

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING**

April 13, 2022  
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: May 4, 2022.**

---

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Robert L. Pitts **10:01 a.m.**

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

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)	<b>PRESENT</b>
Liz Hausmann, Vice-Chairman (District 1)	<b>PRESENT</b>
Bob Ellis, Commissioner (District 2)	<b>PRESENT</b>
Lee Morris, Commissioner (District 3)	<b>PRESENT</b>
Natalie Hall, Commissioner (District 4)	<b>PRESENT</b>
Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5)	<b>PRESENT</b>
Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner (District 6)	<b>PRESENT</b>

**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****22-0206 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 AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended by removing #22-0208 for separate consideration as requested by Commissioner Ellis. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, and Morris

**Absent:** Hall, and Arrington

**Did Not Vote:** Abdur-Rahman

**22-0207 Board of Commissioners**

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

Proclamation recognizing "Big Bethel A.M.E. Social Sunday." **(Abdur-Rahman)**  
March 20, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Sue Ross Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**  
April 1, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "LaShun Pace Remembrance Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**  
April 2, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Marshall Newsome Remembrance Day."  
**(Abdur-Rahman)**  
April 9, 2022

**Commissioners' District Board Appointments****22-0208 Board of Commissioners**

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY **(HELD ON 4/13/22)**

Term = 4 Years

Term below expires: 5/31/2025

Jo Anna Potts **(Abdur-Rahman) (Resigned)**

**Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Rodney Littles to replace Jo Anna Potts for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending May 31, 2025.**

---

**Open & Responsible Government****22-0209 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 47,296 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Johns Creek 206, LLC., for the purpose of constructing the Bellmoore Park Pod B Project at 0 McGinnis Ferry Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0210 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 158,674 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Johns Creek 206, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Bellmoore Park Pod B Project at 0 McGinnis Ferry Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0211 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 29,278 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from the City of Johns Creek, Georgia, for the purpose of constructing the Cauley Creek Park Site Improvement Project at 0 Bell Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0212 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 11,192 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from JBGL Atlanta Development 2014, LLC., for the purpose of constructing the Towns on Thompson Project at 185 Thompson Street, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0213 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 34,348 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from JBGL Atlanta Development 2014, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Towns on Thompson Project at 185 Thompson Street, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0214 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 3,149 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from CK92, LLC., for the purpose of constructing the Langston Hughes Place Project at 0 Campbellton Fairburn Road, South Fulton, Georgia 30213. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0215 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 123,550 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Taylor Road Holdings, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Little River Farms Estates Project at 0 Taylor Road, Milton, Georgia 30004. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0216 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 382 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Vellanki, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Intuitive Learning Project at 0 Old Alabama Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30022. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0217 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request ratification of an emergency purchase order - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, #22CASTROEMER134C-MH, General Landscape Maintenance with Ed Castro Landscape, Inc. (Roswell, GA) in the amount of \$164,178.00, to provide on-site general landscaping, maintenance and lawn care services for a total of 59 County-owned sites which include the Fulton County Executive Airport and Customer Service Center (formally the WROC Building). Effective dates: March 15, 2022 through June 30, 2022. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**Arts and Libraries****22-0218 Arts and Culture**

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Arts and Culture, 22RFP0119B-EC, Public Art Futures Lab - Digital Content Creation in an amount not to exceed \$24,985.00 with Online Optimism LLC (Atlanta, GA) to create multimedia content that documents and shares the story of the Public Art Futures Lab Artist-in-Residence program to be provided upon BOC approval through December 31, 2022, with two renewal options. This item is 100% grant funded. No County funding is required. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0219 Library**

Request approval to award a contract without competition - Fulton County Library System 21EF131840B, 2022 Edition of World Book Encyclopedia in an amount not to exceed \$33,966.00 with World Book, Inc. (Chicago, IL), to provide patrons with a physical source of information for homework, research projects and fact searches for all ages. Effective upon BOC approval for a 12 month period. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

---

**Health and Human Services****22-0220 Community Development**

Request approval to transfer Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) unspent administration funds from grant years 2018 (\$223,229.00), 2019 (\$250,218.00), and 2020 (\$173,474.00) totaling \$646,921.00, to award projects to the City of South Fulton (\$250,000.00), City of College Park (\$223,229.00), and City of Hapeville (\$173,692.00); Request approval of contracts with City of South Fulton, City of College Park and City of Hapeville for the transferred funds herein; Authorize the Chairman to disburse funds, execute and administer contracts approved by the Board of Commissioners, and other related documents consistent with the federal program regulations and this Board action; Authorize the County Attorney to approve these contracts as to form and to make modifications thereto prior to execution. Funds are 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**22-0221 Community Development**

Request approval to:

1. Amend the contract service dates for (City of East Point, Latin American Association and 24/7 Gateway, LLC), approved by the BOC on April 14, 2021 (Agenda Item # 21-0252), from May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022 to May 1, 2021 - November 30, 2022. This action will allow the Department more time to expend the funding allocated. These are ESG grant funds which expire on February 8, 2023.
2. Amend the contract for Gateway, LLC approved by the BOC on April 14, 2021 (Agenda Item #21-0252) by amending the statement of work from providing only residential services under the Shelter activity approved to provide all essential services and operations under the Shelter activity for 24/7 Gateway, LLC.
3. Amend the contract for North Fulton Charities approved by the BOC on October 20, 2021 (Agenda Item # 21-0798), to increase allocation by \$3,286.00 from \$25,000.00 to a total amount of \$28,286.00.

All contracts are grant funded (461-121-ES20-1160). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**Infrastructure and Economic Development****22-0222 Public Works**

Request approval of a change order less than 10% - Department of Public Works, 20ITB126798K-JAJ, ARFF Building Renovations Phase II at no additional cost, with Trident Building Solutions LLC, Atlanta, GA, to amend the Mechanical Specifications and Contract Duration. This change order is effective upon approval and for a term of 270 days. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

---

**Justice and Safety**

- 22-0223 District Attorney**  
Request approval of the Fulton County District Attorney's Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**
- 22-0224 Emergency Services**  
Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Fulton County and Atlanta Public Schools for the provision of the Digital 450 MHz Radio System Access retroactive January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**
- 22-0225 Emergency Services**  
Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Fulton County and Fulton County Board of Health for the provision of the Digital 800 MHz Radio System Access retroactive January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, with three (3) renewal options ending December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 22-0226 Board of Commissioners**  
Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda. **(ADOPTED AS AMENDED)**
- A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by revising items #22-0228 as requested by Commissioners Hall and Arrington, #22-0239 as requested by the County Manager; move up items #22-0235 through #22-0238 as requested by Vice-Chairman Hausmann; and remove item #22-0259 to be heard in Executive Session as requested by Commissioner Ellis. The motion passed by the following vote:
- Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arrington
- Abstain:** Abdur-Rahman
- 22-0227 Clerk to the Commission**  
Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**
- Regular Meeting Minutes, March 2, 2022  
Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, March 16, 2022  
Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 1, 2022
- A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to ratify the meeting minutes. The motion passed by the following vote:
- Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman
- Did Not Vote:** Ellis

**22-0228 Board of Commissioners**

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

Proclamation recognizing “Boss Girls, Inc. Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing “Captain Planet Foundation Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**

~~\*Proclamation recognizing “Eslene Richmond Shockley Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**~~

Proclamation recognizing “I’m A Father F1rst Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing “Telena Saxton Appreciation Day.” **(Hall)**

~~\*Proclamation recognizing “Makenzie Thompson Appreciation Day.” **(Arrington)**~~

Proclamation recognizing “Samuel Washington Appreciation Day.” **(Arrington)**

Proclamation recognizing “Tri-Cities Boys Basketball Championship Appreciation Day.” **(Arrington)**

Proclamation recognizing “Woodward Academy Girls Basketball Championship Appreciation Day.” **(Abdur-Rahman)**

*\*removed during the meeting*

**PUBLIC HEARINGS****22-0229 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.

**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)**

**11 Speakers: Tax Commissioner, Dr. Arthur Ferdinand (Employee); Judge Cassandra Kirk (Part-time Judges Compensation); Jewel Johnson (Elections); Reshard Snellings (County Commissioners); Al Bartell (Item #22-0198); Ebony Section (Save Oakhill); L.A. Pink (District 6 Staff); Wali Sabir (Employees Running for Office); Myrtle Bolden (Item# 22-0259); Sandra Burchardt (Elections) and Kevin Muldowney (Elections)**

**4 Zoom Speakers: Matt Rowenczak (Elections); Melissa Fiorillo (Elections); Susan Brack (Elections) and Ben Howard (Senior Services)**

**2 Emailed Comments: Kathy Whitehouse (Elections) and Susanne Hubbard (Elections)**

**COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS****Open & Responsible Government****22-0230 County Manager**

Presentation of COVID-19 Operational Response Update. **(PRESENTED)**

**22-0231 Purchasing and Contract Compliance**

Request approval of a Resolution to extend emergency purchasing authority of the Chairman and County Manager for COVID-19 related purchases; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman



**22-0232 Purchasing and Contract Compliance**

Request ratification of emergency procurement - County Manager, Countywide Emergency Procurements. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0203 Purchasing and Contract Compliance**

Purchasing & Contract Compliance - Request approval of an ordinance pursuant to the Home Rule Provision of the Georgia constitution repealing sections of certain local acts which established certain provisions of the purchasing code and amending the Fulton County purchasing code providing for the manner of procurement of goods and services for Fulton County, Georgia, and for other purposes. **(FIRST READ APPROVED ON 3/16/22) (APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0233 Finance**

Presentation, review and approval of April 13, 2022 Budget Soundings. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**22-0234 Finance**

Request approval of the Supplemental Pricing Resolution Authorizing, among other things, the Issuance and Sale of General Fund Tax Anticipation Notes in the Aggregate Principal Amount of \$175,000,000.00. This Resolution provides acceptance of the lowest acceptable bid for the short-term borrowing arrangement for the County's 2022 Tax Anticipation Note which matures December 30, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0191 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a Resolution to exercise Home Rule to repeal Section 1(a) of local law 2017 Ga. L. 3948; to continue the County supplement paid to the Probate Judge; to continue the salary paid to the Juvenile Court Judges; and for other purposes. **(FIRST READ APPROVED ON 3/16/22) (APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

**Did Not Vote:** Abdur-Rahman

**22-0194 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a Resolution to exercise Home Rule to repeal Section 1 of local law 1960 Ga. L. 2347; to amend Section 10 of local law 1976 Ga. L. 3023; to establish the salary of the Marshal pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-10-100; and for other purposes. **(FIRST READ APPROVED ON 3/16/22) (APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0235 Human Resources Management**

Request to make modifications to the classification and compensation sections of the Classification and Compensation Plan by inserting the new Key Classifications Section effective March 16, 2022 and making other modifications to the existing sections, as a result thereof; and to authorize the County Manager to fund the modifications from funds specifically set aside and other funds in the 2022 budget. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0236 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a Resolution to establish new supplements for the Circuit Public Defender, Sheriff and Superior Court Clerk; to establish new salaries for the Solicitor-General and Marshal; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0237 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a Resolution to establish new supplements and salaries for certain Elected and Appointed Judicial Officials; and for other purposes.

**(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Ellis to approve, with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Hall to include the part-time Judges at an equal hourly rate as the full-time Judges. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to reconsider item #22-0237. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Hall to rescind the approval of item #22-0237. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve the Resolution as amended with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Hall to include the part-time Judges at an equal hourly rate as the full-time Judges. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**22-0238 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a Resolution to establish new supplements for Superior Court Judges, the District Attorney and the Circuit Public Defender after supportive opinion received from the Attorney General; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve an amendment to remove the contingency of the opinion of the Attorney General. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Vice-Chairman Hausmann, to approve as amended. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0239 Registration & Elections**

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder - Registration and Elections, 22ITBC031722MH-C, Printing Ballots for absentee voting in an amount not to exceed \$76,610.00 to Tattnell Journal, Inc. dba Tattnell Ballot solutions (Reidsville, GA) to provide ballot printing services for the May 24, 2022 General Primary Election. Effective upon Board approval. **(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Vice-Chairman Hausmann, to hold. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

**22-0240 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidders - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Bid#22ITB132332C-GS, Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services Countywide in the total amount of \$754,600.00 with (A) Latham Home Sanitation Company, Inc. (Loganville, GA) in the amount of \$441,600.00; and, (B) Georgia Waste Systems, LLC dba Waste Management of Atlanta South, (Lake City, GA) in the amount of \$313,000.00, to provide landfill solid waste disposal and single stream recycling services for Fulton County facilities. Effective dates: April 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0241 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Real Estate and Asset Management, Sourcewell Contract #031121-TTC, Landscape & Grounds Maintenance Equipment, Attachments and Accessories with Related Services in the amount of \$68,635.00 with Jack Peek's Sales, Inc., an authorized distributor/dealer for the purchase of five (5) Scag 61 Turf Tiger II 37HP EFI Briggs V Lawn Mowers. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0242 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to increase spending authority - Real Estate and Asset Management, 19ITB118788C-GS, Uninterrupted Power Supply System Maintenance Service - in the amount of \$108,223.00 with EOLA Power, LLC. (Formerly South Florida Critical Power, LLC, Miami, FL), for the replacement and installation of a new battery and capacitor in the uninterrupted power supply (UPS) system unit at the Fulton County Justice Center Tower. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0243 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of statewide contracts - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, SWC#99999-001-SPD0000116, Tires and Tubes, Pneumatic and Solid and Retread Tires, in the total amount of \$175,000.00 with (A) Continental Tire the Americas d/b/a Hill Tire Company, Inc. (Forest Park, GA) in the amount of \$25,000.00; (B) The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company d/b/a Nextire Commercial, Inc. (Decatur, GA) in the amount of \$125,000.00; and (C) Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC d/b/a Atlanta Commercial Tire, Inc. (Forest Park, GA) in the amount of \$25,000.00, to provide tires, tubes, accessories and repair services for Fulton County fleet vehicles. Effective dates: upon approval of the Board of Commissioners through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0244 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidders - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Bid#22ITBC132961C-MH, HVAC Equipment and Parts, in the total amount of \$70,000.00 with (A) F. M. Shelton, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$43,750.00; and (B) HD Supply Facilities Maintenance, LTD (Jacksonville, FL) in the amount of \$26,250.00 to provide HVAC equipment and parts on an as needed basis for County facilities. Effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2022, with two (2) renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0245 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval for use of Beltline TAD Funds - Fulton County Library System, Library Capital Improvement Program Phase II (FCLS-CIP), Design/Build services in the amount of \$1,114,433.67 for Phase II library construction projects including the renovation of Peachtree Library, the renovation of MLK Library and the expansion of East Point Library. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Arts and Libraries****22-0246 Arts and Culture**

