, he won 6-4."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Wow."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "He won?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, he's up 2-1. Two sets to one."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am. We have a request for proposal out now for public relations support specifically to the overall situation at the jail and then ultimately the replacement jail. We believe that we are best positioned if we get in front of this opposed to getting behind this as Atlanta has found their public safety training center. Interestingly enough, five hundred thousand was our best estimate, but we have three firms that came back just this week as qualified vendors, so we'll know more about that in the ensuing weeks and we'll bring back a proposal to the Board for approval. But the one thing that was interesting, the Chairman and I met with the Mayor of Atlanta this past week and we were telling him about this plan. If you recall, Mr. Chairman, he said I think five hundred thousand is going to be a little low."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, he did."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Their view is about a million, is what will be required in their case over the next several years. So we're going to take that guidance into account as we look at these proposals and then bring back something to the Board to consider. But that's our first cut at a potential number."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Well, that's good input. Definitely, we need to keep the public aware of what's going on and do good public relations. So I'm glad to see that. And then on page 10, I noticed that the average length of stay -- it's on the page that says cumulative case reduction, justice system score card -- that average length of stay increased by eight days. Do we know why?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "I think it was a combination of things, Commissioner Hall. I'll find out in more detail. But it could be an increase in the number of bookings. It could be a delay in terms of the -- the cases for criminal trials. I saw a combination of factors typically feed into that and as I said, that number will fluctuate from month to month, so there will be some months where we see a significant decline or a decline, I don't know if it's significant, but let me find out a little more about what the factors are that played into this particular increase, because it's a simply -- you know, a 10 percent increase is pretty significant."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, because when I saw that, of course, I'm thinking this is definitely going to contribute to the numbers in the jail if people are staying longer. So I'd like to hear more about that. And then, you spoke a little bit about page 7 and the variances, but can you speak a little bit more about why it's so significant?"

ALTON ADAMS, FC PSS & TECHNOLOGY: "The way that the actual forecast itself was developed this week, we basically started -- we drew a straight line from the beginning of the project down to when the funding would run around. It's not the most scientific, right? I mean, ideally, you would kind of go back and you'll do some analysis in different kind of case types, how long it takes, and so on. We didn't have the luxury of that when we actually put the forecast together. So that having been said, what the target represents is basically a straight line from when we started to October of 2024. We know that -- we knew, for example, that we were going to build up a cushion in the beginning because of some of the efforts with magistrate court and the solicitor, and we also knew that there's going to be a slow down at the end as these cases move from the prosecutors into the court system, we know that's going to slow down. So we knew there was going to be a bit of a buildup, and then we knew that we were going to erode some of that as we went through the process. And so that's what's happened, right? We built up this cushion of 37,000 cases. We know that that's going to erode as we go through the next 14 months, as these cases move from the prosecutor, to the prosecuting area, to the actual court system, both state and superior court."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Thank you so much."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just have a few quick questions. You said that you were notified by the River Keepers on Wednesday morning that there was a high outbreak of E. coli. But you also tested Wednesday and it didn't show that outbreak, how -- what's the possible solution there?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "And that's a great question. We test every morning at 7:00 a.m. And so, they noticed it in the afternoon. So it is possible that something happened in the plant overnight on early Wednesday morning that did make its way through the plant when we tested it at 7 o'clock, but by the time that the River Keepers and the National Park Service was in the river that afternoon, it made its way through the plant."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So at 7:00 a.m., do you test like before it goes out into the river or how does that process --"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes. Yes."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. And then -- so it's possible like massive chlorine dump came into the plant and killed the bugs and it just happened in that five-hour window? Okay. And when do you think it's going to open? I mean, I know you have to -- the levels are back down to a normal level, but how long does it take the Park Service to authorize opening the river back up?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "I mean, they're going to have to make that call themselves, so I don't know what their process actually is. We are presenting them with our test results every afternoon; and like I said earlier, they use our results from earlier this week in part to make the decision to open up the lower part that they opened up. So, I mean I'm optimistic that they're going to be able to open them up pretty quickly, especially if we keep seeing numbers in the hundreds range instead of the hundred thousand range."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And then are we expecting to incur some kind of fine or what might that look like from the EPD?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "We've been in touch with the EPD, and they're -- certainly, we are in violation of our permit without a doubt. So there is some sort of action that EPD will have. But everybody's been so focused on making sure we get the plant up and running. We have not gone into those details yet. We're going to have those discussions in the next couple of weeks I can assure you, and once we start understanding the type of direction we'll receive from EPD, we'll certainly brief the Board."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, other questions or comments? If not, Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Yeah, just one quick thing. Just a couple of quick things. Number one, I just wanted to thank our -- thank you, Mr. Clark, and our manager. I mean, I know this is certainly not an event that any of us are happy with; but I want to thank you both for just taking ownership and, you know, dealing with this problem head on as opposed to seek and just sort of diffuse or diminish the issue. I appreciate that, and I think all our citizens do as well. I guess once we kind of get through it, what we also think about maybe different ways to -- anything in the monitoring process we might want to do differently that would try to give us an earlier trigger? Or is it just such -- is it such a rare event that you know it's kind of like the hundred-year flood kind of thing?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "It's not necessarily a rare event. This did happen to Big Creek once before it happened in the early nineties. And we did determine that was a chlorine release into the biological process. What I would say is we are looking at some real time inline monitoring of influence. That's the untreated that's coming into the plant. More importantly, the investment that we're making at the plant right now -- the new 300 million dollar plant, with its membrane technology, there's still a biological process as part of the treatment, but it will have a secondary process with the membranes that we don't have today. This type of event will have a much less impact on the discharge because of that membrane that we don't have today. So I think between some sort of real time inline monitoring, but more importantly with the membranes, this type of event will be extremely rare in the future."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "'So in layman's terms is that more like a current process that's going through sort of one step and then, you know, once fully new and operational, sort of a two-step process?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Exactly."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Oversimplified? Okay."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Exactly. There are two separate treatment processes, the biological and then the membrane; whereas, today we just have the biological."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So in other -- in plants that have been more recently updated like JCC and the Little --"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "-- Little River?"

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Little River, they've got that -- that technology in place. We don't have it yet at Big Creek?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yeah, that's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "When this project is completed, it will."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right, thanks."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Other comments? Anything else, Mr. Clark?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "No."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager? Sorry, Dr. Roshell?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS: "No, sir. That concludes my report, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm sorry. You disappeared on me. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm sorry, Chairman. I just want to take the opportunity to -- I apologize. I wanted to do this early and I got distracted. But to take this opportunity to publicly thank, not only the County Manager, Dr. Roshell, and even you, Chairman, the issue with dealing with the healthcare disparity. The event that was held was not only very informative; it gave me an opportunity to even have further conversations. The gentleman, I believe, with Gwinnett County. We are slated to meet as well. And so, I just wanted to thank your leadership, Chairman, and also the County Manager, Dr. Roshell because not only was it very good information, it got an opportunity even for me to see this issue is touching everybody. Yes, I do live in a healthcare desert, but it is touching the entire State of Georgia. And the individuals that were there came from all kind of background, all colors and creed, and the one prevailing issue was they wanted to see better health outcomes. It was not necessarily in the district in which they live. And I thought that was very not only refreshing, but that was a very liberating thing to see that Fulton County was taking the leadership on that and bringing all of those stakeholders together. So I did learn additional information that I didn't know beforehand. And I also made alliances with people that look absolutely nothing like me. And so I just wanted to thank you all publicly for that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. And Dr. Roshell did a great job for us."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS: "And, yes. Thank you, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman for that remark. I think that the Chairman's urging to have this conversation at a regional level certainly added more attention and complexity to the solutions that we will seek to -- to bring together. And so, this will not, of course, be the last conversation as I indicated. We're working with External Affairs to bring together another

conversation that will really get to developing action plans to make a change. So thank you again, and thank you to Commissioner Barrett for attending as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, I want to also just commend David Clark for being on top of this. Again, as Commissioner Ellis said, managing it head on and doing a terrific job through this issue. Let me ask Sharon if there are any comments on the financial section. Sharon, do you think we need make or questions?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I think you covered the ARPA information along with the FEMA reimbursement in your opening remarks. On the monthly financial report, I was just going to note that our expenditures year-to-date are tracking about 2 percent higher than where they were this time last year. And since we now have our June 30th numbers, the budget analysts are starting the midyear review, expenditure review process. And then from a vacancy reporting capacity, as of June 30th, we're still averaging about 14 -- 14 percent vacancy rate. That has held fairly steady through the first six months of the year. It fluctuates a little bit, but from a rounding prospective, each of them have rounded it back to 14 percent. I think Commissioner Hall said she had a question about something on the report. I was just going to ask if you still had a question. You mentioned something about page 35?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, Sharon. Hold on one second. My only question was I saw several places where there was above 25 percent vacancy rate. And I was just wondering how we were addressing that and, you know, what specifically was the problem. I know just from living day to day and going to the stores. I was recently at Home Depot and they were closing early, and the young ladies told me that people didn't show up for work, which was actually becoming a norm, and that people were literally getting hired and then a day or two later just quitting. So what are we seeing as the problem?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Mr. Hermon, you have anything you want to add relative to turnover in general in positions and anything in particular that you're hearing from our departments about their difficulties in hiring positions? I would say, Commissioner Hall, that some of these vacancies are probably in some part associated with the partial funding that was provided for vacancies this year. So we may see more hiring towards the end of the year as departments are posting their jobs and getting through that recruitment effort now. But Mr. Hermon may have some other insight into what he's seeing on the HR side, the needs from the departments."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay, thank you."

KENNETH HERMON, JR., CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Good afternoon -- good morning, Commissioners. Kenneth L. Hermon, Jr., Chief HR Officer. In general, Commissioner,

you know, it's some of the same teams. We are in a very competitive labor market. And, you know, one of the things that I recently heard from a department is that they found an individual perfect for the job, but the time it took us to extend the offer, get that person on board, that individual had already accepted another competitive job paying roughly the same thing in the private sector that allowed them to move a lot more quicker. So we're working on that from an HR perspective to try to streamline that as much as possible. But then again, there are just so many different options available to employees right now that you might think you have the perfect candidate, but they're also been shopping themselves around to other entities and if our compensation doesn't match to their desire, they choose someone else. If our benefit plan doesn't match, they choose someone else. So those are the kind of things that we're seeing. We might be losing out on some good candidates. But those are the conversations that I plan to have with the finance team and the leadership team as to what else could we offer our employees from a benefit standpoint in a cost neutral, but still something that would attract the employees to the county as being the public employee of choice. And I know you've heard me say that, but we need to figure out how could we be as aggressive, but also as responsible with the taxpayers dollars as possible so that we could get the best candidate for serving the citizens of Fulton County."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. So everything we have done, we're still seeing that there is more that needs to be done?"

KENNETH HERMON, JR., CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Absolutely. I don't think we're at the end of the road. Remember, Commissioner, we've done partial steps. I think what you're speaking to what we've done was the key classification, which was just a very small cross-section of the workforce in our conversations with you at the retreat a few weeks ago that we talked about our plans for 2024 which would then bring some balance for the other compensation areas within the county, which again would put us back at being a lot more competitive than our neighboring counties."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes. Okay. Thank you so much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "What was our vacancy rate last year at this time?"