Request approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement ("Agreement") between Fulton County, Georgia and the City of Johns Creek, Georgia to create a Selection Panel and to commission artwork from the steel material used to construct the historic Rogers Bridge; authorizing the Chairman to execute the Agreement as to form and to make necessary modifications thereof prior to execution. Effective upon approval of both Fulton County and City of Johns Creek and to continue for two (2) years. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

**Did Not Vote:** Abdur-Rahman

---

**Health and Human Services****22-0247 Community Development**

Request approval of a Substantial Amendment to the HUD 2021 Annual Action Plan for HOME Investment Partnership for a 2021 budget revision; and authorize the Chairman to disburse funds and execute and administer contracts approved by the Board of Commissioners, and other related documents consistent with the federal program requirements and this Board action. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0248 Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities**

Request approval to utilize a cooperative purchasing agreement - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Omnia formerly US Communities, Master Contract #EV2370 (or 128867) for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (BHDD) in the amount not to exceed \$330,648.00 with Farber Specialty Vehicles (Columbus, OH), to provide a customized mobile vehicle unit for community outreach efforts throughout Fulton County notably in underserved, minority communities. This is a one-time procurement. 100% grant funded. **(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, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Hausmann, and Ellis

**22-0249 Public Works**

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fulton County and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), for water main relocations associated with Design Build (DB) Project PI-0001757 Phase-1 to construct bridge replacements at Pitts Road, Roberts Drive and Kimball Bridge Road over SR 400, at no cost to Fulton County. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Ellis

**22-0250 Public Works**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County, Georgia and the City of Johns Creek, Georgia for water main relocations associated with the replacement of an existing bridge along Bell Road at the Cauley Creek Tributary in the City of Johns Creek, Georgia, in an estimated amount of \$275,850.00. The IGA is effective upon execution through December 31, 2022.

**(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

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

**22-0251 Public Works**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County, Georgia and the City of Johns Creek, Georgia for water main relocations associated with the Rivermont Parkway improvements in the City of Johns Creek, GA, in an estimated amount of \$420,475.00. The contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2023. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

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

**22-0252 Public Works**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County, Georgia and the City of Johns Creek, Georgia for water facilities relocations associated with the Buice Road improvements between Papillon Trace and Spruill Road in the City of Johns Creek, GA, in an estimated amount of \$10,500.00. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the IGA as to form and to make necessary modifications thereof prior to execution. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, and Hall

**Did Not Vote:** Ellis, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman



**22-0253 Public Works**

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fulton County, Georgia and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the adjustment of 32-sanitary sewer manholes associated with the resurfacing of Roswell Road (SR 9) from SR 3/Northside Dr. NW to CS 1865/Lake Placid Drive, P.I. M005652, in an estimated amount of \$72,945.60. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

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

**22-0254 Public Works**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County, the City of Alpharetta, GA, and the North Fulton Community Improvement District (NFCID), for water main relocations associated with the Davis Drive roadway and sidewalk extensions in the City of Alpharetta, GA, in an estimated amount of \$364,487.50. The IGA is effective upon execution and through 12/31/24. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the IGA as to form and to make necessary modifications thereof prior to execution. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

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

**22-0255 Public Works**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County, Georgia and the City of Milton, Georgia for water main relocations associated with the intersection improvement of Hopewell Road at Hamby Road and Hopewell Road at Thompson Road in the City of Milton, GA. The final construction cost is \$482,585.00. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

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

---

**Justice and Safety****22-0256 State Court**

Request approval to extend GreenCourt Legal Technologies, LLC into State Court, based on the Master E-File Service Agreement between the Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia and GreenCourt Legal Technologies, LLC. This extension is requested for the implementation of an electronic filing system. **(APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Ellis

**22-0257 Medical Examiner**

Request approval of a contract - Medical Examiner, in an amount not to exceed \$126,000.00 to provide Part-time or Intermittent Pathology Autopsy Services to assist the Medical Examiner's office with clearing case backlog due to staffing shortage, and to assist the office with attaining full accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners. Effective dates: February 3, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(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, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Ellis

**COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS****22-0258 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution approving a Right of Access License Agreement between Fulton County and the City of South Fulton for purpose of granting temporary access to the Wolf Creek Amphitheater and the Southwest Arts Center; authorizing the Chairman to execute all documents necessary to grant access; authorizing the County Attorney to approve all documents as to form prior to execution by the Chairman. Effective upon approval and shall expire upon the earlier to occur of (a) the execution of the temporary Lease, or (b) the completion of the Juneteenth Celebration, whichever comes first. **(Pitts) (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, Hausmann, Ellis, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Morris

**22-0259 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution approving emergency maintenance on certain storm water detention ponds located within the boundaries of the City of South Fulton Georgia, in order to address the growing public safety and health concerns, pursuant to certain Fulton County Easement rights, and for other purposes. **(Abdur-Rahman) (REMOVED TO BE HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

**22-0260 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-19(e)(6) to approve salary supplements for State paid staff in the office of the District Attorney. **(Hall) (APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Hall, and Arrington

**Did Not Vote:** Morris, and Abdur-Rahman

**22-0261 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-6-27(h) to approve salary supplements for State paid staff employed in the Superior Court of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit. **(Hall) (APPROVED)**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Hall, and Arrington

**Did Not Vote:** Morris, and Abdur-Rahman

## Commissioners' Full Board Appointments

**22-0262 Board of Commissioners**  
 HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (NORTHSIDE) **(Morris)**  
**(APPROVED)**

Term = 4 Years

Terms below expired: 4/1/2022

Barbara Pare' **(BOC 7)**

Dr. K. Douglas Smith **(BOC 8)**

Dr. Stephen J. Wells. **(BOC 9)**

The Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority of Fulton County (Northside) submitted the following slate of names for the Board of Commissioners' consideration to terms ending April 1, 2026.

Position #7 - Barbara Pare'; Bruce Green, M.D.; Jennifer Amerson, M.D.

Position #8 - Steven G. Moss, M.D.; R. Scott Ballard, M.D.; John B. Neeld, Jr., M.D.

Position #9 - Stephen J. Wells, M.D.; Kenneth Kupke, M.D.; Raymond Allen, M.D.

**The Board of Commissioners shall submit a slate of three (3) names, per position, to the Hospital Authority of Fulton County, for selection of one (1) person to be appointed by the Authority for each position.**

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

**Yea:** Pitts, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

**Did Not Vote:** Hausmann, and Abdur-Rahman

## COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

### Open & Responsible Government

**22-0263 External Affairs**  
 Presentation of 2022 Legislative Agenda. **(PRESENTED)**

## COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

**22-0264 Board of Commissioners**  
 Discussion: Update of activities of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority (AFCRA). **(Arrington) (HELD ON 4/13/22)**

**22-0265 Board of Commissioners**  
 Discussion: Update on status of preparation for May Primary Elections **(Ellis)**  
**(PRESENTED)**

**22-0266 Board of Commissioners**

Discussion: Transparency and Accountability in Fulton County (**Abdur-Rahman**)  
(HELD ON 4/13/22)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**22-0267 Board of Commissioners**

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

**PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING SECURITY: Chairman Pitts, Vice-Chairman Hausmann, Commissioners: Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; Sheriff Patrick Labat; Deputy Sheriff Captain Shavonne Edwards; Chief Deputy Sheriff Antonio Johnson; Sheriff Deputy Chief of Staff Michael Shoates; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier.**

**PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE AND PERSONNEL: Chairman Pitts, Vice-Chairman Hausmann, Commissioners: Ellis, Morris, 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 Hall and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to enter into Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Pitts

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve representation in items #1, #2, and #3 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Vice-Chairman Hausmann, to approve the personnel matter in item #6 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**ADDED TO THE MEETING**

**Items added to the Agenda**

**22-0268 Board of Commissioners**

Discussion: Closing of Wellstar Hospital in South Fulton. **(Pitts)**

**Motion to add item to the Regular Meeting Agenda failed for a lack of a super majority vote.**

A motion was made by Chairman Pitts and seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve adding item #22-0268 to the Regular Meeting agenda. The motion failed by the following vote:

**Yea:** Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, and Morris

**Nay:** Abdur-Rahman

**Absent:** Hall, and Arrington

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S  
REGULAR MEETING

April 13, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC

(Whereupon the meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Good morning and welcome to the Regular Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is April the 13th; it is 10:01 a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll for purposes of a quorum."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Chairman Robb Pitts."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Present."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Vice Chairman Liz Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Present."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Commissioner Bob Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Present."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Commissioner Lee Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Present."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Present."

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

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you. Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **22-0206**, 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 to be removed, Madam Clerk?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "I don't have any."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioners, anything on the Consent Agenda? In the absence of that --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- I do. I'd like to remove item 22-0208."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "What page, sir?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Page 2 of 14."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Page 2 item number --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "22-0208."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "2208. All right. Any other items, Commissioners? Any other items? All right. I'll entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have an item to be added to today's Regular Meeting Agenda, 22-0268, Discussion; closing of WellStar Hospital in South Fulton, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. I'd like to add that today. There's some issues that we need to be brought to the attention of the Full Board from an emergency point of view with respect to that hospital closing; so that would take five – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, five affirmative votes to do so. I respectfully ask that it would be added. Let's vote, please. The motion is to add that item to the Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay, there it is."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "What?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open to add item 0268. And the motion fails; four yeas, one nay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Next item."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 6, Regular Meeting Agenda, **22-0226**, Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have two items to be revised on today's Regular Meeting Agenda on page 6, 22-0228, we're removing two Proclamations: Proclamation recognizing Eslene Richmond Shockley Appreciation Day, and Makenzie Thompson. Those proclamations will be moved to the April 20th Recess Meeting. On page 8, 22-0239, Registration and Elections. The requested action has been revised: Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder for the printing of the Dominion Voting System's election ballots for the 2022 General Municipal and Special Elections and Runoffs. On page 8, 22-0239, at the bottom, it's been revised; the requested action was changed."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Do we have that information?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes, it should be in your Add-On folder."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Anything else? Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, item 22 -- I'd like to request that item 22-0259 --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- which page?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Which is on page 12 of 14 be removed from the Agenda. I realize this was a Commissioner's Actions Item, but it's not an item that's appropriate for discussion here. It should be in the purview of the Executive Session."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Which one?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "22-0259."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "22-02 --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- 59."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. Executive Session?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yes, sir."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay, other items? Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "No, sir."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "I know that we have a lot of our Constitutional Officers that have items on the Agenda today, including our Superior Court Chief Judge. I would just ask that if they're in attendance that the Agenda be amended to allow them -- that item to be called while they're here rather than have them sitting here all day."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Any objections? Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "If we are to do that, Mr. Chair, I think that a lot of those items all relate to a similar topic and there's about five or six items, I think they would all need to be jointly heard together."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "so, then as a courtesy --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "--if that winds up being the case."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "-- yeah, I'm fine with putting them altogether. I just think that we should have a plan here so that we don't have people sitting around all day."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I understand that if we bring up one we probably should address all six or seven because --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--let's bring them altogether and get this over with."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "—I don't know if they're grouped together at this point."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--hold it, hold it -- all right, Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Just for clarity, we're not asking that we amend the Agenda at that time, but we're going ahead and stating today that when they're here, we'll go ahead and take them at that point."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yeah, there's three items: 235, 236, and 237."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "What page, Commissioner Hausmann? Vice Chair, what page? What page? They're all on page 8?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "Page 8."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "What are the items?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "0235 through 238."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "They're all grouped together. That's already on here, but I just, you know, you never know how long something is going to take, and if we're going through something that's really long, I would just ask that we pause and allow this portion of the Agenda to occur, and then resume the Agenda."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Well, this seems to be early on, on the Agenda. They're all right there together. We'll just take them. If they're here, they're here."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes. I object. I formally object to item 22-0259 being removed on page 12. And I would like the County Attorney to give me why a Commissioner's Discussion Item -- Action Item can be removed by another Commissioner?"