KENNETH HERMON, JR., CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I don't know if Sharon or Hakeem has that number quickly available, Commissioner. But I can definitely get it back to you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "It says 14 percent right now; is that right?"

KENNETH HERMON, JR., CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So I think that's improved from what it was last year."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I think we were trending in the high 15's, 16 percent range for a portion, a good portion of last year, Commissioner Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And some of the same problems or challenge areas that we saw before too, right? And this is -- this is X work? Are we going to include these numbers or we do?"

KENNETH HERMON, JR., CHIEF HR OFFICER: "No, Commissioner, this is just general fund, not including ORCA and its population."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Just one note on the year, this would say, I didn't realize that we were -- sort of skip that jail bridging plan that the -- and I'll note this again. I noted it when we first had this sort of presented to us -- knowing -- knowing the squeeze we have in terms of funding and so forth, I'll go on the record again and say I think it makes no sense for us to fund a staffing study for an area where we're running at close to a 20 percent vacancy rate with 155 open positions and another 15 are open for ORCA; equivalent to a hundred seventy positions. So, you know, I don't know if we're going to have a formal vote on that, but I'm not -- I see no reason why we should spend that -- those funds on that at this point in time. I think that should be something that should be considered at a latter point."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Just a couple of comments, kind of cleaning up from the -- all the reports that we've done. I did get some information subsequently confirming with Joe. We have made some movement on the jail blitz plan. We have removed some folks, I think within the jail, right, Joe, not to Union City."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM: "A combination of moves within the jail as well as moves to the Atlanta Detention Center and Cobb County. So the plan originally called for the complete vacation of an entire housing unit, and the Sheriff's office as of yesterday was able to vacate one half of that planned housing unit. We found out this information late Friday evening, and our vendor was able to go in over the weekend, begin assessing things that they needed, and began working on Monday morning to make the initial line of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing repairs needed. And so, while we're still waiting for the full move out because there's certain things that we need complete vacancy in order to expeditiously do the work, we are able to give a lot of the small repairs that are necessary underway."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So I appreciate the Sheriff bringing that to my attention, and Joe, for you being able to jump on that. Also, on vacancy rates, we are working with the Sheriff and in the next report, I feel very confident that we'll start with the HR baseline that is presented routinely for every department; and then also

have the information about what he has in the pipeline and based on what Mr. Hermon shared with me this week, it looks very promising; so I won't overpromise it and underdeliver, but it looks much better than perhaps what it shows on the -- on the sheets, and I know the Sheriff's committed to having those numbers. As we finalize a bit of good news very quickly, we have so many national awards here, this is not Wimbledon, but it's on par. I just wanted to bring your attention; Site Selection Magazine rated Fulton County in the top 20 in the nation for economic development. So thanks, to Samir and his team, just a great accomplishment. I think No. 11, Mr. Chairman, is where we came in. And at NACo, with much encouragement from Commissioner Hall and others, we have finally gotten our act together in terms of presenting our case for recognition, and I just want to make note of these, this is phenomenal, I think. These are the awards that we were -- we will receive. For the face program that David Manual originated, it's so creative, and it's so impactful, that will receive an award. Also, in his area of public arts futures lab, we'll receive an award, Project ORCA that we've been discussing and always discuss, that the course was recognized by ACCG, but now also would be recognized at a national level. The ERAP program, the administration of that which, of course, was recognized by US Treasury under Dr. Roshell's leadership will now be recognized by NACo. Also, we put together some time ago an app for all of our health and human services programs, the CARES app. It will be recognized as an innovative approach. David Manual and the Arts and Culture Department will get best in category. I didn't even know there was such a thing; but congratulations to David and the phenomenal impact that he has. And then tip of the hat to own Commissioner, the Joan Garner Health Fair will receive an award. So just a phenomenal run there, and I want to thank Jessica and her team in particular. We have a good story to tell, but it doesn't get told unless we have someone to tell it, and Jessica really took the lead on these nominations to make happen. So, again, a round of applause to everyone in these accomplishments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman that concludes our report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair, do you have anything else? All right. Anything else, Mr. Manager?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir. Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7, **23-0454**, Finance: Request approval of a Resolution setting proposed 2023 millage rates for the general fund at 9.3724 mils authorizing advertisement -- authorizing the Chairman and Board of Commissioners to sign the pending appeals and authorizing the County Attorney to petition Superior Court of Fulton County for an order authorizing the immediate and temporary collection of 2023 taxes, if it becomes necessary."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Madam CFO, this is sort of a misnomer. We're really not sitting the millage rate today. This is for purposes of the advertisers; is that correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, Mr. Chairman. This is the beginning of the process. This would authorize the proposed millage rate and allows us to begin the advertising process for this year. We would expect to come back to the Board at the second meeting in August with the request for the final approval of the millage rate. This action would require the advertisement of a notice of a property tax increase because the proposed millage rate is greater than the rollback rate, and we would propose holding the two required -- I mean, the three required public hearings, two of them on August the 2nd in the morning at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, and then one in the evening at 6:00 p.m. as a Special Called Meeting. And then the third and final public hearing would be held at the next Board of Commissioners meeting on August the 16th followed by the Board approving the millage rate for the year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Again, this is not setting the millage rate today. Everybody's clear on that? This is not to exceed the number. Questions? All right. I entertain a motion -- I'm sorry, Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Just a few questions. And did you have something that -- did you want to share something else in addition to this for us?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We do have a few slides to share if the Board would like for us to do that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Sure."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I think it would be useful potentially for the public to see certainly, too."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Okay. I'm going to turn it over to Hakeem to walk you through the presentation material."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Vice Chair, and the Commissioners. We did send you a memo on the Resolution. We sent the memo on Monday, so I hope you all received a copy. Just to walk you through the presentation, I'm going to remind you of, you know, what assumption that we used to adopt the budget in January, you know, because that was the beginning of really the person coming up with the millage rates and then, you know, for us to approve a balanced budget. Now that you know we'll receive that digest, we now know what to recommend to you for final consideration. So in January, we were assuming that, you know, we would have a 30 percent billable growth in our digest for the year. Also, we had a 96 percent collection rate. Just to go back to the first one: that 30 percent billable growth instead of it being 30 percent, it is now 11.81 percent billable growth."

And we're still using the 96 percent collection rate to determine the recommended millage rate that we are proposing to you. And then, you know, in January, we said that, you know, we're going to set a millage rate at a rate that would generate sufficient revenue to ensure that we have a balanced budget. And the Board approved with that budget a millage rate of 9.3724, and that is still what, you know we're recommending. And we do have reasons for recommending that even though it looks like at the level growth it's had on what we assumed at the beginning of the year. And you will see at the end of this presentation the reason why we're recommending that same rate. The assumption budgeted into the actual digest that we have which is resulting in the millage rate that we're proposing to you is as follow: Growth digest -- growth -- this is the growth of everything, you know, before we make an adjustment for exemptions a tight adjustment as well. That growth is 14.69 percent. That's where that digest grew by. So year-over-year we compare our growth digest for 2023 to the 2022 number and it's increased by 14.69; and then the net growth, which I mentioned to you before, it 11.81 percent. The TAD billing, which is the tax allocation district billings, is increasing by \$16.4 million. This is an increase of 36 percent over last year's billing number. The appeal, because now, at this time, we're still estimating what the appeal will be. The reason we're doing that is because the closing day for that period is going to be later in this month. So in order to get the process going and provide you with a rate that you approve for us to begin the process with and then, you know advertise, we estimated that our appeal for this year would be I'd assume is what we had last year, which is \$23.9 million. Going to the bottom of the page, we have a comparison of what our rollback rate is, and the rollback rate is the rate that is supposed to generate at the same level of revenue in the New Year as last year. So this rollback rate isn't the concentration of the growth that, you know, we're experiencing and it's shown in the digest. And that rollback rate is 8.22 percent. The problem with that rollback rate is if we apply it to our digest, it's going to generate about \$597.4 million compared to \$636.4 million that we have in the budget that the Board approved in January. So that is a difference of about \$39 million. And what that translates to is, you know it would be a shortfall to the budget. If the rollback rate of 8.22 percent -- I mean, 8.22 mil is approved. And that reduction is equivalent to 6.12 percent of the \$636.4 million that was approved in the budget. And in that 6 percent collection rate, the rollback rate would generate \$72.6 million for each mil. At the recommended rate of 9.3724, we will be able to generate \$684.4 million of revenue. That amount compares to the 636.4 that, you know, we had in the budget. That will generate that additional revenue of \$48 million, and that is equivalent to 7.54 percent, over the \$636.4 million. Each mil at the recommended rate would generate \$73 million. I mean, one would look at it and say, you know, we're asking -- we're recommending a higher rate than, you know, what is needed. The reason for that is because of -- the next slide, please -- the jail conditions that we've been trying to fix. I mean, we just talked about jail bridging plan that, you know, the manager presented to you, and then Mr. Adams also spoke about; it's a total of about \$24 -- \$25 million in the current physical year that we'll be spending on that. That was something that, you know, that we did not anticipate at the beginning of the year. We are also recommending to the Board to begin to consider the possibility of setting aside some funds toward the replacement jail and we also know that we're going

to need to do some -- we need to set aside some funds for the design of the replacement jail. The budget that you know that we'll be discussing with you in that view, we have about -- within the next two years, we'll be spending close to about a hundred, over \$100 million that we need for design. And the plan is to -- is the issuance of a bond or find a way to at least the start the process and we're suggesting and recommending for the Board to let us begin the process of setting aside a fund that you know we will need for the design, before the actual construction takes place in 2026. So the amount that, you know, we have projected to at least, begin that process, is \$40 million. And going forward, any underrun that, you know, we have at the end-of-the-year can always be set aside, you know, for the same purpose. And that ends the presentations and we'll answer any questions that you may have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair followed by Commissioner, Coach Thorne."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Any update?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "5-4. He's still in good shape, 5-3."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right, so just to maybe put this a little bit more in layman's terms, and you can correct me if I'm misstating any of this. Our digest grew at a more significant rate than what we had anticipated, roughly, you know, almost nine percent. And if you were to apply our existing millage rate to that that would generally cause us to have enough revenue to be able to generate to meet our anticipated budgetary obligations for this year?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Yes, Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. The reason we had the 9.3724, it's sort of an assumption in the budget that we adopted is because we were assuming a lower growth rate in the digest."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Within the 3 percent growth."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. So we got the rollback rate of 8.22, our current rate is 8.7 -- 8.87."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "8.87, correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "8.87, correct?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And what you're essentially recommending that we take into consideration is if we went to a higher rate than where we are right now, this 9.3724, basically, we take the excess funds that are generated from that to sort of as seed