**Y. SOO. JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Item 22-0259 appears to be a Discussion Item that pertains to a matter that was previously determined to be discussion of potential litigation, and so it was determined to be more appropriately discussed in Executive Session."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Appropriately discussed in Executive Session without knowing what I'm discussing pertaining to it; and I would further -- for the sitting and viewing public -- I did ask you to get back to me in a timely manner, so I can let the constituents know my position on it. We're going to the 40 day mark and you have not responded to me in a timely manner. When we were in Executive Session that's the purpose of me asking you that, and I have not received -- you are the County Attorney for this entire Board. I have not received any information. I would have appreciated if you had responded -- if you had responded to what I said to you and asked you to get back in touch with me in a timely manner."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. So --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--the objection still remains, Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner, there's still an objection but the - Commissioner Ellis asked that this be heard in Executive Session. It was an item of discussion in Executive Session, so I'm going to rule that it is appropriate for this to be held -- heard in Executive Session."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Well, let me ask you this: Can it not be heard in Executive Session, and then I come out here for the viewing audience and still have it as a Discussion Item per what is discussed in Executive Session? Is that not out of fairness to a sitting Commissioner who has requested a response from the County Attorney, and 40-day mark has come, and I have not received it? So, I'm asking in fairness to a sitting Commissioner, who represents 175,000 constituents that if it is determined in Executive Session that I should not have it on the Agenda at that time, I will oblige."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "We will discuss this in Executive Session, and depending upon what is decided in Executive Session, if further discussion is desired necessary then we could have that in the public, but it will first go to Executive Session."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "That's fine. I have no problem with that. I just do not want it to be taken off of the Agenda wholly by another Commissioner that does not represent my District. If I'm not going to have an opportunity to speak what I need to speak for my constituents."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you. Anything else? All right. On the full Agenda as amended let's vote, please. Commissioner Morris motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Cast your vote on the Agenda as amended."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, one abstention to adopt today's Regular Meeting Agenda."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Madam Clerk, my screen is frozen and I was going to vote yes, but my screen is frozen."

**CLERK GRIER:** "That's six yeas, one abstention."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0227**, Ratification of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes, March 2nd; Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, March 16th; and Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 1st, 2022."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. What's your pleasure? All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis. Do I hear a second? Seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Please vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Madam clerk, while he's fixing my machine I vote, yes."

**CLERK GRIER:** "So noted, Vice Chairman. And the motion passes unanimously."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0228**, Presentations of Proclamations and Certificates. The first Proclamation is recognizing 'Boss Girls, Inc. Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. It's 10:13; we allow 30 minutes for these Proclamations. 10:13 a.m."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Mr. Chairman, I'm going to remain sitting here. As some of you know, I had surgery recently, so I'm not going to try to stand up there. But it's not through any lack of respect for the proclamation."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Good morning. It is an honor to present you with this Proclamation. And it was my pleasure to attend your event and hear you speak on your vision and your mission, and how you came to create this nonprofit organization. I'm so proud of you. And the proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Boss Girls Inc. is a 501C3 charitable organization inspired by young audacious leaders whose mission is to turn a girl into a Boss. And WHEREAS, Boss Girls, Inc. was founded to educate and empower young girls to dream bigger, and use their abilities and voice to impact income inequality for women. And WHEREAS, today, there are over 600 billionaires in the United States, with only 13 percent of them being women, and only two of them are black women, Oprah Winfrey and Rihanna. And WHEREAS, Boss Girls, Incorporated serves girls in grades six through 12 through five programs: financial and economic literacy, personal development, health and wellness, and global travel. And they also introduce professional experts to facilitate their workshops in person and virtually; and teach young ladies the academics and hard truths of wealth accumulation and social influence. And WHEREAS, Boss Girls, Incorporated was founded by Xara Kemp when she was 11 years old. She is an 'A' student who was awarded the Principal's Award from her school, and is a member of both the National Beta club, and Junior National Honor Society, and is the President of the DECA club; and enjoys learning about stocks and foreign currency, and is currently writing a financial book titled 'Young People Trade Too for Fun'. She enjoys dancing, roller-skating, and cooking, and aspires to be a leading investor in women in business. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Boss Girls, Incorporated for their support and encouragement of the potential of young women in our community. And

does HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, April 13th, 2020, as 'Boss Girls, Incorporated Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**XARA KEMP, RECIPIENT:** "I just want to say, thank you for giving me this absolutely - Proclamation. And I just want to say for the people who in here who have a girl, who are needed to just dream bigger; and who need help to find their way in just becoming their better selves, Boss Girls is always here because we do have the most strongest sisterhood that is presented in Boss Girl. And if you need our Girl, we're here. So I just want to say thank you. Thank you and we're here to inspire more girls."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Captain Planet Foundation Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Can we have some on each side. You guys want to stay together? Yes, there we go. WHEREAS, Captain Planet Foundation was launched in 1991 at Turner Broadcasting System when executive producer, Barbara Pyle negotiated a percentage of the shows merchandising revenue to engage and empower young people around the world to solve problems that adversely affect the planet. And WHEREAS, Captain Planet Foundation is both a grant-making and programmatic 501C3 foundation that has funded over 3,300 hands-on environmental education projects with schools and nonprofits that serve children in all 50 states and in 35 countries all over the world. More than 1.6 million children have participated in these projects and more than 10.5 million have been positively impacted. And WHEREAS, Captain Planet Foundation prioritizes and values community inclusion, collaboration, market responsiveness, rigor and knowledge sharing. And WHEREAS, Captain Planet Foundation has consistently expanded to include project learning garden which transformed schoolyards into outdoor learning laboratories; project giving gardens which partners with local community gardens to grow fresh produce for the Atlanta Community Food Bank; and neighborhood food pantries, and local families. And several other projects including Project Hero, Ocean Heroes Boot Camp and Network. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Captain Planet Foundation for their groundbreaking work to encourage youth engagement in the mission to protect and save our planet for future generations. And does HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, April 13, 2020 as Captain Planet Foundation Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**RECIPIENT:** "Thank you so much. We just had our 30th birthday. And so, we're really proud and honored to be based right here in Atlanta, Georgia, and to be doing all of this great work for the communities right here in Atlanta and also around the world. And we're just -- we're very grateful. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'I'm A Father F1rst Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "I just saw them. I see them right there. I'm A Father F1rst, please come down. Everybody who's here for I'm A Father F1rst, please come down, come and join us. Come on down everybody. That's all right. All right. All right. It was an honor to have I'm A Father F1rst participate in my annual youth conference called Empowering Young Men to Excel because of the outstanding work that they do the Securing The Bag workshop was a delight to all of the young men who attend Atlanta Public Schools, Fulton County Schools, and the charter and private schools in Fulton County. It was a great success. And so, it's an honor to present this Proclamation to the founders, and to the supporters of this nonprofit organization. WHEREAS, I'm A Father F1rst was founded in 2017 by Atlanta natives and best friends, Keith A. Lewis, Jr., and Jermaine Todd Clark to show the world that their drive, commitment, and passion stem from one central factor: Being a father first. And WHEREAS, I'm A Father F1rst promotes individual and collective success for fathers relative to mentorship, brotherhood, and access to opportunities to empower, enhance, enrich, and improve their chances of being fathers. And WHEREAS, I'm A Father F1rst connects resources with critical community needs in an authentic effort to change lives and eradicate socioeconomic barriers in underserved and underrepresented communities, and stands on the principle: We are the village. WHEREAS, Lewis and Clark, started out by offering free haircuts to children in their neighborhood, and later started mentoring local boys many of whom came from single-parent homes; and has since expanded from haircuts and mentorship to teaching business skills. They also have provided over 225,000 lunches and dinners through their food distribution program, Meals of Love. And WHEREAS, since its inception in 2017, I'm A Father F1rst has mentored over 5,000 young kings, cut over 2500 young kings hair, awarded 500 -- \$500 scholarships to several graduates; created a curriculum for black and brown boys to be able to excel in life beyond school. Hired over 100 employees, and created an entrepreneurial pathway for young kings to become producers and not consumers. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes I'm A Father F1rst for their efforts to mentor and empower fathers in Fulton County to make fatherhood their first priority; and celebrates with them on the occasion of their fifth anniversary. And does HERBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, April 13, 2020, as 'I'm A Father F1rst Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**KEITH LEWIS, JR., RECIPIENT:** "Good afternoon. Good afternoon. Boy they dry. Good afternoon. Just like church. All right, guys. I'm Keith Lewis, Jr. I'm the founder -- "



**JERMAINE TODD, RECIPIENT:** "-- Jermaine Todd, cofounder --"

**KEITH LEWIS, JR., RECIPIENT:** "-- and these are a lot of my brothers; lot of my sisters I see in the community; a lot of people that we serve with. So, I want to thank Fulton County Commissioner, Natalie Hall for doing this honor. I want to thank my mama, Deborah Lewis for being here. Commissioner Robb Pitts and all the chairman's, and all the people up here. But my people that we serve from Black Man Lab on Monday night at the Andrew Walter Young YMCA. My people that we serve on the Southside of Atlanta with DJ Dre. It's a lot of people that get overlooked as we help these babies right here. So, I met this baby boy yesterday, and I would love for him to have 15 seconds to tell y'all what this program means to the city. You mind giving them something so I don't say something wrong? You scared? You scared. Y'all give him a round of applause for some confidence. Tell them your name, your grade, and what you felt from meeting me yesterday, and why you're here today?"

**SABIAN with MR. LEWIS:** "My name is Sabian and what I learned from them yesterday is like, it's not just about just like, doing stuff just to do it. It's like you got to take the time to listen to what they're saying and then use that time to put it to yourself."

**KEITH LEWIS, JR., RECIPIENT:** "And what do you want to learn this summer? Tell them about Project 66."

**SABIAN with MR. LEWIS:** "I'm trying to get into trading and learn how to do that so I can build myself up and become a millionaire before I'm 18."

**KEITH LEWIS, JR., RECIPIENT:** "What was the question that I asked you that brought you here; who all doing what and why are you here with me today?"

**SABIAN with MR. LEWIS:** "I'm with him to help him learn more strategies."

**KEITH LEWIS, JR., RECIPIENT:** "No, no. I asked you, who is doing what that can get them where?"

**SABIAN with MR. LEWIS:** "Oh, I'm doing project management --"

**KEITH LEWIS, JR., RECIPIENT:** "-- yesterday I asked the class, who's doing the things that can end them up in prison? Guys, I went to prison at -- how old, mama, 22? So it's traumatizing for my mother, and as a black man, I want to see less women be traumatized from this prison system. So at the end of the day guys, we serve our community -- hey, Sonya. We serve our community to make sure we connect with leaders. I'm thankful for Senator Kelly Loeffler, who gave us a million dollars to feed the hood. I'm thankful for the brothers who sat to the side, and they said, Keith, I'm with you like brother Craig. He teaches swimming. So, guys, I got a lot of community leaders

here, and I just want to challenge you all to get involved with us or somebody because we gone do the work; y'all gone do the work; and y'all young people, I commend y'all for being the future because it's a lot of men out here that need to see positive examples of black men and women. So please be that light everywhere you go. That's it. Summer program, project 66, what do you want to tell them?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Telena Saxton Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. And can we have Telena Saxton and the members of her family join us, please? Good morning. Good morning. Good morning. Telena, oh, you can't be all the way over there. We have two Telena's here. This is generations. It's an honor to present this Proclamation to you. I'm going to tell you how this happened really quick. I was at -- I'm A Father F1rst took me to a place that was built by the residents and a young man named Jay Morrison; and Telena was the person there giving us the tour of the facility, and we just started kind of talking and everything. And she said, my grandmother is a resident, I think, in your District. And she just had, you know, 100 -- was it 90th birthday; and I said, oh, my gosh, we have to honor her. And she was just filled with joy. She immediately worked with my Chief of Staff, Anita Harris and I, to make sure that we got you here today. Because turning 90 is absolutely something we want to -- we want to commemorate and celebrate. So it is an honor to present you with this. And the Proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Telena Saxton was born in Washington, Georgia and relocated to Atlanta at the age of 16, and worked at the original Varsity restaurant. And WHEREAS, Telena graduated from Carver High School at the location of the original Clark University; and later became certified in food and catering at Atlanta Area Technical School. And WHEREAS, Telena started her own business, Saxton Catering Company, and was one of the first black cooks to prepare meals in the Georgia Governor's mansion under the administration of Governor Jimmy Carter. She also prepared meals for Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., Lady Bird Johnson, Lucille Ball, the Havertys, and a group of Russian astronauts among many others. And WHEREAS, Telena shared her talents through volunteering to feed the homeless, and preparing meals for several nonprofit organizations, civil rights marches, and for the NAACP and the SCLC both of which she is a member. She is also been a financial supporter of MUST Ministries for over ten years, Narcotics Anonymous for over 30 years, and the City of East point for over 18 years. And WHEREAS, Telena joined the Greater Elm Street Baptist Church when she arrived in Atlanta, and followed Reverend Jackson to Jackson Memorial Baptist Church, she later cofounded the Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church on Campbellton Road, which recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Telena Saxton for her tireless work

and dedication to her community. And does HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, April 13, 2022, as 'Telena Saxton Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia, and happy belated 90th birthday."

**TELENA SAXTON, RECIPIENT:** "Thank you. Thank you, city. Thank my granddaughter; she always want to do something for me, or say something about me, thank you. So, I am very appreciative today and I'm honored. Thank you for having my family with me."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Samuel Washington Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "It's truly a pleasure to have an opportunity to present this Proclamation today. Proclamation reads as follows: WHEREAS, Samuel Washington began his career at Fulton County in April of 1993 as a juvenile probation officer, then was promoted to supervising probation officer in 2005; and was later promoted to his current role of juvenile probation deputy chief in 2008, where he managed the daily operations of the juvenile court. And WHEREAS, he has been instrumental in Fulton County Juvenile Court, leading many groundbreaking programs such as: Smart Moves Chess, LEAP, and the founder of the diversion program, TLC every Saturday since 2006. And WHEREAS, he is highly regarded by his colleagues as a court professional with great integrity, professionalism, and high standards whose main goal is to ensure that all families who enter the juvenile court system are treated fairly and respectfully. And WHEREAS, his commitment to public service and passionate advocacy for Georgia's young people, have left an enduring legacy and will be missed by all who have worked with him over the past 29 years. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County recognizes Samuel Washington for a career of dedicated service, integrity, and advocacy for young people and their families. And does HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, April 13, 2022, as 'Samuel Washington Appreciation Day' -- I think we got a typo in there, but we are most definitely so happy to honor you and to celebrate you today."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And I want to give extra congratulations to you, Samuel for the years that I've been here not only as Chief of Staff to the late Commissioner Joan Garner, but as a Commissioner, myself. You've always served the youth; you've always stepped up to serve, and my initial meeting -- first meeting with you was at the Friendship Baptist Church where you were literally speaking to a crowded room of individuals, and just talking about how we need to save our children; and how we need to stop putting them in jail, how we need to stop this system of taking the kids from school to jail knowing by the third grade how many of our children are going to end up in

prison. And you have tirelessly spent your time trying to stop that and move our children to success. So I want to thank you for your years of service and your dedication to helping me with my youth conferences every year. It is very much appreciated. Thank you."

**SAMUEL WASHINGTON, RECIPIENT:** "Thank you all. So a few years ago, I noticed that we needed to pay more attention to the issue with kids who come to the juvenile court having so many difficulties with school by navigating the school process and the education system. And so we started the process, we called it Tender Loving Care -- actually we call it the Learning Club. And a professional tutor worked with us and advised us that the kids we were seeing were not incompetent academically. The social skills were where they were lacking, so I went to the university's -- the Atlanta University Center, and solicited support from those young people. And for the last 15 years, they've been coming to the juvenile court every Friday night and Saturday and providing those social skills that are so desperately needed for our kids. They're here now and because they are so dedicated to what we've done I'm being appreciated, so I appreciate you all. And I appreciate the support that I've gotten from juvenile court as a launching pad for assisting -- for promoting kids academically and we intend to carry this work on. So thank you so much."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Tri-Cities Boys Basketball Championship Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Yeah, let's give them a big round of applause. Welcome. Welcome. Welcome. Good to see y'all. Let's get half on one side and half on the other. We appreciate y'all coming out. All right. This is absolutely great celebrating our young people today. The Proclamation reads as follows: WHEREAS, on Thursday, March 10th, 2022, at the Macon Centerplex in Macon, Georgia the boys' varsity basketball team from Tri-Cities High School won the school's first state 5A championship in four seasons defeating Eagles Landing with the 67 to 59 victory. And WHEREAS, the Tri-Cities Bulldogs led by 11 points after three quarters, but the Eagles closed the gap to 2 points with 40 seconds left on the clock. And WHEREAS, senior Simeon Cottle, a Kennesaw State signee scored five points in the final 30 seconds for a total of 16 points. Cory Mincey scored 19 points, and Mariko Danner scored 13 points. And WHEREAS, the Bulldogs scored eight of nine free throws at the line during the final minute to hold off the Eagles and win the 5A Georgia State title. And WHEREAS, under the leadership of their head coach, Omari Forts, the Bulldogs avenged last year's championship game loss to Eagles Landing and brought home this year's championship trophy to place alongside their championship trophy from 2019 strengthening the Bulldogs legacy of excellence. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton

County Board of Commissioners congratulates the boys' basketball team at Tri-Cities High School for their outstanding season and teamwork that propelled them to the Georgia 5A state championship title. And does HEREBY PROCLAIM today, Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 'Tri-Cities Boys Basketball Championship Appreciation Day' in Fulton County. Let's give them another big round of applause."

**OMARI FORTS, RECIPIENT:** "We'd just like to say briefly, thank you all for having us. I want to say a special thanks to these young men for giving us an opportunity to be here. We would not be here without the work and sacrifices you all put in at 6 o'clock in the morning every day. Special thanks to all the Commissioners who invited us here, Commissioner Arrington. And I want to say our last thanks to Chairman Pitts. We had a very close game against Chapel Hill; we were down five points with 20 seconds left. So, for him to be in the building with us supporting us in person means the world to us. We appreciate your presence. Thank you all very much."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The last Proclamation is recognizing 'Woodward Academy Girls Basketball Championship Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Both sides' ladies. Boy, I tell you. There's nothing like having multiple champions in the house. Appreciate it. I just want to take this opportunity while Telena Saxton's family is still here. Ms. Saxton, was my neighbor for ten years, and stood on picket lines with me, and actually was the star witness in my candidacy case. So, I think, I saw her granddaughter. We appreciate her 90th birthday, and also the fact that she was a part of Cativo Drive. Let me get onto the business at hand. This is a proclamation WHEREAS the Woodward Academy Lady War Eagles Girls Basketball Team, led by Coach Kim Lawrence, performed at a high level throughout their 2021/2022 campaign ending their season with their second -- you can clap for that -- their second consecutive championship title. And WHEREAS, the Woodward Academy Girls Basketball squad featuring Georgia signee, Sidney Bowes took on several of the toughest teams in the state including Coffee Co., Calhoun, Jackson of Atlanta, and Warner Robins on their way to the 5A State Finals. And WHEREAS, on Thursday, March 10th, 2022, in Macon, the Lady War Eagles clinched the 2022 Girls 5A Georgia High School Association State Championship in dramatic fashion, like they always do, defeating Region-3 5A rival, Forest Park with a 72 to 44 blowout victory. And WHEREAS, the 2022 GHSA Class 5A title was the 5th State Championship in the program's history. I'm going to back that up and say it one more time because I need you all to put your hands together -- the 2022 GHSA Class 5A title was the fifth State Championship in the program's history, and its second since 1999, strengthening the Lady War Eagles legacy of excellence. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners congratulates the superstar varsity girls basketball team at Woodward Academy for their second straight championship. And does HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, April 13, 2022, as 'Woodward Academy Lady War Eagles Varsity -- don't mess with us -- Girls Basketball Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia."

**KIM LAWRENCE, RECIPIENT:** "Thank you, Commissioner, for that awesome, awesome Proclamation. Thank you all to the Board of Commissioners for this -- recognizing the girls. Thank you, ladies for your hard work and your dedication. Most importantly your buy-in this season. To my six seniors, thank you all for your -- the legacy that you're leaving us. Love you. Thank you all."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 7, Public Hearings, **22-0229**, Public Comment. Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person, or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing, or by submitting their comments in writing online by registering on the County website at [www.fultoncountyga.gov](http://www.fultoncountyga.gov). 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 speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received 11 -- 11 speaker cards."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "How many?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "11."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "11."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Will the first five speakers, please come down: Dr. Arthur Ferdinand, Judge Cassandra Kirk, Jewel Johnson, Reshard Snellings, and Al Bartel."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. As usual, when you have 30 seconds remaining your two minutes -- strike that. 15 seconds, I will say -- simply say, 15 minutes that's your queue to terminate your remarks. That applies to everyone except elected officials. Doctor."

**DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Arthur Ferdinand, Fulton County Tax Commissioner. Members of the Board, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for making

salary adjustments to the employees in Fulton County. This came at a time of great stress in my organization. And it's truly greatly appreciated, so I want to thank you, the Board for that. I also want to thank the County Manager, the CFO, and the Human Resource Director – I got it right? For doing the groundwork to make this all happen. But your work is not all done yet. We still have a lot of employees to go. And I hope that in the mid-term adjustments or mid-year adjustments we consider the rest of our employees. Again, thank you very much. It was very, very well appreciated by the employees, and by the organization executives. Thank you very much."

**CASSANDRA KIRK, CHIEF JUDGE, MAGISTRATE COURT, PUBLIC SPEAKER:**

"Mr. Chairman, Honorable members of the Board of Commissioners. Good morning. I am Cassandra Kirk. I serve as the Chief Magistrate Judge in Fulton County. I appear before you today to thank you for the resources that you all have provided to the magistrate court and the other justice partners over the last two years. And I also am here to request consideration of our part-time judges in the judicial compensation increases which are being discussed in agenda item 0237 today. This Board of Commission created our part-time Judges as employees of the County, not as independent contractors and set their rate of pay at \$50 per hour. Our 22 part-time judges are integral members of the magistrate court team. Exclusively, they handle court activities overnight, weekends, and approximately 50 percent of our weekday calendars and obligations. It is through efforts of both our full and part-time judges that we were able to clear the 30,000 small claims backlog in 2018, and that we continue to produce the case closure rates that you all see today. Our part-time and full-time magistrate judges operate with little support staff and have worked together in case specific teams to address COVID health cases and writs. We have addressed thousands of writs since 2019 including assessing and analyzing rightness those with rightness and execution during the pandemic and beyond. Writ fees alone allow the County to collect \$75 per writ. These part-time judges have worked 2500 hours in 2021 alone to keep our AMB landlord-tenant and garnishment cases consistent with the courts time to disposition standards. For our magistrate court users, the resources provided through ORCA and the County's reopening funds, parties are able to see judges and case Resolution sooner, and our court had continued to run. In fact, our 2019 forward case closure rate is over 80 percent. Thanks to the resources you all have provided. Over 200,000 cases have been filed in Magistrate court since 2019. We have experienced challenges in retention, technology, and staffing. One third of the 30 magistrate judges that began with us in 2019 have left our service for other jobs where they can make more money. That is a loss to our County. That is a loss of training dollars and it is a loss of morale to our team. I want to thank you, as I said for the expected raises for our full-time judges which will improve morale and acknowledge the work of our team; and today, I also ask that you consider including our part-time

judges in the compensation increasing being considered by the judge; the raises as well as your generous delivery of resources to the magistrate court are greatly appreciated and we will continue to use those resources wisely and efficiently. Thank you."

**JEWEL JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning. I'm Jewel Johnson and I reside at 4660 Orkney Lane in the city of South Fulton. I'm here this morning because I am representing myself as a citizen, and Donna candidate. I'm also representing the extraordinary women of South Fulton, where as I am the president. I had sent each one of the Commissioners a letter asking you to join with me in asking Mr. Pitts to step down from being over the Board of Elections. He has inserted himself there, and he's a candidate now, that means that that is a conflict of interest. People -- no one in Fulton County will have a fair election with Mr. Pitts being over the Board of Elections. No matter how you slice it and dice it, with the façade of having a Board that is over that, we know, and we understand Fulton County has had problems with their elections for many years, but we've noticed that in the last four years since Mr. Pitts has inserted himself over that, the problems have mounted. It would be disrespectful to the citizens of Fulton County if this Board don't ask their colleague, Mr. Pitts, to please step down, so we can have a fair election. That is all we are requesting. And I want to remind each one of the Commissioners here today to please remember when you are elected, you are elected as an employee of the people. And when we ask you to please respect us—"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--fifteen seconds--"

**JEWEL JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--and respect some of the things that we ask you to do, we would like very much for you to respect us enough to do some of the things that we ask for. This has been going on too long. We have too many things that I don't have time to talk about with this Commission, but please respect us this time. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you."

**RESHARD SNELLINGS, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hello, my name is Reshard Snellings. I'm a resident of the city of South Fulton. I've been a resident of Fulton County since 2006. Since I became a resident, I've always participated in the Democratic process of voting. When we vote for each one of you, we're giving you an honor. We're giving you the ability to represent us. We don't expect you to -- we don't expect to see that you're advocating for yourselves throughout the voting process and throughout the campaigning process. With that being said it's highly unethical to pass laws or ordinances that block a Fulton County employee from running for election -- I'm sorry for running for office. Now, in the case of Mr. Kelly, and Mr. Blalock, I didn't agree -- I



didn't disagree with the actual law that you guys passed. But by you trying to backdate it, that was problematic. It just seemed as though you're trying to prevent someone from running against one of your own; and that just felt very unethical. Mr. Pitts, I agree with Ms. Johnson. We should not be – well you should not be over the Board of Elections or have anything to do the elections, if you are a candidate. So, I will also stand with Ms. Johnson and I would also ask that you step down from your duties as overseeing the Board. Thank you."

**AL BARTELL, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Members of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, my name is Al Bartell, Public Policy Leader. I rise to speak this morning on concerns from the public that the civil rights of Fulton County employees are currently being dismantled with the legislation saying that they cannot run for office for County Commissioner as a Fulton County employee. It is a concern that Fulton County employees who are neighborhood leaders, community leaders, faith leaders and small business leaders who have dedicated their lives to public service, and deserve to have a civil right to do so. For a piece of legislation to be put forward that would dismantle that civil right is a legislation they should not be passed. The dismantling of civil rights for neighborhood leaders, community leaders, faith leaders and small business leaders who are interested in public service as County Commissioners deserves to be respected and honored, for they are the people who have built this County, this city, and this state. And so, when they communicate an interest to hold an honored office of a Commissioner, that interest should be a civil right that is preserved, protected, honored, and sustained. So, it is in that context that the legislation to ask a Fulton County employee not to run for County Commissioner should be withdrawn, should be taken off the books. And if it is presented, I pray that this legislation shall not pass. And I thank you for the opportunity to deliver this communication."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Last six speakers in Assembly Hall, please come down: Ebony Section, L.A. Pink, Wali Sabir, Myrtle Bolden, Sandra Burchardt, and Kevin Muldowney."

**EBONY SECTION, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hello. My name is Ebony Section and I'm here today to speak about Oak Hill Child Family and Adolescent Center. There has been some talks and some plans in the community that this center is going to change to a mental health treatment center, and I just want to advocate that this is a setback to the people. It's a setback to the community and the families there. This Center does a lot. It is the cornerstone of Metropolitan and Cleveland, metaphorically physically. And this service -- the Center provides car seats for our families. This Center also provides social gatherings for black Dads. This Center is also hailed where I - we detect developmental services. This Center does back-to-school - it does everything. So, to

hear this in the streets that this Center may change to a mental health treatment center, when a elementary school is right back behind it, is just really a travesty. I needed this center when I had my first baby. I lost my mom to COVID and every one of those ladies in there were my aunties, were my grandmas, were my grannies that helped me with my baby. I got free diapers. I got formula. I got WIC support. So, I really ask you all if we need mental health services, but bring some providers that look like us. Bring some providers that can help us with postpartum depression. Bring some therapist that can help us with anxiety. Bring some therapist that can help us with marijuana usage, smoking cessation, bring some support groups. But this mental Health Center is not a great fit for Oak Hill. Please help me. Please help the families and please save Oak Hill, please. Thank you.”