money for funding a new jail. That's it. That's basically what we're -- it's either fund it now or fund it later. Start to prefund it or find a way to fund it later."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Exactly."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So that's as we're thinking through, you know, what sort of millage rate we want to land on for this year. That's really sort of the crux of that decision?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Exactly."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner, "Coach" Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So have we taken into account in our projections of revenue from loss? Don't we have an increase in revenue this year from the loss negotiations; and how much is that?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "We included the expected revenue from loss in our projection. I believe, let me see if I can find it. I think it's about 3 or \$4 million that, you know, we estimated that we're going to be receiving this year."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Did you know what we received in the previous years?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "The estimate is based on the comparison with, you know, last year. This year -- let me see."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The budget is assumed 17 million in both collections sales tax this year."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. 17 million, okay. So if we had stayed when we approved the budget of 8.87, when we approved our budget, if we've stayed within that, we wouldn't have to increase may be up to a nine or something like that? If we had stayed within that margin to get the 40 million extra?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "You said if we have stayed at -- if we had stayed -- if stay at 9.3724, then we would generate \$48 million extra."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "48 million extra, but the reason we're going up is because we approved a budget that was beyond the millage rate that was approved last year, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "At the projected at the time, at the projected three percent growth, yes, Commissioner Thorne, that's correct."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Yeah, I just -- to me, I just struggle with, you know, the billable growth rate growing so much in one year. And that's getting reflected on everybody's property bills. And then in addition, we're going raise the millage rate on top of them, too. Whenever you raise the millage rate, it's a burden more on residents than it is on commercial properties, and it's a burden on renters more than homeowners. And it affects low income more than it affects high income. So, and we already have a low income housing stock crisis that's only going to lead to more of that. So, you know, for me, I just struggle if we can bring the millage rate in; if we can try to control our spending and not approve budgets that are way over the millage rate that was set. That's just my comment."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Six-six, tie-breaker in the third. So we're still in good shape. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Does this take into consideration any money for additional monies for, I guess, the healthcare disparities and/or emergent care in South Fulton?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Commissioner, the rates that we're talking about is based on the budget that was approved by the Board this year. So, on those items that, you know, you're talking about that's the agreement that we have with MSM."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That can't be true; because you just told me you got 40 million in there for a jail next year. So that can't be true. You told me you got 40 million in there that wasn't in the budget. And then now you're telling me it was based on the budget. It just can't be -- both of those things cannot coexist at the same time."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "What we're saying -- what we're saying where the \$40 million is for us to stop depending on planning ahead for the replacement jail that we know of."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, sir, and my question was, is there money for the health care disparity or for emergent care in South Fulton? Did you include that in what you're requesting? I don't think that you did; it might need to be higher."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "We're planning for something in 2024. You know, it might not be enough for the Board, but we do have something in the budget."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Help me understand what we're planning for something in 2024 is, because I can see exactly what you're planning for the jail, it's 40 million. I can't see what we're planning something for 2024 is. Unless it's a number like the 40 million you have for the jail."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Commissioner Arrington, in the multiyear financial plan that we've been talking to the Board of Commissioners about, we currently have \$30 million that we've programmed an additional spend for access to healthcare. So that is what Hakeem is referring to. In the 2023 budget, we have our funding for our normal funding level for Grady Memorial Hospital and we identified the additional 5 million for the healthcare reserve, a portion of which we've used to support the MSM, Buggy Works project. So the multiyear plan includes 30 million annually going forward to support access to healthcare specifically trying to address the healthcare desert areas that we know exist. The MSM study helped, you know, bring to light."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, I guess, my question is more about the emergent care, right? Because like the MSM thing is good. It's going to help with overall health, but I think the loss of the hospitals -- again, the primary thing is the emergent care that those hospitals provide. So what I'm asking is, is there money for emergent care, and I guess also, how do we come up with the 30 million number because for me it's the emergent care. Frankly, that might be even more necessary than just the general healthcare."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS: "Commissioner Arrington, the 30 million that the CFO is referring to, is not specifically for emergent care. It's broken into a couple of categories. One is an increased investment in Grady over the next five years up to \$10 million. It also includes a pilot program with federally qualified health centers to assist with copayments for \$ 5 million. It also includes the MSM project which we're anticipating that program will be approximately 1.5 million a year going forward. And so, there is some additional -- there are some additional resources of that 5 million that can be dedicated to emergent care or any other type of healthcare access project. And so, those are some of the ways that that \$30 million is cut."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Thank you. So, I guess, I would -- I'm glad to know that there will be some additional resources. I guess my question is, do we think those -- do we know how much it costs to help provide or to provide emergent care; and do we think that that will be enough? My gut is that it will not. I could be wrong."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS: "Thank you for that question. We are still assessing what the options are, for example, a standalone emergency room operation. And we don't have those figures yet, but we are continuing to assess and analyze what the cost would be associated with for an emergency operation such as a standalone emergency room. I have also had conversations with your constituents, Ms. Goolsby, who is a community voice and is very interested in this subject as well -- subject being emergency care, specifically emergency care in the South Fulton area. So once I get some insight -- additional insight regarding costs, I'll certainly bring that to you and get your input and feedback as well."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. Again, Madam CFO -- thank you, Madam COO. Madam CFO, I'm just wondering if that's enough -- if the recommendation is even enough, because I want to make sure that we have enough to provide emergent care. And so, to the extent that there is nothing specified for emergent care, I would like to see a recommendation that includes an amount after, I guess, we get back some numbers that includes the provision of emergent care. Because that is the real -- the loss of the hospitals, certainly overall health care, but the more acute need with the loss of the hospitals is the emergent care."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And if I could just add; yes, sir, that was part of what we planned for the next round of the off-site is that exact discussion. What should we program in? We've put 30 million in per year, and there's some puts and takes with that. You're absolutely right, it potentially should be more. And we also learned at this conference that ARC held, there are some complications with each one of these, whether it's a certificate of need or referral rights and so on and so forth. So, there's still some planning to be done with partners to determine a), how to do it and then, and then the cost. But we're not in disagreement."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Sounds like 50 million to me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I think you're right, Commissioner. In fact, it was stated at the -- what was it? The healthcare summit that you can get to Macon from South Fulton County before you can get to an emergency room."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Now that is a shame. Make it a hundred million."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I just wanted to do a gentle reminder that when we had our budget discussions, you know, a lot -- and I put myself in this as well -- a lot of us had things that we wanted to see done. And then some kind of way when we start having these very uncomfortable talks, we get amnesia about the things that we asked to be put in the budget, and we need to understand that we are stewards of the taxpayer dollars now. The sidebar in there, like the Chairman said, you know, we can make these things priorities at the budget time. And then we start having conversations about the millage rate, you know, act like we didn't realize this was going to happen. Now, the side note that I have to that is how does one determine what's a priority? Because what a priority for my district may not be a priority for someone else's. But historically, if we look at some of the issues that we're having now, these issues have always been prevalent. They just have not been funded. And so, what I would say to the statement that we do need to tighten up our budget -- and I believe that. I don't believe that government should pay for everything. I don't. And I stand on that. But I also think that we, through our collaborations, and what we need to do is to make sure that we deal with the healthcare disparity, that we make sure that

we're using the best of our taxpayer's dollars and not wasting. And so, I guess my point is not a question to the County Manager and the finance department and all of those, it's that I don't want you all to be under this burden of -- we're asking for something from you all to do. We're asking certain things to be included, and then when we have to have these uncomfortable conversations, we get amnesia. And so, I just felt compelled that as a sitting steward of the taxpayers' dollars, let's all tighten our belt, but let's all understand that there are needs of all of the districts; and let's respectfully acknowledge that. Not just at budget time or reelection time; but period. Because what happens for me gets lost in the conversation is what's important, what's not important? Well what's important to me at the budget time is still important. And if we need to have those uncomfortable conversations, we need to have it, and we need to stand on it. We don't need to say one thing certain part of the year and then now when it hits us and the rubber hits the road, then we get amnesia. So I just want to put out there that there are needs across Fulton County from one end to the other, but as stewards of taxpayer dollars -- and this starts with our own budget. We have to be frugal with our budgets, because at the end of the day, this is taxpayer's money. So I just wanted to reiterate that. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of quick things. I certainly agree with my colleague, Commissioner Arrington, and my colleague, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, that healthcare in this county is a priority. It needs to be a priority, and we should not be comfortable with having healthcare deserts and the disparity and inequity we have. And the conference was really informative this week, so I was really glad to be a part of that. This is just a suggestion, a comment, but I think it might be helpful to kind of use similar terminology to what we're doing with the replacement jail in the sense that we have a jail bridging plan that might be helpful to look at, a healthcare bridging plan that gets us to even though we're not the ones that are going to be responsible to building a hospital, but at the same time that gets us to that day when that new hospital is there and the doors are open. So I think if we -- if we were able to sort of encompass the various plans you've talked about, Dr. Roshell, into a hospital bridging plan, emergent care bridging plan, and get ongoing reports on your progress on those things, I think that might be helpful as we look at our spend going forward."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett. Happy to do that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "You know, I go back to what I said originally: We adopted a budget, we thought we were going to need a millage rate at 9.3724 to fund. The digest came in higher, 8.7 or 8.87, or current rate, we'll fund that; which you brought up here to and recommended to us. Doesn't have anything to do about healthcare, I mean just go

back to healthcare, remember when we spent more money on health care in any county in the state by multiple of about four to five. It's an important issue. It's a real issue. A lot of stuff you're talking about, they're not quantifiable things that are before us that we know we got to commit to spend on right now. Their idea -- their idea in nature. The jail thing is a real thing that's before us, so we've got to figure out how to fund. So I'm not going to be in support of any higher millage rate that's just going to generate some sort of additional funding that we're going to put into something that we didn't allocate into our budget this year. I'm not really sure that I'm at the notion of like we're going to take -- we're going to adopt a higher rate and it's going to generate some other funds or we're going to take those excess funds and it's going to be seed money to fund a new jail. I'm not really sure that that's the right thing either. You know, right now, as I look at this, I would say more that, you know, we can vote, I guess, to advertise at whatever rate. I'm not going to approve a 9.3724 number. But I think we ought to work towards trying to hold our rate at 8.87 and then figure out ways to generate revenue on top of that to deal with these other issues that we have. We've talked about them. You go back in here and flip this. One of the things, for example -- no, stay on that page. Go back. One of the things -- the example that we've talked about is, this TAD, TAD piece. I mean our digest, we're saying, if you're telling me that essentially our digest grew 11.81 on a net basis, but TADS grew 36 percent; that's what that's saying, right?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "TAD at 9.3724 millage. The TAD billings would be \$62 million compared to \$46 billion deep."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Sixty, yeah. I mean so, look at that. I mean, you know, that's a conversation. I mean it's a tough conversation, but that's a conversation that we got to have. There's money. That's taxpayer money. A lot of it and a lot more of it, and we've got two specific areas that we're talking about. One with concrete, to fund stuff that we've got to fund, and the other that has some things that are somewhat concrete, but generally little bit more nascent, that we don't know exactly what they are, right? I'm acknowledging that they're there and there's issues that -- and they're things that we're trying to get our arms around. But we don't have the funding really for either one of them. But yet there's \$62 million of taxpayer money going into those, that's counting that there otherwise would be flowing into the county coffers. Not saying all of that would need to revert to us, but it's a conversation we've got to have. But that's growing at three times the rate of what our digest is. And quite honestly, kind of where the services that we're talking about are going into, they're largely serving a large portion of that area that sits many times within those TADs. So, you know, I'm not -- I don't know what the right number is, but I'm certainly not in favor of a 9.3724 millage rate. I'm pretty reluctant to vote on just even advertising that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Arrington? Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Does this recommendation include the conversation around sales tax that we had? I mean, because while I'm adamant about money for emergent care, what Commissioner Ellis said, you know, does make sense."