**L. A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hello. I am L. A. Pink. And as I stand here today, I sat last time in the meeting were you guys passed a Bill that was sickening. And it was sickening to the community as me being a community leader based on the fact of you guys organized crime. I don't know if you guys are familiar with that, when you come together, it's - they should charge you with the RICO act because of the simple fact that you guys came up with something – I don't know if you guys know Brock – Calvin Brock, but he was fired and you guys told him that he wasn't an employee, but then now that – and he was Chief of Staff of Commissioner Hall, but now you tell Robert that he is an employee and that he should be fired. And so, this is the reason why we're saying you guys are sitting amongst us as political gang bangers and you guys are now organizing crime against our people. This doesn't just affect him, it affects us as community leaders because if he doesn't have a home, he doesn't have food. Who do you think have to feed him? Who do you think has to find him housing? We do. As community leaders that's really got their boots on the ground that's really doing the work, and check my resume, please do because I have done the work, I can stand up here and speak with integrity and dignity because the work has been down. But for me to see you guys, you slept here, I don't know if you was high or drunk, but you guys been on your phone you know I don't know. At the end of the day--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--just a minute, just a minute --"

**L. A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--excuse me --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--just a minute--"

**L. A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--excuse me. I'm a community leader that serves it--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--all right, just a minute--"

**L. A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--I serve everywhere--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--just a minute--"

**L. A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "-- but what does it have to do -- and you guys are worried about an address, but even if that address stands so it still has nothing to do with your record. It has nothing to do with--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--fifteen seconds--"

**L. A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--what Commissioner Hall is being charged with. It has nothing to do with a lot of people that sits off in here and probably their backgrounds - so check your resume."

**WALI SABIR, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good evening, everyone. My name is Wali [Phonetic.] Udeed Abdul Sabir. I'm a resident of Fulton County. You know, in my work as a writer and in talking with inmates, I asked them a question: do you know anybody that ever wanted to be wrong? And I ask you the question, do you know anybody that want to be wrong? I know I have not. And so, I ask the question if no one wants to be wrong, then what's the problem? What's the problem? Well, we know that truth will set you free. And to take an action that this Commission took while the Commissioner, Khadijah Rahman, Abdur-Rahman was out on County business to fire, to conspire and fire her staff, was unconscionable. You know, if you believe that that was right, and as I spoke to the inmates, every one of them had an excuse for what they did. So they wanted to be right even though that they were wrong. Truth will set you free. And to act against the people, and the people's interest, it is not something that will stand because truth ultimately will prevail."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Fifteen seconds."

**WALI SABIR, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "So, I ask you and to consider the action that has been taken to disenfranchise members of the public. Thank you."

**MYRTLE BOLDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning, Board of Commissioners. My name is Myrtle Bolden. I am the President of the Enon Pines Homeowners Association and a proud member of the citizens of the city of South Fulton. I am addressing you on behalf of a Resolution that is being -- that is on the agenda today Resolution number 22-0259. This is regarding the detention ponds that are in very much disarray in our city. These detention ponds -- I think it's about 33 of them in all. Two of them are actually in my subdivision. We were grandfathered in in early 1990s to have Fulton County maintain those ponds; however, over the last four years since we became the city of South Fulton that has not been done. We are still Fulton County residents. We are still taxpayers. So I am asking you to vote, yes, on this Resolution. I'm asking you to vote, yes, because our retention ponds in my neighborhood are

almost like a little river. They're stopped up. There are snakes throughout, and they're in the back of people's backyards. I'm asking you, as a commission to vote, yes, on this to hear our Macedonia call and come over to the city of South Fulton and help us."

**SANDRA BURCHARDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "My name is Sandra Burchardt. I've been coming here for months. I want to take this opportunity to tell you that I am greatly disappointed in what goes on in Fulton County. Integrity and dignity are lacking and there seems to be more and more of it going on. How sad. After I heard a press conference where an elected official commented on proudly delivering a candidate, I realized that that was not an appropriate goal for an elected official. And I decided to become more involved fortunately, finally. So I said, okay, I will work the polls. So I tried that. I went online and I applied on March the 8th and quickly, I got an automatic response that said, thank you; and then, nothing. Okay. So, on Saturday, March 15th I went to Bluestone Road Sandy Springs and filled out another application in person this time and did it with my husband who also applied, and we were told we could work together. I was told that the application that I filled out online really didn't mean anything. Okay. So, on March 25, I called the person that fortunately gave me their phone number in Sandy Springs and said help. I left a message. Again, I called on the 29th, help. I left a message contact information. I did receive a phone call back on March the 30<sup>th</sup>. On that phone call -- the person left a phone number. I don't answer my phone if I don't recognize the caller. Do any of you do the same thing? Possibly. So, I called back. Guess what, I got a recording--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--15 seconds--"

**SANDRA BURCHARDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--and the recording didn't even indicate that it was Fulton County. Something is very badly wrong, but if it's working and you're getting elected, you're going to continue to do it; and it's very disappointing."

**KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning. My name is Kevin Muldowney. I'm a Fulton County resident. I have an experience trying to work in early voting as well. I tried to work as an absentee ballot processing clerk at the warehouse for the May election; I was told by the BRE that it had been handled by Happy Faces, but don't bother, there are no spots available. I called Happy Faces, and it was true. Absentee ballot processing the route that is open to fraud and manipulation so much so that a full-length documentary has been made by Dinesh D'Souza and perhaps you've heard of 2000 mules. Point of fact, the trailer features Fulton County drop boxes with, I guess, they are called mules proudly displaying, photographing, and depositing harvesting ballots. Apparently one mule termed whistle blower made \$45,000 for his efforts. The movies' due out in early May and features the County you're already responsible for. You might want to go see it. Absentee ballot processing should be at

very least transparent, open, and inclusive. I understand that Forsyth County doesn't use any temp agencies to staff their early voting and election day duties. They do use a commercially available website. I believe it is sign-up genius. It's a very easy process. They have no problem staffing early as well as election day poll working with concerned and quite able local citizens. One thing I noticed on the Agenda, it's actually been amended to what degree I'm not sure, but Agenda item 22-0239, and what stuck out on that was I looked for supporting documents that should provide transparency that the Board promised after that damning order of the BRA--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--fifteen-seconds--"

**KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--I found one line, Tattnell Journal, Tattnell Journal ballots \$76,000 how many ballots would quality or a little detail would have been nice. Please provide us with detail, so you can be the good stewards of our tax dollars we hired you to be. Thank you. Bye-bye."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have seven speakers on zoom."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Good morning, Board of Commissioners, the first person to speak is Matt Rowenzcak."

**MATT ROWENZCAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning, Commissioners; can you hear me?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yes."

**MATT ROWENZCAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Thank you. Why does this County have auditors? Is the purpose of their role to conduct audits, share their findings, and then implement zero of their recommendations? Is that the purpose of having auditors? Unless I missed something, that's not exactly how it's supposed to work. So let's go back to the audit and financial review performed in August of 2021 of the elections department. Finding number 4, lack of supporting documentation. Today on the Agenda item 22-0239, regarding the printing of ballots in the amount of \$76,000. Guess what the supporting document includes? It includes one line item in the amount of, you probably guessed it \$76,000. In essence, there is no supporting documentation. What that signals to me is that there is no respect for the auditor, and there is no respect for you, Commissioners. How are you supposed to make an informed decision when you literally have no supporting information? It is way past due for the auditor's recommendation to be implemented. So, what's the plan? How are you going to ensure that they are implemented? Are we going to have a repeat of all the disastrous

findings from 2020? Is this County going to get its act together? These are basic process issues--”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “--fifteen-seconds--”

**MATT ROWENZCAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “--and I would advise of supporting documentation to be provided today in order for you to make an informed decision. Thank you.”

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Melissa Fiorillo. Melissa Fiorillo, okay. The next person --”

**MELISSA FIORILLO, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “--excuse me; can you hear me?”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Yes.”

**MELISSA FIORILLO, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “Hello?”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Yes.”

**MELISSA FIORILLO, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “Okay, sorry about that. My name is Melissa Fiorillo, I’m a Fulton County resident. I also wanted to ask about item 22-0239, Tattnell Ballot Solutions. I noticed that you had Exhibit 1 attached as well with an amount of 76,000 -- it doesn't list how many ballots is that for? How can someone – how’s someone supposed to trust Fulton County when they don't even do the basics right? Fulton County had a financial audit like Matt had said in the Elections department in 2020 which revealed a total lack of process and integrity in their purchasing process; yet, they don't seem to put into any place any of the recommendations. So I want to enforce what Matt said we need to have some clarity on that today. Thank you.”

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Susan Brack. Susan Brack.”

**SUSAN BRACK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “Good morning can you hear me?”

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes, we can.”

**SUSAN BRACK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “Okay, great wonderful. This is actually my first time to attend one of your meetings and speak publicly. I am very happy to do that. I will say that I am a resident of Forsyth County, but I consider myself a resident of the Atlanta metropolitan area and I'm concerned about everything that's going on in my city. I worked as a poll worker for the 2020 election cycle in Forsyth County and I will be doing it again for the May primary, and I'm very concerned and very unhappy about what I'm hearing is going on in Fulton County with respect to our elections and

especially how it is difficult for some people to be able to apply and work as a poll worker as one of the earlier speakers had talked about. It needs to be an easy and smooth process for residents who are concerned and want to work and represent their communities to be able to work as a poll worker. And I encourage you and hope that you will take these comments to heart and make the process easy and transparent. In Forsyth County, it is very easy and transparent, and they are responsive and they're very efficient in how they're working. So, I don't understand why it can't be the same in Fulton County. I think that our elections have serious problems, and there needs to be integrity that is restored into our system, so that people know that when they go to vote, their vote counts. One vote per person and that's how it should be. So I thank you for your time and I pray that you would just take these comments to heart. Thank you."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Ben Howard."

**BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Greetings Commissioners, and greetings staff members, and greetings to you, citizens of Fulton County. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. On the Commission on Elder Affairs, under the guidance of aging and youth management, seven Board members represent each of our seven Fulton County Commissioners. Two Board members represent North Fulton senior services and South Fulton senior services. Two Board members represent the Council on Aging which has had two additional Board positions vacant for many, many months. Since its beginning decades ago, the Commission on Elder Affairs has met from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. from January through December. That's a total of 18 meeting hours a year. At their meeting Friday, with the Office of Aging looking on, Commission on Elder Affairs Board members voted to change the bylaws, so they will no longer have to meet in December thereby reducing their meeting time from 18 hours per year to 16 and a half hours per year. Yet they will contend that they represent seniors in Fulton County. Stay tuned on this one, folks."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Joseph Blount. Joseph Blount. Okay. The next person to speak is Linda Pozner Downey. Linda Pozner Downey. Okay. They're not responding; so, I guess that would conclude the zoom portion part of the public comments."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you. Anyone at the --"

**CLERK GRIER:** "--we have two e-mailed comments."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay."

**REGINA WALLER for E-MAILED PUBLIC COMMENTS:** "The first comment is from Kathy Whitehead of District 2. Good morning. I am eager to serve as a poll worker or

watcher. I completed my online training with Fulton County GA.gov and received an e-mail stating that I had been selected to be a Clerk. Not sure what that means for May 24th. The e-mail does not include the manager's contact information as stated. It has been four weeks and I am still waiting on an update from Tori Sears who sent me the e-mail. I am writing today to let you know that I know dozens of people who are wanting to actively participate in our elections process. It is a smidgen frustrating to know what and where and how? What can be done to improve communication? Your local citizens are here to help and have raised their hands. Perhaps by sharing with you that you do have people in your community that are willing to serve you, might facilitate the necessary connections. Also, I see that 76,000 was approved for absentee ballots for the May 24th vote. Do you have any backup for this agreement? Not sure if I am comfortable with that figure. Thank you."

**REGINA WALLER for E-MAILED PUBLIC COMMENTS:** "The next comment is from Suzanne Hubbard, District 2. Good morning, Commissioners. I heard you when you said that you did not think you had enough community involvement to handle the poll working for elections. That is why you said that you needed the temp agencies. So, when you offered the poll working fairs which was great, I went and signed up for advanced voting and day of. I did hear back for day of and have already trained. For advanced voting, I have not heard anything at all. I followed up with my contact for day of and she was nice enough to check and said all of the slots were full for advanced voting. I was very surprised to hear that. How does that work? Does the community get first dibs for the slots or are certain numbers of slots guaranteed to the temp agencies first, and the rest goes to the community? If the community gets first dibs and filled all of the slots, that will be very exciting. But, for the number of people that I know that signed up and did not hear back, that does not seem likely. It would be great to know for sure. But I do appreciate the effort in trying to work with the community. Thank you for your time. That concludes the e-mail announcements."

**CLERK GRIER:** "No further speakers."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. No further speakers and that will conclude the public comment section of the Agenda. Continue Madam Clerk."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Continuing on page 7, County Manager's items under open and responsible--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--okay, let me stop you for a moment there. We – just a minute, just a minute. Now, we decided earlier that we would take the judges, et cetera;



presumably, they can go back to work, so let's go to page 8, 22-0235, 236, 237, and 238, and 239.”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Mr. Chair.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Yes.”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Should that not start with the 0191?”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “We can zero--”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “--I believe [Inaudible.]--”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Okay. No problem. Sound 0191.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “**22-0191**, Human Resources Management. Request approval of a Resolution to exercise home rule to repeal Section 1a of local law to continue the County supplement paid to the probate judge to continue the salary paid the juvenile courts and for other purposes.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Mr. Hermon.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “Good morning, Commissioners. Kenneth L. Hermon Jr., Chief HR for Fulton County. You are - before you is the second reading of the Resolution to remove the limitation that is currently before you relative to compensation adjustment for the juvenile court judge and the probate court judge. And why it's needed is that we see a need for it to be removed because right now if you're familiar whenever you have a need to adjust these individual's compensation, it must be done through the home rule provisions. What we're proposing is that we remove the home rule provisions which would then allow you to adjust the salaries like what we're about to talk about with the other individuals at your leisure upon the approval of your vote without having to wait for those unique specific windows that create a home rule window. So, it's just allowing us to be a little bit more efficient and effective for any kind of future salary inquiries or adjustments for these individuals. And that's the same commentary for the second Resolution as well.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Thank you. Any questions at this point? If not, there's a motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Cast your vote, please.”