And so, to the extent that there are other sources of revenue like sales tax; and so that's why I'm just wondering, does this include any potential sales tax?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Not other than what we're currently receiving as local option sales tax. When you look at the five-year model, we can show you how having some additional sales tax money would affect the impact on the millage rate of funding things like the incremental costs associated with the replacement jail or funding the healthcare bridging plan or, you know, that would include the provision of some more emergency healthcare services. So we can show you that, but currently it's based only on the portion of the one penny local option sales tax that the county is currently entitled to."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And so, is this time sensitive that we have to do this today?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes. We need to go ahead and approve a millage rate for advertising purposes so that we can, in August, set a final millage rate which will allow the Tax Commissioner then to complete the billing process for this year. So again, this would be the ceiling for the millage rate for this year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Not to exceed --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- yes, this will be the ceiling. And when we come back at that second meeting in August, the Board would be able to adopt then that millage rate or anything below that millage rate. We would not be able to go above that millage rate, because that would trigger a whole another round of advertising and public hearings. So this would set the ceiling of the millage rate for 2023, but it's not the final millage rate."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, but that -- that doesn't do me any good because there's no emergent care in there. I mean, how can I support that as the ceiling without any emergent care being included? And we don't have enough, you know, like --"

HAKHEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "-- Commissioner, the issue we have -- you know what you're talking about is, if we were to have the funds to do that now, we don't have a way to put it in the budget without going through the process of, you know, readopting our budget. We already have the budget that was sent at the beginning of the year for 2023, and the proposal that you have before you is for us to generate the revenue that would support, you know, that budget that the Board approved for 2023. So we have been working within the existing budget to be able to fund some of the issues that, you know, are coming to our attention; but there's nothing we could do right now to, you know, put a hundred million dollars more in the budget without going through the process of, you know, readopting the budget."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I'm not talking about readopting the budget. You know right here, one percent change equals \$7 million, right? Each mil or 72 million, 73 million. So I'm not talking about readopting the budget, I'm talking about - what we're talking about is a millage rate. And what I'm saying to you is, I think even your recommend -- unlike Commissioner Ellis who can't support it at this level, I'm telling you, I'm reluctant to support that as a ceiling because I know that there're other emergent needs that will be needed, but I understand it is for this year we're not going to have -- we're not going to be providing that emergency or emergent care this year, but that doesn't mean we're not going to need the money. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I definitely do not support a 9.3724 millage rate. So to whoever that was that was on the Zoom earlier, yes, you are correct. I have had the pleasure of serving two districts. This will be my 12th year on a BOC office six, originally as Chief of Staff to the late Commissioner Joan Garner, and now I am six years Commissioner. And I do know exactly what my constituents want and need because I'm consistently on the ground in the community with them hearing directly from them; receiving texts, calls, e-mails, social media inbox messages and everything else all times of the day and night, holidays and weekends. And so, I'm very in tuned with what they need and what they want. And I know that they do not want a 9.3724 millage rate. And I will not raise that on the backs of the hard-working residents of Fulton County who have spoken with me about this. And I trust our county executives because I have attended many a meeting, not only in the 12 years at a BOC office, but also the other years that I was here in the IT department as an IT executive having to prepare my director at that time to come before the BOC with a lot of new technology and hearing those meetings. So I trust the county executives. I've seen where Sharon and Hakeem and others have had to come together to find funding and they did. And I give them that charge and trust them to be able to do that. And I just want to add a suggestion, I think that you should become more involved in NACo, because I've sat in a many of sessions at NACo where other counties have figured out ways to get funding, and there's so much funding in so many different areas and resources available from the federal government in all levels. So I would challenge you to attend NACo and find out how other counties are doing these things. Thank you so much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other comments? Commissioner Barrett?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just have a quick question. If this does not pass, what is -- what happens to the schedule?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "If this doesn't pass today, then it will bump the schedule to the point that we would come forward with a different proposed millage rate recommendation on August the 2nd, and probably push us to the first meeting in September being able to approve a millage rate in its final form, which

will slow the billing process down at least two weeks, if not three. So again, this is the ceiling for advertising purposes, and we would hold the, you know, the three required public hearings and come back in August with a final millage rate where the Board will be able to decide 9.374 or anything less than that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else? Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah. Just for -- just to challenge ourselves a little bit, I'll offer a substitute motion to advertise at a maximum rate -- kind of split the difference here of 9.1."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll second that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, substitute motion, was it 9.1? 9.1 versus the 9.37. Properly moved and seconded. Any questions or comments on that? Any observations, Madam CFO?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's wrong, Chairman. It says moved by Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, that's incorrect, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, no. That's not for the original motion. Now the substitute motion: The motion was made by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. So Madam CFO, your thoughts on reducing it from the advertised rate from the 9.3 to 9.1."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It would reduce the amount that we would have available then to carry forward to help offset costs in the future. Other than that, I don't have any -- any other comment. We need something that we can advertise today to get the process started."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, if the substitute motion prevails, that will be the ceiling that will be advertised the 9.1. Everybody clear on that? Not the final, but it would not be able to exceed the 9.1 when we come back in August. All right, no further comments. Let's vote on the substitute motion by Commissioner Ellis which was seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the substitute. And the motion fails; two yeas, two nays, one abstention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Back to the main motion which was to approve. That motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett which is the 9.37. That will be the advertised rate for the ceiling, meaning not to exceed that when we come back in August on the current schedule. But there is

flexibility in that schedule I might add. Vice Chair, do you want to be heard? All right. On the -- any questions about what's before us now, the 9.37 advertising purposes only. All right, let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion fails. All right."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Mr. Chair?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "I mean, I -- we've got to -- we've got to reach a consensus and we can't. This is not -- so somebody needs to proffer something. How many votes do we have on both those matters? Did everybody vote -- I mean on the second one."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Three yeas, three nays."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, the original one was the same."

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Okay. So did everybody vote on all of them?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Three yeas, three nays. The substitute failed."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right, Mr. Chair, I would look for your leadership on this. What would you recommend that we do, because we need to be able to advertise this and move forward. We've got to ultimately get to a schedule where we could bill. I mean, ultimately, something's going to be floor. As you've noted, this is a max, so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, this is the max. I'll sound like a broken record, but this is where we are in our stripes. We vote for stuff during the year, now it comes the time to pay for it. We loaded up, but now you've got to pay for it."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So what would you -- what would you proffer up as an advertisement?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I don't have a dog in this fight."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "You do. You're the Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute. Commissioner Arrington, when it comes from me, I've said this before. Choosing between funding and a two billion plus jail versus a hospital in south Fulton County, that's not even debatable with me. So we

took all this time on the jail, very little time on this hospital. So, I'm with Commissioner Arrington on that. All right."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I'll offer up another substitute motion. We move to advertise at a maximum rate of 9.05 mills. That's my motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll second it."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Discussion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes. Just a minute. The motion now is 9.05 versus the recommended 9.3 made by Vice Chair Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, Commissioner Ellis, what I would -- I appreciate, number one, you keeping this open and making another recommendation. But the fact that it's lower than your original recommendation which only got two votes, I don't think it gets us closer to where we need to be. I think to get us closer to where we would need to be, it would have to be in between the 9.1 that you originally recommended and the 9.3 to, you know, maybe even try to get us there. So I don't know if you'll accept a friendly amendment or we can just vote on it and then maybe I can make another motion."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "If you desire to make a motion and you feel it's a second too, I'm fine withdrawing and you telling me that what's on the floor it will fail, then I'm fine with withdrawing my motion and let you make a substitute."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, y'all aren't going to like the substitute I'm going to make. I'm going higher. I don't know (inaudible)."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I guess, for the purpose of the compromise here today I'll make the recommendation at 9.2724; for the purpose of compromise of trying to get 4. I really want it higher than that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right the substitute motion on the floor now properly moved and seconded at 9.05. Right. I'm sorry, yeah. Was it 9.05?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yes, but I said I was willing to withdraw that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Are you?"

VICE CHAIR ELLIS: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Now that will depend. Are you willing to enjoy your second first? All right, yes? Okay, she withdraws her second. The maker of the motion withdraws his motion. So, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So my motion is to approve, since we were unable to get the 9.3724 approved, and there was support for 9.1. I'd like to make a motion that we approve it at 9.274 mils."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion by Commissioner Arrington is for an advertised rate. Not to exceed 9.27, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Now, all this does is cause us to -- it's not fail. We have special meetings that we can delay it a little bit, but we can get through this. But here's the motion that's on the floor now. Everybody want to be heard in this lineup, everybody? Okay, where are we?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I do not want to be heard."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Do not. All right. Let's vote then on the 9.27."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the 9.2724. And the motion passes; four yeas, two nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, **23-0455**, Finance: Request approval of July 12th, 2023 budget sounding".

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam CFO, quickly, it's 1 o'clock."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have two items before you today. One is a annual hardware and software maintenance license support agreement for additional funding -- or a vendor name, I'm sorry, from Accessible Solutions, Inc. to Accessible Solutions, LLC. There's no funding associated with that, and then from the risk fund, we have a request from the County Attorney's office for additional funding for outside counsel in the amount of \$2 million."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, the motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Arrington, and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote. Madam Clerk, let's go."

CLERK GRIER: "There's no -- you need to remove that one."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Different item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, y'all keep up now. It's 1 o'clock."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay, we have the mover as Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, and seconded by Commissioner Barrett."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct. Let's vote, please"