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** “22-0194: Request approval of a Resolution to exercise home rule to repeal Section 1 of local law to establish the salary of the Marshall and for other purposes.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Mr. Hermon.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “Same commentary.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Thank you. Thank you, thank you. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously.”

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** “22-0235: Request to make modifications to the classification and compensation section by inserting the new key classification section.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “Commissioners, as you – to be brief – since I know that the judges are here, unless you want me to go through my presentation that was shared - this is to bring full-circle to what you approved in November of 2021 to allow us to go and communicate to that very small cross-section of employees where we saw a significant turnover and hard to recruit and fill for those positions, and where we saw a significant - how I would say - pressure as it relates to compensation models that would allow us to attract and retain as well. So, what we're asking you to do today with this item, we've identified roughly 76 classifications that impact roughly 400 plus employees that would take them out of the what we called the Archer compensation line - section of their pay plan, and put them into the key classification pay plan, at a different salary ranges and the like which would again allow us to recruit and retain those talented individuals. It also establishes a new philosophy within the County of where we're paying at the midpoint for these positions, and in some instances, at the 25th percentile for those individuals; so, that again we could be a lot more competitive in the process. And like I said, I can go through the full presentation just to remind you of all the things that we've discussed and highlight a few things, or we can just go into the conversation or take some questions about it from yourselves.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right, Commissioner Hall followed by Commissioner Morris.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “Thank you Mr. Chair. I have a few questions. One starting with a letter that came from the public defender's office stating that their employees had already received their increases, and it made me look back at all the memos and the spreadsheets and everything that have come before us. And what I have seen is that things have consistently changed, so I want to make sure that we are fairly treating all

employees. What I see before us today is a spreadsheet that says it's the Fulton County government classification and compensation plan key classifications effective March 16th. And when looking at the public defenders' letter saying that their employees have already -- already going to receive their increase and no one else has. I've called to question what is the situation with the rest of these employees? And have they received their increase the same as the public defender because there are quite a few on this spreadsheet. And I'm trying to figure out how did only the public defenders employees receive an early increase in their pay because this is a very huge document?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, Commissioner. Specifically, to answer your question, the document that you have that's entitled Fulton County government classification compensation plan key classification effective March 16<sup>th</sup>, all employees in those respective classifications and I know we have to talk about the DA and the solicitor, and I think that's why they're here, but every other employee in that group have received adjustments based on the approach that was approved by the Board of Commissioners all on the April 8<sup>th</sup> payday. So, it was not just only the public defender that received adjustment, it was just -- it was everyone on this list that we have identified that also received the adjustment, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Unfortunately, that is not the information that I received. I have heard from employees who said they did not receive an increase as the public defenders' employees have. That the public defender's letter was correct in that they received their increase early. So, are we going to back pay these additional employees so that they can reap the same benefits as the public defender's office?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "If you could be a little bit more specific; which employees are you talking about on this list have not received an adjustment because everyone on this list should have received an adjustment. We just recently made a modification to the list to include the district attorney's and the solicitors and the other attorneys within the County. So, if they have not received the pay, but that's what we're coming to present to you today [Inaudible.]--"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "--so they have not received it just as I stated before--"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "--just that cross-section, but everybody else in the IT department, in DREAM, in the Tax Commissioner's Office, in public works; all who are on this list did receive an adjustment, but again this is not a cross-section of the entire Fulton County government. This is just roughly a little less than 10 percent of the workforce that were identified for key classifications."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “Okay. So, as you stated just a few minutes ago, there are employees that you are going back to fund -- you did not fund them; that’s what I’m talking about.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “That's correct, Commissioner.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “Okay, that's what I'm talking about.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “So, that's where the conversation that we’re going to have today with you as to seeking your authorization to – maybe I should go through the presentation to get to that meat and potatoes.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “Perhaps that will work better.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “All right, so let me just go, let me just go there, Commissioner. I apologize.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “Okay, yes, just do that. Okay, yes.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “Could we go to the third slide, please? All right. Thank you. All right. So, I don’t need to – okay I’ll start from the driving factors, Commissioners, so that we could kind of reset and make sure that we're talking the same thing. So, one of the driving factors that allowed us or required us to be a little bit more focused in our approach that we typically, typically want to touch the entire workforce but we have the inability to do that is that we were working within the confines of the \$32 million for personnel matters that were approved in the 2022 budget. When the Board of Commissioners and rightly so which was a great thing to help us offset the impact of inflation, increased the COLA from 3.5 percent to 7 percent. What that did was, what my Mom always said, no good deed goes unpunished, it took away \$10 million of resources that we had originally earmarked to complete the key classification exercise and distributed that additional \$10 million across the workforce. So, we had to even be a little bit more focused in our approach for the key classifications since the cost for them – since that cost itself had doubled from what we had originally proposed because as we continued our analysis from 2021 to where we were now in November and coming into 2022, we started to see vacancy rates in the key classifications increase on average to roughly about 31 percent and in specific departments, we had a hundred percent vacancies, notably in the IT department, which I think Glenn Melendez and his team did a great job presenting to you several Board meetings ago. So, what we're recommending today, Commissioners is move forward full implementation of the portion of the key classifications that is in front of you today. That portion, those individuals because of the crisis that we were facing, they, we moved forward and they saw the adjustments on the April 8<sup>th</sup> paycheck, but we also want to clarify that all

attorneys will be included. We know, we have to go back retroactively and adjust the compensation for those attorneys to the same effective date, but we want to walk you through our funding approach and get your approval on that perspective to make sure that you're, okay, with granting the County Manager the authorization to utilize the funding that we've identified to then bring all of those attorneys into the full - the balance of the attorneys into the fold.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “So, is it correct for me to say that we are not only voting for what you're going to do, but what you have already done because the public defenders letter states that there were some measures that were already taken to ensure that those employees receive funding already on their checks. So, we're doing both. We're going back and we're moving forward.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “That's correct, Commissioner.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “Okay. Thank you. And so, go ahead. Go ahead.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “I'm sorry. So, I just want to make sure that I clarified that, you know, we are reevaluating the ability to implement phase II of the key classification because that still encompasses 200 employees from 27 departments that did not make this first implementation because of the financial resources limitation that we had available. We'll bring that back to you in the midyear of 2022, and we estimate that's going to be an additional \$1.5 million in 2022. Could I have the next slide? Next slide. Thank you. So, what I'm attempting to do with this small little diagram, Commissioners is show you how we have spent or earmarked the \$32 million that was approved by you in the 2022 budget for employee compensation. Of course, the big expenditure for 2022 is the COLA that impacted over 4000 plus employees at a cost of \$22.6 million. Then we closed out the final stage of the incremental compensation strategy (ICS) where we then gave those employees that those last 300 employees the last set of adjustments roughly \$760,000. Then we've in our presentation which is the other 20 - 300 items on the elected officials and the court officials, we've carved out \$1.2 million to ensure that we could implement the elected officials and their appointed staff within the courts and cover that obligation for a one period of time. And then the \$11 million ask is what we have now identified for phase one of the key classifications impacting 580 plus employees including all attorneys' roles within the County. So, that's the child attorney, solicitor, the DA, public defender, and attorneys in both the courts: state court and Superior Court. Next slide. So, here is our funding recommendation Commissioners. Again, we are recommending that we implement for all attorneys with a effective date of March 16<sup>th</sup>. What you're showing here is 160 - that's the additional ask, because we've already covered the public defender in our financing. So, to bring in the additional attorneys within the child

attorney's office, the solicitor and the DAs office, and all the courts, that's an additional \$5.8 million requested in this year to bring them – bring those salary adjustments into play with a March 16th implementation date. How we're suggesting that we fund that, Commissioner where we still have a underrun, is by utilizing the general fund nonagency appropriated reserve of roughly \$3.3 million to buy down the cost of that amount; and then authorizing the County Manager to utilize salary savings from across all the departments within the County to close the gap on the balance of the \$2.4 million. That's our recommendation. But we also want to show you some alternatives that you could consider as well as - so, in the second column you have, we've done the math on if we just implement the DA and the solicitors attorneys and not the child attorneys or the attorneys within superior or state court, that has now reduced – well it reduced the population from 160 to 104; reduced the costs from \$5.8 million to \$4.3 million and then subsequently reduced the obligation that the County Manager would have to find within other resources within the County down from \$2.4 million to \$978,000. And then option three is a third option that you could consider that you know we again only look at the DA and the solicitor general offices to include them -- still 104 employees. But what has changed in this scenario is delaying the implementation from March 16th to June 8<sup>th</sup>, which you know allows us to cover the obligations with the general fund non-agency appropriated reserve and end in a positive of having \$105,000 left in that funding line. But again, our strong recommendation is to allow for all attorneys to be included in this instance and allow the County Manager working with the Finance Department to find other resources – the \$2.4 million in other resources around the County to cover the obligation in 2022. Next slide. So, for key classifications, what next, as we said, we will be coming back in May to implement the balance of the key classifications which is 180 plus employees with a estimated cost of \$2.7 or \$3 million to include the vacant positions that would also need to be adjusted. As it relates to the bigger, grander workforce, that is not part of that small population of the 10 percent, we are finalizing the presentation right now with Siegel our third-party vendor that the Board approved that allows us to work with for our salary determinations, so we can make that presentation to you in June as well so that you have a sense of what it will take to also adjust and make sure that our pay plans and our compensation approach for the entire workforce are now also competitive and in sync with what we have to do on a day-to-day basis in order to attract and retain talent in the County and also make sure that we are the public employee of choice but outside of those activities we also wanted to share with you some of the things that HR is working on trying to ensure that we are able to give it a little bit more quickly and trying to get talent into the workforce. And so, we have secured several search firms, some in IT, in the Medical Examiner's Office, the attorneys that we could help, the public defender and any other organization that has that need to leverage these new search firms now to help them fill the critical roles a lot

more quicker than HR has historically been able to do. We also are trying to ramp back up our internal staffing. The HR Department, too, has been hit with the great resignation and we have for the first time has been down eight staff members which we're roughly about 30 percent off of our current staffing levels, but we're also looking at working with our County Attorney's office and amongst ourselves and probably pulling together some what I call you know HR paying point, round table discussions to review, revamp, and perform risk analysis of what changes would need to happen in the civil service act and the HR rules and regulations and in our financial practices to allow us to be more effective, efficient, in our hiring practices. I think the Sheriff, you know, he's always pushing the button -- he told me he had a dream and he would love to be able to walk and find a great Sheriff Deputy and give them an offer on the spot. And tell them that they can start two weeks from now. Well, in order for him to do that, we have to do a lot of changing on our side to make sure that our policies, practices, and procedures all match up to make sure that the Sheriff or whomever department head within the County would be able to do that. And additionally we are also changing our approach to not do a little bit more data mining for talent, so we have -- we're talking with Finance about securing some funding to start mining the data that you would have on Facebook and LinkedIn similar to what our colleagues in the city of Atlanta has been able to do so that we have a little bit more of a proactive approach versus the passive approach that we have leveraged for such a long period of time, but now we realize that we have to shift in order for us to be competitive and find the talent before they come looking for us. We have to go looking for them in order to make sure that we have the talent in place to provide services to the citizens of Fulton County and for us to be the best employer of choice. So, I'll stop here, Commissioners, because this is the portion that speaks to the key classifications which is Agenda item 235; and I'll continue answering your questions, Commissioner. Hopefully I addressed many of your questions in my presentation."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you. Like the Sheriff, I too, have a dream. And I have a dream that all employees will be treated fairly and paid the salary that they should be paid. And that everyone will be paid at the same time. So, I'm of the mind to go with the green checkmark is over that all attorneys receive the same treatment that the public defender's office has received and if that means that we have to go back and give back pay to those employees who did not receive that increase on their check then that's what we need to do. Everyone needs to be felt -- to be of value to this Fulton County government organization. And we need to take into consideration that our employees who are still here have worked tirelessly and hard through the pandemic. We have been impacted sorely in our personal lives and our professional lives because of the pandemic and they stayed true to being employed here at the County and they deserve for us to show them our appreciation. And so, these increases need to happen

as soon as possible. Unfortunately, what took place as it relates to the public defender's letter created strife, and created some sore feelings that should not have happened. And so, I'd like to see that we rectify that situation by doing what is right by these employees. I also, just want to make sure that as we are increasing these salaries that we are also ensuring that the hiring of new employees into these positions is at the same level. So, I have a question about that. Have the vacant positions been increased to the salary that the field positions have already received?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Commissioner, good afternoon. Again, so the answer is, yes. So, we have out of that \$11 million that we've identified for key classifications it includes not only the field positions, but the resources that may be needed in order for that department to also fill at the suggested targeted salaries as well."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. That is absolutely wonderful. And are we still working toward ensuring that we're looking at the management level and then all of their team under them to ensure that we don't have situations where the head of a department is making less than their management and other employees?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, that's part of our analysis. We have one anomaly where that exists and that's only because the individual is not a County employee; they are a state employee. So, right now a few of the County employees is going to make more than that state employee. But in all those instances, we've tried to make sure that we don't have what we call a compression of unstaffed, under a manager making more than the manager."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. And I need to go back to something that took place during the budget cycle where a spreadsheet was provided to the County Manager, CFO, and others related to some enhancements that were needed and they were actually some positions that were part of that spreadsheet; one in particular was called a legal assistant, and that legal assistant was supposed to be raised up to \$42,000. It would have been approved in our budget. And so, what is the status of that because the legal assistants are saying that they did not receive that increase. That, in fact, their 7 percent COLA was done on their previous salary; so, that did not take place. Can you speak to that."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, so, Commissioner, the legal assistants fall within that category of the second wave of the key classifications that we have to go back make sure that we have the resources available, and that's what we've bringing back to you, in June or July – during the midyear funding review."