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0158**, Human Resource Management as amended: Request approval of an agreement with Care.com in the amount not to exceed \$632,000 to implement the proposed plan designed to extend a childcare dependent care benefit to eligible employees."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0456**: Request approval of revisions to the lateral transfer policy."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes. Let's see, page 2. It says this revision would allow departments -- well first, let's start with -- this is to permit an appointing authority to initiate the lateral transfer of an employee with or without the employee's approval. And it goes on to say this revision would allow departments to initiate the lateral transfer of employees when appropriate to provide for the most efficient and effective use of resources. So two questions: This is allowing an appointing authority to do a lateral transfer of an employee without them even knowing?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Commissioner, no. Not without their knowing, but without their approval. Currently, as it stands right now, the lateral transfer

policy and procedure is initiated solely by the employee. The employee comes to that department head and says, well, I would like to be transferred to another department. And that could stop the process with the HR system or an employee can compete for a position in a transfer on their own accord -- with competition for the position. So what we're trying to do here, we've had some situations where department heads have indicated that whether it's lack of work and reassignment the people, we might be better served in this department that, you know, if they reached out to their colleague and the colleague has come to an agreement there's a suitable position that the individual can qualify for, HR has validated their qualifications, and the lateral move, which is the most important at least for HR this, there's no impact to the employee's compensation; and because the employee has refused to sign, so now we're at a stalemate and potentially could lead to a situation where, because of lack of work or may be a situation without an employee may not have been a good fit for the current environment, we now have to separate that individual versus redistributing them to another location that will better fit their skill sets."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So, I heard you say that these are generally initiated by the employee, but then you said they're been instances where the employee refused the lateral transfer. So I'm assuming that would be one of those situations where the employee did not initiate the lateral?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. Because I know personally from working in a department here that I've seen where these lateral transfers were initiated by the manager or the department head for various reasons. And the employee did not know until it was brought to them. So, I'm just trying to see how this works. And then also, it's very vague. It says, this revision would allow departments to initiate the lateral transfer. Is there a specific person in the department or a specific level of management that can initiate the transfer?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Well, all the initiation, of course, we'll have some conversation with a supervisor to the appointing authority. But the communication that comes to HR has to come from the appointing authority. We wouldn't take it from a lower-level supervisor or a manager."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. And so how will it be handled when an employee does not approve of it, they are forced to transfer, and then what happens?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: : "If you adopt the provision that we have proposed?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Um-hmm."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: : "And the employee refuses? Well, I think, Commissioner, we would have to have a conversation with that employee as to what the rationale are. And let me just take a step back. In our current procedure, there is a conversation that should have been between the department head and the employee, as to why we're doing this, so that the employee understands the -- the rationale for the transfer and how it's beneficial, both for the employee and/or the organization. So let me first preference that. That we would definitely want to have that conversation, and not like what you said where, you walk in on a Monday, and you find out that your desk and all your stuff has been cleaned out and you're in a different unit or department."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. I just want to have that conversation because you know there will be those times where an employee does not approve, and will think that they have some kind of recourse, some kind of action that they can take to combat this. So, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Coach Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just had a quick question because I didn't quite understand what the change is. It said there's approval of revisions. But when I look at the actual personnel policy, there's no red marks or lines out. So just for clarification."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: : "Yes, Commissioner. So I circulated a document early yesterday morning, when I realized that the two documents that were attached --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Were the same?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "-- were the -- were identical. Even though it says, red line copy and a clean copy. So what we're striking out, Commissioner, from the existing policy in the first line is, after the word permit is, employees to request so we're suggesting that that be stricken out. And then in the second sentence after the word transfer, we're striking the word request. And if you want, Commissioner, I could bring you a copy so you can have it right in front of you, so you could see it for yourself."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "That's good, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. What about the receiving appointing party?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Well, Commissioner, in this conversation, it's a conversation between HR, the department that is willing to transfer the employee,

and then the department that is willing to receive the employee. So everything has to lineup. So it has to be where the receiving department has a position that's within the same grade, has the funding available to maintain the employee's salary with no loss in compensation. And they're also willing to accept them because they see the benefit of getting that resource into their department right now versus trying to recruit or hire someone to fill that void. And then after that, then it's a conversation -- or the conversation with the employee is also happening at the same time."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So does this amendment allow the employee to or the appointing authority, or this removes the employee's ability to do it?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "It's now both. So now we'll be -- allow both the employee or the appointing authority to initiate a transfer."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Or how about, could the receiving appointing authority initiate the transfer?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: : "Well, I think, I would say, no, because it has to start from where the employee is coming from to have the conversation with the receiving authority, unless the receiving appointing authority has a conversation with -- like for me, if the Sheriff says, well, you know, Mr. Hermon, I want to -- I want Stacy to come over and help me with my HR operation. Well he's had the conversation with me. I have to make the decision whether or not I can live without Stacy. Well, the answer is, no, so, Sheriff Labat, don't get any ideas in your head. And if I said, yes, then I have now -- I will now start the process with the HR Department. Say, well, I'm agreeing to transfer Stacy Jones to the Sheriff. We've identified a position for her to function in, it's funded, it's no loss of compensation, the department heads will sign a document. Stacy Jones will receive a copy of that document and/or sign that document. And now her new place of residency within the county moved from the HR Department to the Sheriff's Department."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0457**, External Affairs, request approval of a fiscal agent agreement between Fulton County and on behalf of Fulton County Reparations Taskforce with the Atlanta University Center Consortium."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Arrington, followed by Commissioner Barrett. We have a motion on the floor to approve."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, I was going to call the question. But I'm happy to let Commissioner Barrett go before me since she is in the queue."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. I just have a couple of questions that are really not to the -- to the content of reparations, but more to the contract itself. And so my question is the -- on Exhibit A that's provided, that's the only definition of scope of work? In the contract itself it just refers to Exhibit A. And I am concerned that the scope of work is not fully fleshed out, in that the fiduciary agent part of it seems to be very detailed. But in terms of the actual -- the actual responsibility for the report itself is not really there. It talks about the AUCC being responsible for working with the Taskforce to identify and hire a project manager and to ensure deliverables. And then also to hire research consultants and assistants with the right skills and expertise to do research. But it doesn't actually list the deliverables as of responsibilities. So I feel like that should be in here. What are the deliverables we can expect from the AUCC back to the Taskforce? Like, what are we paying -- if -- this reads like we sort of just paying 210,000 for administrative work and actually the report itself. So I'm just concerned that it's -- the scope of work needs to be better fleshed out."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett. I am going to -- Mr. Stewart looks like he is looking over. But I'd like to ask him to weigh in because he did -- Commissioner Barrett's question was about the scope of work, which several folks worked on this including the Taskforce members, the County Attorney's office. And we also worked with Ms. Strong-Whitaker from Purchasing a Contract compliance. So, Mr. Stewart, do you -- would you like to weigh in on the scope of work specifically?"

DENVAL STEWART, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Well, I know that you all attempted to get a defined scope of work, and there were several attempts at that. And what they provided is what we attached. That's the only thing I can add at this point."

FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good morning, Fran Calhoun, External Affairs, good afternoon. Commissioner Barrett, the 210,000 is a combined amount for both fees -- sorry about that -- for the administrative fee of 21,000, that's a 10 percent. Those are the indirect cost that would be directly benefiting the Atlanta University Center Consortium. The rest of those dollars, the balance of that would actually be paid to researchers, research assistants, for fees associated with getting vital records and the like --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry, can you break down -- (indiscernible) sorry."

FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The 210,000 would be broken down, 10 percent of that on the top of it, would be the administrative fee, those are the indirect cost. The balance of that would go to the empirical study. All of the research associated with that, they anticipate right now, hiring one to five researcher, some research assistants, administrative support to work on this project from now through October of 2024."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I get that. But that still doesn't answer my question. I hear what you're saying, and I read that part. So I -- but it doesn't -- there is no deliverable here. That is, there's people hired with the right skills, but there's no deliverable listed for the 210,000. And I get that those five people will ostensibly be doing that work. But I feel like the contract should include what they're going to give us back. So if you can adjust the scope of work, I mean I would be comfortable holding this and approving it at the next meeting if we have a -- I mean, I'm fine with us moving forward. I just want to make sure that we're not just contracting for people to do some stuff, and we're not going to -- you know, they could come back at the end of this and give us a report that we're not satisfied with and they can say, well, we were only contractually obligated to do research, you know, or whatever."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett. I think that's helpful feedback. The discussions that I was part of, there were a final report, a draft report that would be a previous deliverable. So I think that's something that can be clarified in the contract. And that's helpful feedback. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I mean, I think it says that the Taskforce will give us a report back, but it doesn't say that AUCC-managed folks or hired folks will provide that. That's really --"

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- all I'm looking for is to clean that up."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I understand."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "If you want to -- I don't -- I'm happy to support it now, knowing that y'all will fix that. But I'm -- or to hold it, whichever way it works for you."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I think that's something the County Attorney's office can fix in the final before it is fully executed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "To hold?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You said friendly, right?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "What?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah, it's a just a friendly amendment to shore up the contractor a bit, that's all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So, what's the friendly amendment?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Just to shore up the contract to include the deliverables."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Shore -- to shore up to include the deliverable, what does that mean?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "In Exhibit A, and I spoke to the County Attorney about this briefly yesterday, so she knew what I was looking for."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is made by Commissioner Hall. Are you accepting that as a --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, absolutely."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- friendly amendment?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'm not sure what that means. But the maker accepts that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But you all understand and can get that done, yes?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes. Yes, we can do that. As we discussed yesterday, the description is currently in the draft of the contract that's attached to the item. It's not legally deficient, it doesn't render the construct deficient. But if we don't get what we expected and want to enforce, at that point, it will become important that there's specific deliverables identified so that we can say we did not get what we contracted for. So I think we understand the task to make that very specific and also to make it clear that it is an obligation of the contract -- the contractors, as opposed to the obligation is on the Taskforce. The reason why the Board is hearing this is because Fulton County will be a party to the contract because the Taskforce is not capable of entering into a to contract. So to make that clear, I think we understand what the Board is proposing in this substitute motion, and we can add that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve with the friendly amendment."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I will call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right. The -- Commissioner Arrington is in the queue, the call of the question. Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "A point of order, Mr. Chair. I mean, I -- I don't think -- I think the motion is out of order. You allowed discussion to take place and other people were already in the queue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I mean, I was first in the queue. I allowed Commissioner Barrett to go before me, and made the announcement that I was going to do exactly what I did. So I don't --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Leave that to the Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Parliamentarian."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is the objection that Vice Chair Ellis was in the queue and not permitted to speak, or that discussion was had after the question was called?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, the -- all right, this is not complicated."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "What is the objection?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "At the time, Commissioner Arrington --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I don't understand what the objection is. Okay, sorry, go ahead."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "At the time, Commissioner Arrington had the floor. He signaled that he would -- he was going to make a motion to call the question, but he will yield to Commissioner Barrett, which he did. Now, I would rule that that would be out of order because in calling the question, you make a -- when you call the question, first words out of your mouth, I call the question, and you get a second, we immediately go to the vote. So that would be my ruling. But I'm not the Parliamentarian."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I -- if I recall the sequence of events correctly, after he yielded to Commissioner Barrett, it sounded like Commissioner Arrington essentially -- that he said he -- he indicated he would make that motion, yielded to Commissioner Barrett, and then subsequently, made the motion. If that's what the record indicates, then I think the motion was actually made at the end of that sequence after

Commissioner Barrett's comments were made. In which case, it would be duly before the Board at this time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So you're saying, your ruling is that his motion was proper?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Properly made at -- after he yielded to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. She's the -- I disagree with that. But she's the Parliamentarian. Let's vote then on the call of the question."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the call the question. And the motion fails; three yeas, three nays, one abstention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Back to the -- who's in the queue? All right, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Wow, glad I get to speak. Thank you. My Taskforce Member on the Board has been censored and told he cannot speak. So, I'm glad I can kind of speak out on this issue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What, wait, wait. What do you --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Wait, what?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "My Taskforce -- my Reparations Taskforce appointee on this Board has been told -- he's been given executive order that he is not allowed to speak."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Executive order by whom?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "The Chair, the Chair of the Reparations Taskforce."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, that's nonsense. Well, you have the floor. Yeah."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So for me, I just struggle because this is just such a divisive concept. And I feel like it's just going to hurt Fulton County, it's just going to rip us apart. You know, we heard in public comment how, you know, people are going to be paying for it. This coming out of taxpayer dollars to pay event -- this 210,000 is coming out of taxpayer dollars, whatever reparations, whatever they decide, whatever they find, they're going to make the taxpayers pay for it. And we don't money for a jail, we don't have money for a hospital, Commissioner Arrington, that's what we need be focusing on. I feel like, you know, we have any -- their research is cutting off at 1980. Can we not look at beyond 1980, what great things this County has done for the people in the community? Can we not look at what the 3 billion that we put into Grady, what demographic does that serve? Can we look at MARTA, what demographic does that

serve? Our Community Grant Blocks, our homeless programs, our rental assistance programs, everything that this County is doing, and all of our community service partners. I was so disappointed when I talked to the Chair of the Reparations Taskforce, and she said, it's just 210,000. 210,000, like, I just think of what our community service partners who are getting 30, 40 -- you know, I just did packed meals with Hosea Feeds the Hungry, what they could do with 210,000. Instead we're getting five researchers that are just digging and digging and digging and digging, trying to find something. They haven't found anything definitive. They think they might. So that's really just hard for me to struggle as a -- representing my district and the taxpayers in my district. I feel like we are short on money. We know we don't have extra money. And I believe the concept of reparations is hurtful. As a -- as a coach, who's coached hundreds of kids in youth athletics, as a mom of four kids, as a husband -- as a wife that has a husband that has coached for 25 years, I feel like the whole concept is horrible. What message does it send to the youth in our community? Are we sending a message that, look, there was something, and we're going to find something, something that hurt you in the past, you don't even know it hurt you yet, but somehow it's carrying over. We're making our youth be victims, we're not empowering our youth. So that's what really hurts me. I have a really good friend, my husband's best friend. He is a tennis player, grew up in Alabama. And I talked to him, and he said, you know, Bridget, because of my skin color, I had a lot of bad things happen to me. I had a lot of great things happen to me too because of my skin color. He says, you know, I always focus on the serenity prayer, to accept things, just accept things that cannot change, and the courage to change the things that I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. So for me, I just don't think this is a wise expenditure of our money. I know it was rolled in the budget when we approved that massive budget back in January. But I just can't pay for it at this time with the state of our County is, because we need a jail and we need a hospital care for South Fulton."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Just a few questions on that. Was this competitively bid?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Vice Chair. I'm going to ask the Purchasing Director to please comment on that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "No, Commissioner, it was not. It was pursuant to a (indiscernible). So it was because the unique nature of the -- of the reparations -- the reparations, the historical --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So it wasn't competitively bid?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "It was not competitively bid."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So this is, shape and fashion, sole source, fit into a number that was dropped, sort of, without really --"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Well, the number came -- I'm sorry. The number came from the Board of Commissioners --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well, that's what I'm saying. So, yeah, I mean it really wasn't -- yeah, it was sort of backed into from that. It wasn't a competitively-bid thing. There's a notion in here that it's auto-renews?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Commissioner, excuse me, Mr. Vice Chair, the -- as I understand it, the timeframe to produce this research would be, the final report expected by October of 2024. And the Board of Commissioners, all of our contracts do not carry over after a calendar year because of our fiscal year ending on December 31st. Because this work is beginning now, and that would be the expected timeframe to produce this study, number one, there was a request to carry over the funds that were allocated in this fiscal year into the next, and then to allow that work to continue through that October 2024 timeline."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So, what's the value of this contract? Is it --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "\$210,000."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Total? I mean --"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- regardless of whether there is a period of time in which --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "200 -- \$210,000."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So there won't be additional funding for next year that's -- I mean, auto-renewal implies to me, you've got like, something that you're renewing at \$210,000."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I think perhaps, the language could more accurately read that the purchase order would carry -- for the \$210,000 to produce this work, would carry forward into the next fiscal year, upon approval of resources from this Board of Commissioners."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So we don't have funding to do what we need to do, but we're going to, like, authorize expenditure -- expenditures on research to potentially reach a conclusion about something to pay some funds that we don't have any funding to do. And we did not competitively bid it, it's sole sourced, it's backed into a number,

it's lacking clarity, in terms around what the deliverables are. But we'll go ahead and put it forth anyway. That's what we're being asked to consider. Thanks."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'll second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Properly moved and seconded. Let's vote on the call of the question only."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Back to the main motion which is to approve. Let's vote on the main motion, which is to approve."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0458**, Real Estate and Asset Management, request approval to increase spending authority in the amount of \$494,624 to provide replacement and installation of new roof system."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Under Arts and Libraries, **23-0459**, Request approval of five contracts related to the Fiscal Year 2023 Special Project Commissioner Initiatives Arts Funding Recommendations."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded Commissioner Arrington. Vice Chair Ellis, you have the floor."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Would these types of items not be the types of things that are funded through our Contract for Services Program?"

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS AND CULTURE: "Hello, Commissioner. David Manuel, Arts and Culture Director. What was the question again?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Would these programs not be the type of things that would otherwise be funded through submissions that would be evaluated and approved through our -- and approved through our Contract for Services Program?"

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS AND CULTURE: "They could be, but I don't think these were. And so these were special programs that were approved by the Commissioners."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. I just want to go on record, I don't -- I think this is bad practice. We have things, we have clearly a program for. These, you know, regardless of the quality of any -- any of these particular items or organizations, I think they should go through the same type of contract review and submission that other arts partners go through."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I agree with you. But at this point, we've already done those grants. And this was approved in January. So it's kind of hard to retro and go back. But what is the Q. Parker Legacy Foundation? I don't remember that one."

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS AND CULTURE: "It was a name change. And so we did a memo, we did agenda -- it was a name change. But it was the same group."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "What was the group originally?"

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS AND CULTURE: "I have to check my notes. The original --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I -- it was Orchestra Noir. But I made the motion, and Q. Parker sings with them, but they do not have a local facility. And so he -- they do not activate locally. So he's the only one -- well, the one that could do it local."

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS AND CULTURE: "That's right."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, under Health and Human Services, **23-0460**, Senior Services request approval to increase spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$1,134,963.80 to provide congregate and home-delivered meals."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, 1:34, I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch, Executive Session, issues of Real Estate, Litigation and Personnel. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Now remember, after this meeting, Commissioners, we have a work session, so let's get -- we're doing okay. We'll try to get back on schedule."

(Recess for Executive Session at 1:35 p.m.)

(Back in Regular Session at 3:00 p.m.)

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, Chairman. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation in items 1 and 2 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Let's vote, please."

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is there a motion to approve the request for the settlement authority in item 5 of the Executive Session agenda?"

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

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is there a motion to approve the contract identified in item 6 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, it is seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "And the final item, is there a motion to approve the settlement agreement in the add-on item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Add-on, yeah."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I'm sorry, the settlement authority in the add-on item discussed in Executive Session?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Let's vote."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, Commissioners' Action Items, **23-0383**, Request approval of an ordinance to amend the Fulton County Code of Ordinances in order to impose a distribution requirement before a member of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners may place a proposed resolution or ordinance on the agenda for consideration or final vote, to require the proposed resolution or ordinance to appear as a discussion item at the first meeting, in which it is introduced and voted on at the second meeting, and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. What's your pleasure, is there a motion? Is there a motion?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, I move to approve."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington. Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, I think we might need to hold it, because I think with you all -- I mean, I'm happy to approve it. But I think there's another item that's similar to this. And I think Commissioner Ellis and Barrett and I were going to get together, and we have not had the opportunity to do that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, the other item is the discussion item that is the committee of the hold, it's sort of a based off of this one, the jumping off point. And because of Commissioner Arrington's family situation, we didn't proceed as we had intended over the last couple of weeks, so I'm happy to discuss it further in the discussion item and/or hold all of that for later, whatever everybody else wants to do."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Where is the other one you're talking about?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It's the -- it's discussion item on page, I believe it's on page -- yeah, page 11, it's 23-0468. There -- it's very -- it's sort of the continuation of this one we're talking about right now, so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So, what's your pleasure? Is the motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, there was a -- there's no second yet."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I seconded it."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, I'm going --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You said, you're going to hold it?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No, motion to hold on yours?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, I'll do a motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And I'll second that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to hold, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote on the motion to hold."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "23-0384, Request approval of the ordinance to amend Fulton County Code of Laws to provide fair and open transparent procedure for the Board of Commissioners to make Full-Board appointments to various boards, commissions, taskforce, committees, councils, and authorities affiliated with, or operating on behalf of Fulton County, and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a motion?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I mean, I guess I'll just hold on this one as well. I figure it's similar and related to the previous one."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to hold, is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Let's vote on the motion to hold, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "23-0462, Request approval of a resolution to exercise Fulton County's Home Rule powers to amend local law to clarify for the process for appointing members of the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections, and for other purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a motion? Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, yeah, absolutely."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, it is seconded by Commissioner Hall. Any questions or comments here? All right, Commissioner -- Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So we have active litigation involving this particular process, correct?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So I have no idea why in the world, number one, we're putting forth a resolution we're in the middle of active litigation, and you've already opined in terms of what you feel our position is. But yet, this resolution would seek to somehow state something that we already say that we already have the power for anyway. So are we not comfortable with what we stated?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I stand by my position as to what the statute says, the law says."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So if it's not what it says, then that's not what the Legislature intended when they wrote it. And then we're going to try to supersede that with -- I don't know, I just think that this is inappropriate for us to be dealing with at this point in time, Or quite frankly, ever. Where it's before -- it's in active litigation, the court's going to rule on it one way or the other, we'll find an answer of what the law -- what the law actually supposedly means. That'll be a motion, motion to file, substitute motion to file."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Substitute motion to file, I'll second that. Let's vote on the motion to file. All right. Just a minute. Substitute motion on floor now is to file. File, throw it in the trashcan, that's what it means. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So this is what is in litigation right now? What? No, I'm sorry, this is in litigation right now?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "It's pertaining to the same Georgia law that the currently-pending litigation filed by the Republican Party of Fulton County for --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Oh, that litigation. Gotcha, okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anybody else want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, absolutely."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, absolutely. The law is very clear. It says the Commission or the governing authority shall appoint, right, based on the nominations that we receive. The only way that my vote can be gotten is if I vote for it. Nobody can tell me how to vote. Nobody can tell any Commissioner up here how to vote, okay? So the fact that it says the Commissioners shall, means that the Commissioners have the authority to vote their conscience. That's what it says. But because these people act like they don't -- they can't read or comprehend English, we are clarifying it. I want to be real clear. The language is very clear. It says the Commission, the governing authority shall, the governing authority shall. In order for

this governing authority to act, there has to be an affirmative vote of four Commissioners. Four Commissioners, not the Governor, not the President, not my mother, or my father that just passed can tell me how to vote, okay? So the only way we get a vote is if the Commissioners vote on it. That's the only way that there is an act of the Commission, it has to be an affirmative vote of four Commissioners. And nobody, not the Legislature, I don't care, the Supreme Court, nobody can tell me how to vote, nobody. I vote my conscience. And I believe every other person up here does the same. So the idea that someone would say that we have to vote for something because somebody made a nomination is absolutely retarded. It's retarded for somebody to submit that. It makes no sense. Why would someone think they could tell me how to vote? I wish they would."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Could you explain how you -- using Home Rule to amend the legislation?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "If there is a law that only pertains to Fulton County and there is no other general provision made statewide, then through the County's Home Rule powers, it can change that law that is specific to Fulton County in its application."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Because it seems like most Boards have had to go through the Legislature to make changes to their law. Even, you cited Gwinnett, Gwinnett County directly, the parties appoint their seats to the Board of Registration Elections. But when they made changes to how their Chair was selected, they had to go through the legislation. And we even put on our website, due to the law HB656, authorizes Fulton County Board of Commissioners to independently appoint the Fulton County Chair. So when is it -- because elections, federal and state elections are federal and state, they run that, we don't run that. They -- and we're saying how our elections are going to be run, we're dictating the state and federal election that the state has authority over."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So well, I think that's kind of philosophical objection to the way that Home Rule works. Going to the Legislature is certainly an option, and that's one of the ways that it can be changed. But where there is no other provision made that preempts it for statewide rule. And where the Georgia law pertains only to our County, it is within the Home Rule powers of the County to seek to change that and amend that language."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Well, even if you're going to change it, isn't there a process that you have to go through to change it?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "There is a Home Rule process, which is why it has to be -- it has some advertising requirements, et cetera, so that the public can weigh in