**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “All right. And I want to just go ahead and say we also – did we include those part-time judges in all of this? Because Chief Judge Kirk came up and mentioned that. I want to make sure that we answer that question.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “Well, part-time judges were not included in the first phase of key classification because again, when we looked at the data that we have, there was no vacancies at the time, and our approach was to secure our staffing for the full-time positions to make sure that we have full-time people in place, and our salaries were competitive. The part-time judges again would be considered as part of phase two of the key classifications.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “And do you have any idea what that pay would be?”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “I did a rough estimate to utilize and I think the target salary, the hourly rate that Judge Kirk had shared previously which was moving them from \$50.00 an hour to \$75 an hour. It would cost an additional \$300,000 estimated this year to implement at this time for - implement at the same time from March 16th going forward for the balance of the year. And again, that's the rough estimate because the part-time judges they don't work a consistent standard 2080 hours. So, you know, some might work six hours this week, two hours this week, 12 hours the next week. So, that's my rough estimate as to what it would cost, but that's the worst-case scenario as well, Commissioners.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “All right. And so, all of this is included in what we're voting on today?”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “For the magistrates -- the part-time magistrates, no. That's in phase 2.”

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** “That's in phase two. All right. That concludes my questions. Thank you so much. Chief Human Resources Officer, I think somebody got that a little confused earlier.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** “Thank you, Commissioner.”

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** “All right. Thank you, Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Morris.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “Thank you. A lot of my questions have been answered by Commissioner Hall's questions. I did want to make sure I and the public understood the funding questions. If we could go back to that slide with the big orange circle in the middle.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "That was slide number 5."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "22.6, basically, what this tells us and what we've known -- while that comes up -- is that we pretty much, we used up an awful lot of the \$32 million. And this paper that's before us now, would use up the rest of it."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "The estimated 11 million, for addressing about 580 employees. And again, all the attorneys originally were not on this list that has now been revised to be before us to add all the attorneys throughout the county; is that an accurate statement?"

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. Still waiting for that slide. But so -- and that's about \$11 million. That uses up the rest of the \$32 million and leaves -- on this slide --"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "You want this one or the big one?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Well, I'd still like to go back to the first one if we can quickly."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "That's slide 5."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "I had a -- there, there it is. So tell us again about the lower left-hand corner, the 760,000 and the 300 plus or minus employees."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, Commissioner, if you recall, that circle represents the balance of the workforce that were impacted by ICS, the Incremental Compensation Strategy that was approved by the Board of Commissioners, I believe, in 2017 that attempted to move individuals further into the range based on their years of service --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "-- with the county. Based on all of the actions that we've done with the County, when we did the first implementation of the ICS. And then normal attrition, then we did the COLA. That has reduced the need to -- the resources on that option to only down to 76 -- \$760,000. The original --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "For this year or annually?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Well, that's for this year that goes into the additional annual costs on top of what their salaries are already commissioned."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right, okay. So if we can go to the next slide you just had up, showing the --"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Slide 6."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- shortfall of the -- that one, right there. We do this today, the 11 million, give or take, the 580 folks, we use up the rest of the \$32 million, and we have a shortfall of two and a half million dollars for this year, the remainder of this year, correct? Not an annualized amount, but the remainder of this year?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Say that, say your scenario again, Commissioner --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "The two and a half million dollars, 2,474,000 deficit is the balance for the remainder of this year, from March 16th to the end of the year?"

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And the chart anticipates that this gets funded by the departments out of their salary savings?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Sharon?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, Commissioner Morris, that 2.4 million would need to be drawn from the salary savings that have been accruing thus far this year."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right. So my question, my question becomes, does every department that's affected, have those salary savings? Are they going to be able to do it? Do we know?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Every department in the key classification group has vacancies, yes, sir. Whether or not the amount of salary savings that they have generated would be sufficient to cover the balance needed for their particular department, we have not concluded the analysis on that yet. So we may have to sweep from some and give to others in order to make this work."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. It -- I assumed that that was going to be the case. That if someone didn't have it all in the department that we would have to get it to them, sweep it or do a -- do some kind of transfer or something. But that's not gonna keep anybody from getting their raises on March 16th?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "No. Our plan is to go ahead and make the adjustments and we will continue to do this analysis. And the plan for this year was not to start transferring any of the monies that we have held in Non-Agency for these compensation adjustments until the departments need them, from utilization perspective. So we will be balancing it out within each department's budget until such time as their budget can no longer absorb it. And then we will start sounding money over to their budgets cover the shortages."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. I think, two final questions. When you talk about what's next, which I think is the next slide, we still have 180, give or take, employees in what we call the key classifications that we still got to fix."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "I'm talking about doing that midyear, presumably with more salary savings somewhere in midyear."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "So I guess my last question is, these 580, 180, does that cover everybody in the county's workforce that we're going to have to possibly, possibly deal with? It doesn't seem to me that this --"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "No, Commissioner. This population that we're talking about that is a -- it's a very small group of individuals in the key classification group."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "It's almost less than ten to 11 percent of the workforce. But we are, again, in our final stages of bringing back to the Board for consideration and approval, a plan for the balance of the workforce to make sure that our salary table is up to date. It's now about eight, seven to eight years stale since the Archer Study went into play --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "-- get that up to date. And then also, apply the same compensation philosophy for those people group of individuals of, do we want to now, make sure that our Receptionist is at least at the 25th percentile within the range. And do we want to make sure that our HR Consultants are at least at 50 percent within a range. And then do we want to make sure our deputies are at 75 percent within the range. So that's our conversation that we'll have later in the year or around June."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right, right. With significant implications for the 2023 budget process, obviously."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Significant is relative. I'll try and keep it as insignificant as possible."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. That's it, Mr --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Mr. Hermon, what process is used to prioritize who gets the money quickly? What I'm asking is, one department has gotten their money, another department hasn't. For the listening public, are you able to explain what prioritize it and why that -- why that happens?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, Commissioner. So when we had the realization that the COLA, which again, was beneficial to across the entire workforce, had eroded a significant portion of resources that we had originally earmarked for the key classification, we had to be a little bit more strategic in our approach. So we started to look at, well, the -- for example, the HR folks might have been in the key classification group originally. But do they have the same level of turnover, hard-to-fill positions that you would see in IT, that you're seeing in the Public Defender's Office, do you see in the County Attorney's Office. And if the answer was, no, HR was removed. So we went through that process of, are you experiencing the same level of turnover? If the answer is, no, if your staffing levels for your key classifications was 80 percent or above, we thought that you had a great opportunity to field the 20 percent balance, but we had to put the resources where somebody staffing level for the key classification was at 35 percent. And we communicated that in a memo, I think, last week to the Board of Commissioners to try and articulate our rationale as to why an organization that had the same position titles, like attorney, that is staffed at a hundred percent, did not go forward in our original recommendation, like an organization that had attorneys that were staffed at 55 percent. So that was our rationale, Commissioner, as to trying to figure out how could we get the best utilization of the funds available to make sure that we don't have continued pockets of strife and inability to recruit and retain in those various departments."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, is Human Resources making that decision standalone, or are they making that decision with the input for said department that may need more funding or additional staff or staff that we've already agreed to?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Well, it's a collaborative effort between the leadership team of Fulton County. We've had conversations with the department heads that were once -- that were included, to get a better understanding and through those

conversations, we might have missed a position that they thought was included and we acquiesce and added that position in, in the grander scheme of things. But when it came time to implement that position may not have made it because it didn't reach the same level of critical mass, as it relates to the vacancies and recruitment and turnover within a respective department. So while that -- while the position was added in the overall key classifications, that one position, for example, might have been taken out and it's now in phase 2 versus another position in the same department that is now in phase 1."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "This is a concern that I have, the funding that we may have already voted on, are you -- are you all holding any of it up for any of the funding? For any of them?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Sharon? Well, I don't think anyone is being held up. It's as Sharon, sorry, the Chief Financial Officer indicated, finances going through a process of the analysis to determine when the funding that you've approved needs to be moved into those respective departments to cover the obligations of what we've implemented."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So I'll make the question a little bit clearer for my colleagues and those that are sitting up here. If we have voted on particular funding to be put in place for the workforce, whether it's the Sheriff's Department, whether it's the Judges, whether it's the DA, has HR held up any of that funding? That's what I'm asking you, yes, or no?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "That would not be done by HR. That's Finance and the budget office might be better able to answer that question, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, all right. So let me ask you this in relationship to the part-time judges, I thought I was under the impression that they were funded. Are they not funded?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "They are not funded in the first phase of the key classifications. We will bring those individuals back in phase number 2."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Because if it's not -- if I'm not mistaken, I was under the impression that they were going to be funded at that particular time. And the reason that I remember that is because we had a conversation about how the part-time judges were not competitive. And if I'm not mistaken at that time, I think that they were making \$50 an hour. So I'm a little confused as to, if we were trying to take care of a situation and trying to keep our part-time judges, because just like -- I do understand what you're saying. Some may make -- work six hours, some may work 20 hours this

week. My concern is, I was under the impression that we were going to be doing what we needed to do to be competitive for our part-time judges. But it doesn't sound like that's going to take place until later; is that correct?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "That's correct, Commissioner. And I think you might be recalling a conversation that happened, probably in November or September, or one of the three times before this time that I'm presenting that we talked about. I think Judge Kirk came and made that presentation back then. But so much things have changed between November and where we are now that we just didn't have the resources to include for the part-time judges."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So let me make sure, for the listening audience that I understand this. We did see a need for the part-time judges to be more competitive. We didn't have the money to pay them, is that what you're saying?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "We didn't have the resources to earmark from the pool of resources that the Board of Commissioners had identified to include the part-time judges in our analysis. That's why they coming back in phase two."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Now to my earlier question, I guess, Ms. Whitmore can answer this, because you were not equipped to answer the question. I asked is this body, when they make a determination and vote for funding for the department to have it, do you all hold up that funding, yes, or no?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "If the Board takes an action to provide funds, specifically, to a department, those funds have been provided. The funds that were provided for compensation were pooled in non-agency to be moved to the department as needed."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So for our listening audience, I just want to make sure we're clear. If this Board, by resolution, approves funding, the departments are funded, but however, if there's a determination by you all that that funding is not to take place or to be held up, then you all pretty much reserve the right to do that even if you have a resolution that says, fund -- that it can be funded?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "No, ma'am. What I said is, if the Board takes an action to specific -- to give a department a specific amount of money during the budget process, those funds are in that department's budget. With regard to the funds that were provided collectively for compensation adjustments, those funds were presented to the Board as part of the Non-Agency budget. And it was noted in the budget message, I believe, that we would move the funds to the departments as they need it. Because we know that they have vacancies, we know that they have some salary savings."

So until we see that their actual utilization of their salary and fringe benefit budget has reached a point that they can no longer absorb additional costs, that's when we start to move money over to them out of Non-Agency through the soundings process. That is what our practice has been for many years when we have monies in Non-Agency that are set aside for cost-of-living increases and things like that. We move it when it is needed within that agency's budget."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So you say you move it when it is needed. Who determines the need?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "We're basing it off of actual utilization. So they have all of their positions, they have the ability to fill positions. And as we see their actual expenses approach a point where the budget is no longer able to support the actual expenses that is when we move the resources over that are necessary for them to continue through the end of the year. Typically that happens in September or October of every year, is the point in time that we see that we need to actually make the movement. And that's because we fully fund vacancies, and they have the resources within their budget to absorb costs through the year, while they're working to fill their positions."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. My concern -- this is -- this is my concern. My concern -- we're giving kind of, well, from my perspective and my constituents perspective and some of the employees of Fulton County perspective, we're given two different scenarios. And we're telling the employees, whether it be the Judges, whether it be the County Attorney's Office, we will fund you when the money is available. But then we choose and pick who we're going to fund and not fund, maybe with their collaboration, maybe not. I don't know. I can only go by what's been presented to me. And so, I think that we have a serious problem in election year, when we have departments that are losing staff, when we have departments that are pitted against each other. Because how do you tell one department, they're more important than the other? Now, I'm not saying that any department is more important than the other. But the actions of this body versus those that should be implementing, there's two different things. This body takes an action, and then you have another group that implement. And then you start having miscommunication, missteps, or someone else decides to do something without coming to this body to tell us that's what you're doing. Now, I'm not asking to be in your lane, because you're well-equipped to do your job. The problem I have is, is that we're not only losing individuals that the county seriously needs, but we're also developing a very unhealthy culture here, where departments are very upset with each other because they're told one thing and then another thing is done. And so I would really impress upon, not only my colleagues, but the department heads that you cannot create a problem, and



when the problem is created, say that you didn't create it. And so I would humbly ask that you all revisit what this Board agreed to back in November of last year, or maybe September of last year, and fund those things that you all lead us to believe that you were going to fund. And if you're not going to fund those things, don't let it be a surprise that these individuals find out."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah. Just a few things. I'll stay on this subject. Then I want to shift gears a little bit to your last bullet points there on the HR updates and changes. So basically, we gave you instruction, I think, to stock away 32 million bucks, stick it in Non-Agency, then you were going to come back and episodically show us how you were going to spend it, right, which you provided. And based upon what you've told me there, you not only going to -- we're -- not only we will expend all that 32 million that we instructed you to do, you're going to spend a little bit more if we go with Option A or that one you had checked, right? Okay."