on it. And it can't be done, for example, it is not going to be changed today, even if it were voting and approved."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It would be a -- it has to go through a couple meetings, be put in the org, and all kind of stuff, correct?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes. Yes, it would have to follow all of the Home Rule requirements for advertisement and for waiting a certain number of weeks in order to take the final vote, which cannot be done today."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Well, I want to make a, maybe, an alternate motion just to change the legislation to let the parties, and not go through us, but the parties appoint the members to the Board. Whoever they desire that they seem fit to represent them on the board, like Gwinnett County. I made a motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What was your motion?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "My motion is to change it so that the parties get to choose -- it'll put the lawsuit to rest. The parties get to choose directly who they want on the Board of Registration Elections without us, having us approve them at all, like Gwinnett County."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I believe there's a motion already on the floor --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, I was going to say --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- the motion on the floor is to file --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Oh, that's true -- sorry."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That motion -- motion on the floor is to file by Commissioner Vice Chair Ellis, and I seconded the motion to file. So let's dispose of that motion first. All right. Anybody else want to be heard on the motion to file? Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 10, **23-0431**, Request approval of an ordinance to amend the Fulton County Code of Resolution relating to budgetary controls for the members of

the Board of Commissioners to provide for inclusion of paid interns as a permissible use of Commissioners' of budgets and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Hall, as amended."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I know we had some discussion on this since the last minute, so I won't duplicate it. And I'll just offer a substitute motion to deny."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to deny. Is there a second? I'll second. Discussion? All right, let's vote. Motion on the floor is to deny."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "You had the second, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I did."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. There we go."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What?"

CLERK GRIER: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What am I supposed to do?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Oh, it's already there."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote. The motion is to deny."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0463**, Request approval of an ordinance to amend the general provisions in county governing authority to create a new section of the Fulton County Code of Laws to define and provide a procedure for the Board of Commissioners to make district nominations to the various boards, commissions, task force, committees, councils, and authorities and affiliated with, or operating on behalf of Fulton County, sponsored by Commissioner Barrett."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have a motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett. Is there a second? Is there a second? All right, seconded by Commissioner Hall. All right, motion of the floor is to approve. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I guess, the reason I held my was because I thought we going to hold all of them so that we could have further discussion."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm fine with doing that. I'll just say that the -- when we originally talked about you're -- the one that you have, Commissioner Arrington, regarding the Full-Board nominations and we, you know, discussed, at the time, maybe separating out the district appointments from the Full-Board appointments. This is just the district appointment portion of it, and it's pretty straightforward. We did start working -- the County Attorney's office and I did start working on the Full Board appointments, per the conversations you and I had. But it was complicated, obviously, so we didn't want to go any further on that one without getting you involved. I'm happy to hold this and make it all part of a group of -- of information, if that's easier. But it's really up -- I'm --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I just hadn't had an opportunity to review with what I got going on, so --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "All right. Well, then I'll -- I'll hold it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Well, here's where we -- here's the problem. Motion on the floor is to approve, properly moved and seconded. You can make a substitute motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Substitute motion to hold."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Substitute motion to hold, 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: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "23-0464, Request approval of a resolution authorizing the County Manager and County Attorney to negotiate and present to the Board an IGA between Fulton County and City of Atlanta and the Atlanta Board of Education to share its cost related to an independent audit of the appraised value of certain commercial properties located within Fulton County --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion --"

CLERK GRIER: "-- sponsored by Commissioner Barrett."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, is there a second? Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Hall. All right, Commissioner Barrett, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Colleagues, I brought this issue up for discussion back in February. This is the issue of the under assessed, potential under assessment of commercial property in Fulton County resulting in, as our public commenter said this morning, potentially, hundreds of millions of lost revenue in -- tax revenue as it relates to property tax collection from these properties. But perhaps more importantly, this is an issue of inequity in the property tax burden, such that homeowners, especially those with the least expensive homes, those folks are bearing a disproportionate share of the property tax burden as compared to the high-dollar commercial properties. On average, people with homes that are worth \$300,000 or less are paying an average of 90 percent -- they're paying a tax on an average of 90 percent of fair market value, their assessed value to their fair market value. As compared to these large commercial properties, over 15 million, they are paying tax on an assessed value that is 60 percent of market value on average, some as low as 50 percent or lower. So as an example, the King -- the King and Spalding Building in Midtown sold for 465 million in July of 2022, but was appraised for 193 million, less than half, just a few months before that sale took place. Again, this is, we are looking at potentially, an unrealized property tax revenue of up to 179 million per year. And that is according to a recent data study by Georgia Tech that circulated to everybody via email, I believe that was this morning that we did that, or yesterday afternoon. There was a meeting put together by the External Affairs team that included multiple counties, our Tax Assessor was on the call, several other county Tax Assessors were on the call. And the data was presented to us in that scenario -- in that setting. And what's, I think, important to note about the study is that this is not a flaw in the way our Tax Assessor is doing his job. He's doing a great job with the tools that he has, as are the Assessors in the surrounding counties in the metro area. However, there are restrictive state laws that are keeping this situation the way it is. Most notably, the Georgia law that everyone refers to as 299C, which has to do with appeals. There's been a lot of news coverage of this issue over a variety of years starting, I believe, in 2018. And there has also been a lot already done to prove this problem exists and to try to address it. Some examples are, the City of Atlanta conducting a study in 2019, Julian Bene, who spoke at public comment, providing independent research, both to the City and the County on multiple occasions, the

Georgia Tech study I just referred to. And my predecessor, Commissioner Morris, he was very passionate about this issue, also requested an audit related to this in 2019. And he also worked with State Legislators to try to address this at the state level. I have had conversations with members of the Atlanta City Council, the Mayor's office, the Atlanta Public School Boards. They are as concerned as we are, both about the inequity and the tax burden and the unrealized tax revenue that could be doing a lot good for our citizens. So after the conversations I've had, in addition to the ones I just mentioned with External Affairs, with the Tax Assessor's office, with the County Auditor, and with Commissioner Morris, who as we all know now, serves on the Board of Assessors, I believe we need a multipronged approach to solve this problem. Now, the first step was to identify the problem, as I mentioned, that's really already been done. The next step is now to identify all the properties that fall into this category and the reasons for their current valuations, as well as identifying the specific parts of the appeals process where investment could be made to get a better result. We, I think, all believe that the larger plan needs to also include prioritizing this on our legislative agenda for next session. And I believe that this is something we're already going to do, correct, Jessica? Yeah. And in addition to that, we believe we need to probably work on putting procedures and resources in place on an ongoing basis to continue so that this problem doesn't continue to happen year over year. So in other words, there is potentially a solution at the state level. But we also believe there are things that can be done under the current law to try to mitigate this. So this resolution is really just to get started on this next step of identifying the specific properties and that breakdown of the appeals process. And it asks the County Attorney and the County Manager to enter into negotiations with the City and with the School Board to share the costs associated with this a step. And to be very clear, I was approached by folks at the City who offered to help us pay for this. And then I reached out to the School Board and asked them if they would be willing to help pay for this, and they are. So this would really just be the first step in negotiating IGAs with both of those groups to help us pay for the cost of this more in-depth audit that our County Auditor's office would perform with consultants, again, to get that detailed level of properties that would be actionable and the steps in the appeals process that we could address. So, I'm asking for your support on this just to move this to the next step."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yes, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you for, Commissioner Barrett, for bringing this forward. Couple of concerns that I've got relative to this, really there's the issue of under assessment, right? Which is sort of, in general, we're under assessed with both in residential and commercial. I mean, the fact of the matter is, you can go find residential properties and do this analysis. You can find similar-type things, you could pull out any type of example. The issue related to the commercial property stuff has been discussed, there have been multiple audits on it. And, you know, there are few things in here that, there's certainly a way to weave the story, where it becomes sort of an alarming thing that there is tremendous amount of dollars were left on the table. Maybe there are, maybe there aren't. But I do think in

terms of, we've got a lot of work that's already there. And we've already validated, kind of, what some of the concerns are. I don't think an audit is really going to do us any more good. I think the question really becomes, here's the information for the Assessors --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Can I respond?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- what is your response to it? What are you going to do about it? From the legislative standpoint, we've identified these things, we've tried to get some stuff done last year, correct, Ms. Corbitt, right? And the Legislature was nonresponsive to it. These facts were known at that point in time. There was an audit done in 2019, that's one by the City of Atlanta. And here's what it said: The Board of Assessors does not systematically under assess commercial property compared to residential property when controlled for sales price. While the Board of Assessors tend to under assess higher-valued property compared to lower-valued properties, this is primarily due to constraints on the Board of Assessors rather than flaw in the practices. The appellant process serves to widen the disparity in the under assessments for higher-valued properties compared to lower-valued properties. And a lot of these articles are written in Atlanta Magazines and other types of things, the types of examples that seeks to -- that it puts out there, many of these things, number one, its probably flawed in the notion that it is going to result -- if there were higher assessed that they were going to result in much more money coming into the County, the City, or the School Board, because they're sitting in TADs. You know, properties like, I think it's Microsoft property that sits in Atlantic Station, Ponce City Market, some of the other high -- some of these trophy properties, they note were those properties. Also, a number them, and in the way that they cite them, they're properties that are -- they reach completion one year, and then they're sold -- then they're sold, roughly, the next year. Then you got this time, you know, when they're assessed versus what the lease value is. You also got, you know, what extent can they factor in tax credit. So it's, to me, it's -- I don't think an audit -- I mean, the issue is a valid concern. But I don't think doing an audit is going to really further remove any of this down the road. I think this is more of a matter for, hey, we have a Board of Assessors, here's all this data that's been -- been out there in the past. You know what the highest value of properties are out there, come tell us what the issues are, and what you need to do about it, and what can be done about it, as opposed to go through yet another audit or another study. And the other thing, in one of these studies also seems to suggest is that, our ratios are really no different than the other metro counties. So that there's something, you know, involved with the dynamics associated with, you know, kind of properties in metro areas as a whole, in which they may tend to get, potentially, under assessed. So I don't think, it's clearly not a very simple issue. There are true, sort of, issues of what can you assess and what you account for in the timing of things, and the information that they have available to them. There's also these dynamics related to appeal that are in there. And there's issues of state law. So I just don't -- we've already done a lot of work, we've paid for a lot of work. I just don't think doing another audit is really the right approach to go about seeking to further, you know, further try to tackle this issue. In addition to that,

we're also moving into a period where, we got a potentially different dynamic that's going to go on with commercial property, when it comes to vacant office space, you know. And it's been highlighted this significant amount of vacant office space that we're already seeing throughout the metro area. So, you know, potentially that -- that problem as it is, if it is -- does exist, begins to normalize, you know, as those properties really maybe don't have the value that they're perceived to have. So, you know, I'm in favor of continuing to look at this issue and have discussion around this issue. But I really think it needs to rest with, hey, let's get the Assessors down here, ask them real questions, and have them do the work and come back to us, as opposed to have yet another outside group, potentially look at something, potentially make recommendations around something that aren't feasible, aren't attainable, and really are not going to help us get at and address the problem."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I want respond to some of those comments directly, Vice Chair Ellis. I understand what you're saying about an audit not being the answer. But I want to be clear that this is not an audit to identify the problem, but rather to give us an actionable list of buildings to answer just some of the things you were talking about. Because what's happening right now is, people are doing independent studies, whether it the be the City, who has a great interest in seeing this problem solved, you know, or independent folks, or news reporters, or whatever the case. And then you have people on -- I don't know that there are really sides here, but I'm going to say, the other side, who will go property by property and pick the ones that for some reason or other, in their mind, don't actually meet the qualifications. So what I'm -- what we're asking and what we would be asking in the RFP for the audit -- and the Auditor is here, if we want to get specifics from him on the kind of thing we could get out of this report. But, you know, that we would be looking for, a literal list of each of the buildings that fit this criteria with the reasons why they are in that condition, so that we know what specific steps we can take to address the problem building by building, property by property. That's what we're looking for here to go beyond, we know there is a problem, and to start actually looking at what we can do to solve it. And I think what the Georgia Tech study points out is that the biggest disparity occurs in the appeals process. And so what we'd be also asking in the audit is to exam that appeals process and determine where the holes are, where an investment on our part could shore that up and close those holes. Are we not -- do we not have the right counsel in place to, you know, when we go to appeal? There are multiple things, and I can't say what they are without having that -- and by the way, that was pointed out to some extent in the earlier audit that was done. But again, we're looking now for the specific spots where we can shore that up and what kind of resources it would take to do it. So, you know, I understand the reluctance, but I think in -- you know, if we just keep asking the Tax Assessor, who only has a limited amount of -- he can present us with the data, but then we're going to have others coming and disagreeing and saying, these are this way for that reason or not for this reason or whatever. As it relates to the TADs, and again, I'm not sure if I really got your exact point on that. But the TADs, any building that was given a tax abatement,

which a lot of people blame this problem on, tax abatements given by Development Authorities. And if there was a tax abatement given, then the property is, for all intents and purposes, owned by the Development Authority that gave the abatement. So it's very easy to see which properties fall into that category, and to say -- and to eliminate those from -- from this list. Should there be -- and I don't believe any of the ones that have been brought up actually fall into that category now. If you're talking about the fact that if the building sits within a TAD that we would not recoup the full amount of the tax revenue currently because of some of it's going -- staying in the TAD, that's true. But ultimately, we will recoup that when it is corrected. And I take your point on the office space issue as well. But I think the market, by all intents -- for all intents and purposes, these markets go up and down. And everybody that I've talked to in the commercial real estate world believes that there -- this is -- it's going -- these buildings aren't going to be sitting un-vacated or completely vacant, rather. They're going to -- that market's going to come back at some level. So I still think it's a worthy pursuit. I think -- you know, I don't know, we were not able to ascertain the cost of exactly what this would cost us to do, this -- this, I'll call it the final on this. But split between the three entities, I don't think it would be a major expenditure for us. And if we -- if we got only one property, just even the King and Spalding Building that I gave as an example. If we only corrected that one property through this process, it would pay for the audit, and we would have additional tax revenue from that. So we're not talking about, you know, if we invest wisely here, the return on investment is potentially enormous. And we're talking about all of these big expenses that we have coming up and the unwillingness to raise the millage rate. Well, if this genuinely -- the highest number here that, again, is in multiple of these reports, Julian Bene's report, as well as the Georgia Tech report, of \$179 million per year of unrealized property tax revenue. Now, I'm not saying we're going to collect all of that, but what if we got half of it? What if we got an additional 50 million a year in property tax revenue from these commercial properties, then we are -- we are taking the burden off of the taxpayer, the residential taxpayer, the taxpayer who is just into their first home that is under \$300,000. And they are right now, you know, bearing a much higher burden, percentage-wise of the tax burden. And it's, you know, it's -- if we even collected some of this, we would be doing a great service to our citizens. And by not investigating this further, I think we're doing them a huge disservice. So, you know, I understand the reluctance to try to do something that's hard. But I think, you know, we have an obligation to do things that are hard, and this is one of them. And I just think it's really a worthy pursuit. And, you know, like I said, I -- you know, I've gotten the City, the School Board, Commissioner Morris, a lot of people are invested on working together on this. And I think this is a good time to move forward on it, considering all of the expenses we have coming up."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis. Then let's vote."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah. Yeah, I would say, well, rest assured, I'm fully comfortable with doing hard stuff, right. And -- but doing an audit is not necessarily doing hard stuff. What -- and we've had this stuff, we went through before, and we didn't get the yield, you know. So when we had this conversation back and we asked

Anthony, his team to do this work, we didn't get the yield. And we heard specifically, what needed to be done, and a lot of it centered -- we did -- we did invest more in the Assessors' operations. We did give them additional technology to do certain things. There are certain things which they did execute on. There are certain things which they didn't execute on. There are other things which they said, you know, there for a variety of reasons, the details you have, they are wrong. So until they come down here and say -- I mean, we can give them these ten properties. Why are they not at this value? Walk me through why they are not. And if they can articulate that, then that's going to, like, hey, this isn't -- this is fool's gold, it's not money that's going to materialize. If they can't and it's a different number and they're going to lose on appeal, articulate why you're going to lose on appeal. Is it a matter of state law, or is it a matter because of -- if you don't have the resources necessary to fight the appeal? And I think we had that conversation about, did we want to give them additional money to fight commercial appeals. So it's not that I'm not interested in doing the tough stuff. I just think this isn't potentially -- it's just going to prolong the issue, as opposed to really getting in front of the Board of Assessors and demanding their specific attention to it in response to us, as opposed to having another third-party tell us something that's potentially, could be higher, could not be higher, whatever. And then they're going to go through the process of responding to that again. You know, and they are the Board of Assessors. They're ultimately going to set the values on these things. And I'd like to hear from them in terms of a clear response to these issues. And we can frame that up and have it be -- and ask for a clear response on this stuff, and give us some specific examples of certain properties, and have them roll up their sleeves and do the work. I'd rather approach it that way than to go through another audit. That's my point."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I mean, again, we can go back and forth all day long. I mean, I'm happy to, you know, ask the County Auditor to talk a little bit about the audit that was performed in 2019. But, in fact, I don't know, you probably just answer from there. But it's up to you. But I -- correct me if I'm wrong, the audit that was performed at that time, did not look at every single property. It was just a sampling, correct? Yeah. So it was a sampling of buildings. And then exactly what I was saying happened, happened, people took up a few of those particular buildings, they said, well that one doesn't count for this reason, and this one doesn't count for the other reason. That does not get at the whole picture. And then I would ask, you know, Jessica -- I don't know if Fran is still here somewhere, but to talk about, you know, the Georgia Tech study, which -- which definitely, you know, this is -- you know, Ph.D. professors of, you know, data analytics looking at this data and saying, this is a genuine problem. There is clear data that shows there's a disparity here. And there is also clear data that shows that this disparity is in the appeals process predominately. So, you know, this is not about what the Assessor is doing in making those original assessments. But it's in the laws that are restricting him from changing those assessments over time, and also the way they appeals process works. And we're trying to get a complete list here so that we can begin to take action. I don't -- if you have another way to get a complete list on

which we can take action and get the information on the appeals process, I'm all for it. This seems like a good way to do it for me that is an independent group looking at the data. There was also a different Assessor in place when those other studies were done, who had a different position on all of this and a different attitude about it. Mr. Conley, I believe, is very open to working with us. He provided the data to the Georgia Tech folks that asked for it. He's -- you know, I've had conversations with him, you know. I think he would like to see this get solved as much as anybody else. So, you know, again, I'm -- this is just the beginning of the request to have to do this IGA. And I think we owe it to ourselves to try this. Maybe, I'm naive and you all here have been here a long time. But maybe my newness at some level, can benefit us, because I have the energy to try to push this forward. And, you know, I'm willing to, you know, try to do what it takes to get it done. Because the people are not satisfied when they see the data that's out there and when they see the information that's out there. And I brought this up in February, everybody sort of -- nobody really jumped on it. And this is the -- you know, this is where we -- this where we arrive in terms of the next step. If you have a better alternative that's going to really move the ball forward, I'm all for it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "My alternative would have bring the Tax Assessor down here and say, this suggest -- you have -- we have data that says that you're under assess -- you've under assessed commercial property to the tune of 30 percent --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That's not what I'm saying."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And if that's accurate, do you feel that's accurate, yes or no, yes, maybe, whatever. Okay. What -- why is that? Do you need additional resources? Do you need a different way to do commercial property evaluation assessment? Do you want to outsource it? Do you need to hire in other folks? Is the problem in the appeals process? And if so, what are the issues within it? And if can't -- can we get state law changed, and highlight what that specific state law is. And if it doesn't change, nothing's going to change, nothing's going to likely change. You will likely continue to see this type of delta. That's my point. We've not heard from them, specifically, on these particular matters, in whether or not any sort of different data points is going to change their behavior."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I move to hold it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. There's a motion, substitute motion -- the motion on the floor is to approve. Now, there's a substitute motion by Commissioner Hall to hold. Is there a second to the motion to hold? Seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Now, let's dispose of the motion to hold and get back to the main motion."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0465**, As amended, request approval of resolution amending resolution 22-0546 to authorize the donation of \$500,000 to the Atlanta Technical College Foundation, Inc. instead of the Atlanta Technical College."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "A motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. That -- this is a -- actually, a name change. The money will go, instead of going to Atlanta Technical College, it will go to the Atlanta Technical College Foundation. The money is already in place. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Not a name change, right?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What did say?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You said, a name change."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Not a name change, two different entities. Thank you, yeah."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I want to know -- thank you for that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- explanation, Mr. Chair. I was just trying to make sure this wasn't other thing. So I'm fine with it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right, let's vote, please. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You're welcome."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0466**, Human Resources Management, presentation of Fulton County's New Mental Health Resiliency Program."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Quickly, Mr. Hermon."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Mr. Chair, could I -- I'm going to ask you to hold that item until the next Board meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Thank you, sir, you're a great American. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 11, **23-0467**, Discussion, open and transparent government, sponsored by Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I was going to make a motion to hold as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're another great American. Thank you, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I want to be a great American."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "It's **23-0468**, Discussion --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to hold. Next item. Anything else today?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. No further matters to come before us today, we are adjourned. Take about a five or ten-minute break. We'll see you upstairs at 4:00, and I need one hour. You are a great American."

(There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.)