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So you're doing what we asked you to do, and then you're asking us to do a little bit more than what we asked you to do, okay, all right. And all that's going to be done in pretty, pretty swift pace here, you know, I guess, starting with this large chunk you said, effective April 8th?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Either current or some of them will be backdated, okay, all right. So, you know, certainly this is a -- anytime you're dealing with compensation, you know, everybody's got their own views around that. You do something for one group, somebody else is going to feel aggrieved. You took, generally, the approach of trying to look at, you know, all of this is sort of embedded in looking at the areas which we feel like are most in need of change, in terms of us to be able to attract employees, get people in and retain them, right?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So that's the stuff that's before us. Some of us will agree with it, some of us will not, in terms of the methodology that you've used. So but you've shown us the methodology you went about doing. Certainly, there's been a lot of sausage making involved, everybody's got their own views around it. You know, you're trying to take a macro view of it and bring it to us here as Board. So I appreciate that. On the -- I wanted to touch base, you know, we're making a lot of these changes. And

certainly, they have budgetary implications. But one of the things also, and I'll just make this as a statement, it's not really an ask. You know, that I think that this does sort of suggest to me that, you know, the current classification system that we got is cumbersome. And, you know, there's too many classes, et cetera. I guess that's not going to change with the result of what we -- what we're going to see reported back from us in June necessarily, right?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "No, Commissioner. That was not part of the assignment that we gave to them, the vendor."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay, okay, all right. Well, I got my opinion on that. But I just want to make sure that that's not really a part of it. And the HR updates and changes, the -- you're hiring internal staff. Is some of that internal staff going to be recruiters, where their sole function is going to be recruiting?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "That's part of the conversation that we're having with Finance. So what we're trying to do is just try and get back to our normal staffing levels --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I understand that."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "-- of the administrative staff that has to do everything outside of recruiting, investigations, classifications, reviews, and the like. So we're talking with the HR -- the Finance folks about some additional funding to have dedicated recruiters that all they do all day is that. And, you know, source the talent that we need, so that we could avoid more positions slipping into the key classification world and making that transition."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. One of the things I would, you know, you run your department, but I would encourage you to give some thought to is, what roles and functions you have people doing, and might what you want to scale back on some of the areas you're focusing in on and do some things that you aren't doing, like recruiting, you know, with the same number of people that you have. And also, you know, we've got an item that's before us here on the purchasing side, you know, later, which we're going to come back to, you know, to try to address some of the stuff to kind of simplify some of the stuff they're doing. And the third bullet point, to me, speaks to that for you. And, you know, one of the things that I think I understand the process to be is, you know, as applications come in, your team is vetting them all for qualifications before you send anything to the potential hiring department?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Right. Versus, you know, the hiring department seen all the resumes that come in, the applications come in and sort of real-time as you're seeing them. They have the ability to kind of look and see, all right, might some of these folks really fit some of what we have in actual needs. And then, you know, you can validate that, in terms of, you know, the need for many job requirements, et cetera, you know, kind of real-time with them. You know, so there's a delay, is what I'm saying, right, you know, we're in a period of time where we're crunched, we got places where we got high vacancy rates. You know, it's a tight job market. People put their resumes in to certain places. If they're able to move faster, then they're able to make hires. And they're going to get the people that, you know, that we're not, right? So you got to look at ways that you shorten the cycle. So, I mean, I don't think we can move -- I don't think we cannot not move quickly enough on those particular items. Because I think they mean as much, if not more, maybe than some of this other stuff that we're, you know, talking about right now. So, you know, I look forward to kind of hearing what we're going to come back with on those four bullet points, particularly, the last three. You know, when you have that ready. And hopefully that's -- hopefully that's before June that we're going to see some stuff on that."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes. So we're trying -- once we get the key classifications and the elected officials out -- out of the way, we can then go back to figure out, how could we do all of this. And we want to have roundtable discussions with our end users. You know, we got some good feedback from the DA yesterday, as to how we could make some improvement or suggestions. But we have to -- we want to make it a holistic approach, not focusing just on one individual."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "All right, thank you."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Mr. Hermon, so I want to follow up on some of this questioning, because that was actually what I did not feel like had been thoroughly discussed. You mentioned, it's shortening the period of time to hire people, which we just briefly touched on. I'm curious, right now, what's the average time it takes to hire someone?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Commissioners, we're averaging roughly about 60 days, on average. And just for a point of reference, before we went into shared services, I think, back in 2016, and we had made many adoptions of changes to how we did the operations within HR. I think we were upwards about 120 days on average. So we've cut that in half significantly. But we do acknowledge that we do have a little bit more work to do. But because of our processes and items that are referenced in the Civil Service Act that we have incorporated into our policies, we've kind of built in the delay in our policies and procedures to make sure that proper checks and balances along the way."

So that's the conversation that we want to have with the appointing authorities and the department heads and Finance, as to what could we remove and make sure that what we're removing doesn't open up a legal risk by removing it as well."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Well, I would say it'd be hard to find folks that can wait 120 days or even 60 days to make a decision on employment. And so I strongly echo the comments that that should be one of the key places that we focus on. Because, you know, I've heard a lot of people that really wanted to work for Fulton County, but just could not wait that long, and had to make other choices. So I do think that's one of our biggest limitations to hiring good people when they're available. You mentioned other changes in the Civil Service Act. Is there anything else of note that you think we should know about?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Like I said, we have not done the full dive. But I was just pointing out as to -- I'll point to one example. In the Civil Service Act, it talks about, apply. Applying for a job through the HR Office and the Chief HR Officer has to validate your eligibility. Well, we've taken that language from the Civil Service Act and said, in order for you to apply, you have to come through our NEOGOV system, the job has to be posted for X number of days to make sure that it is a competitive recruitment and all individuals within the counties or within the world, have the ability to see the job. And my team is the only team that can review and issue the registers to the department. And then on top of that, we say, well, in order to have a fair interview process, we want a diverse panel of minimum of three individuals. And trying to get those individuals into a room to have those conversations, are part and parcel of all the time that it takes to slow down the process. So that's why I say, so we've looked at that one item as an area of opportunity within the Civil Service Act that we could change and make sure it's clear that applying is simply, you hand me a resume, the HR Department says that you meet the qualifications, however we got that resume, whether it came through NEOGOV or was handed off, that person meets the qualifications. Interview whoever you want to interview and send that person back. So those are the opportunities that we have, Commissioner."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "I mean, I just listening to that, it just, in my mind, I would think you might could even do something as simple as, when the job is posted, you already have identified your selection committee. I mean, I don't know why you'd wait until the end of the process to even start looking at that. You know what the process you have to go through is. So, I mean, those are some, I think, common-sense things that could be reevaluated just for timing purposes. Because I do think it's one of our fatal flaws in the process is just how long it takes. I couldn't wait 6 months to get a job. And again, I don't know how many people could. Also, eight years ago, maybe, the legislature

put in some new rules for hiring in civil service and classifications. You're following all of that as well in this process, correct?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Are you talking specifically about all new hires?"

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Title changes, all that kind of stuff."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Are they moving into the non-exempt --"

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Correct."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "The unclassified category?"

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Correct."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "So, yes. Yes, Commissioner, we are following that."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "So at this point, what percentage of folks are unclassified? You can get that to us later."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yeah."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "I just was curious."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "It's a very small percentage. But I'll get that to you, Commissioner."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "All right, thank you very much. Commissioner Hall, you're next."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Vice Chair. Earlier, someone mentioned about salary savings. And I wanted to know if we can have a report of the countywide department and agency salary savings. And are we providing that information to the various departments and agencies such as the Courts and the Solicitor General, the District Attorney, and those who have their own budgets?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Commissioner Hall, we will prepare a report. Like I mentioned earlier, the budget office is in the process now of reviewing the first quarter. As Mr. Hermon has indicated, we did just implement the ICS. So they're taking that now into account within the departmental expense categories as well. So we were working on that and we will provide that information as soon as it's ready."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right, thank you."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Thank you. Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Thank you, Madam Vice Chair. I was sitting here thinking about rectangles and squares. A square is a rectangle, right? Rectangle is a square, which way is it? Square is a rectangle, but a rectangle might not be a square, right?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "I'll follow your lead on that one, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "You understand, these part-time judges, you know what they are, don't you?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Are you talking about the Magistrates?"

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

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "What are they?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "They're part-time Magistrates."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "What are they before they're part-time magistrates? I'll help you."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "I assume attorneys."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "They're attorneys."

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "They're attorneys. So are they included in your all attorneys?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "No, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Then we have a problem, Houston. You can't say all attorneys. See, judges, before they become judges, at least most of them, are lawyers, they're attorneys. So I'm glad I'm here, so that we can help wrap our hands around this. I guess, the other thing -- I'm really confused, because we got sued by the lawyers before. And so I have no idea how we can get sued by lawyers, previously, for doing something for one group of lawyers and not doing something for another group of

lawyers. And then somebody goes back and does the same thing again. How is that possible? Why would someone think that that is, okay? We just going to keep doing it, ten times, we going to do it a hundred times, no matter what. We going to get sued a hundred times. We going to get sued a thousand times. We going to do it a thousand and one times. That doesn't make sense. The part-time Magistrates are attorneys. So we need to go back and regroup and reposition and redo these numbers. Because you can't say, all attorneys, without including the part-time Magistrates. Does that make sense?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Commissioner, yes, it does. And maybe I need to clarify my initial statements. While, in order to be a Magistrate, you have to be an attorney to be a Magistrate. In my world, HR, if you're not sitting in an attorney position, and you're sitting in a magistrate position, you are a magistrate. These individuals over here are attorneys. So we automatically treat them differently because of their specific jobs that they hold within the county structure. But I do understand your position about needing to go back and retool and look at it. But I just want to just clarify the distinction as to how we look at it from an HR perspective, based on the classifications that that -- those individuals are holding at the time when we did the analysis."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Well, one is a prerequisite to the other. You have to be an attorney to become a judge; you have to be a member of the bar. So you have to do all of those skills, plus all of what the attorney does, everything, plus you do additional work, all right? So I don't know, HR world, none of that. I'm telling you the real world, the practical side of it. So -- and I mean, I can't even imagine that our County Attorney knew about this or would advise you to give raises to one group of attorneys versus another group of attorneys, when we all know we got sued for that. You know that, you were here. Why would we go back and do that again? So I don't understand any of this. I don't even understand why we even talking about this out here. Because when y'all go do what y'all did, we need to go talk about this back there, because now, this is potential litigation, based on your actions. We shouldn't even be talking about this out here. Why are we talking about it out here, when the actions that y'all have taken have now put us in jeopardy for litigation. Does that make sense?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Commissioner, I can't speak to the actions that we are taking now that would put us in jeopardy for potential litigation. I know that all personnel actions are discussed in this forum unless it's impacting directly the staff of the Board of Commissioners. So this is the appropriate forum, and I don't believe, and probably the County Attorney could weigh in that, this does not put us in the same litigation position that we might have been placed in historically. But again, having that

conversation in this forum with, between yourself and the County Attorney and may, you know, open up our strategy to how we defend our --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "It is inevitable. Y'all sent letters to the Public Defenders. We got 10 - 20 other groups of attorneys that didn't get the same letter. So that action, in and of itself, triggers potential litigation. That's what it does, and makes it a topic for Executive Session. We have to treat employees the same, particularly those that are in the same class, serving the same functions, particularly those that are not only serving the same functions as all of those others, but additional functions on top of them. And I -- you're not a lawyer, you don't go to court. You may not understand that all judges are attorneys, and that they first have to perform those roles before they can perform their judicial roles. So we -- whatever it is, we need to go back to the table, and come back with something that makes sense. And we have to be very careful about the words that we choose. All squares are rectangles, but not all rectangles are squares. So when we say, all attorneys, see perhaps it's also the definition of attorney. You're defining it, attorney, by job description."

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Right. An attorney is defined by someone who is a member of the Georgia Bar, practicing, right? If you're an active member of the Georgia Bar, you were an attorney. So your definition, we -- the foundation of the definition is wrong. I'm done."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, just two things. I did -- did want to clarify with our County Attorney that what's before us right now, is done. With that, with pay equity in mind that it is consistent with our pay plan."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Without getting into all of the details of the discussion that was had, there are distinguishing factors between --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So you have reviewed that in --"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Yes, we did have discussion --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And you're comfortable with that approach, yeah, okay. And then also wanted to clarify with you that, what I heard from you in terms of the -- if I'm hearing you right, on the issue of the part-time Magistrates. And that their, the Chief Magistrate Judge is not restricted from increasing the hourly rate of pay for these part-time judges. There just may not be enough funds in their budget or the Chief Magistrate Judge's budget in order to do so; is that correct?"



**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "That's correct, Commissioner. As I read the legislation that established the authority in the Chief Magistrate Judge to set the hourly rate for the part-time magistrates --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "-- the \$50 mark is the minimum --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "-- which suggests that she can go above that. But of course, she's limited by whatever resources she may have within her budget."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay, thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner -- Vice Chair Hausmann followed by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "Well, I wasn't going to say this, but I do see our Chief Judge disagreeing back there. So we might want to hear from her real quick. But my question -- my distinction that I took in that conversation you were talking about the attorney compensation is, you have some full time, mostly full time, and then you have some part time. And that is a distinct difference as well."

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

**VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN:** "All right. And I do think the Chief Magistrate does want to comment."

**CASSANDRA KIRK, CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE:** "First, I want to thank you all for being so astute in the questioning that you all have this morning. As it relates to the compensation for the part-time magistrate judges that was set by this -- that was set by this Board of Commissioners at \$50 an hour. There is nothing that I can do as the department head for that division that will increase that rate without a resolution from this Board. Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I'm going to yield the floor."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Any other comments. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Just one other comment. I mean, since you've stated something that was inconsistent with the Chief Magistrate Judge's understanding, I do hope y'all can speak offline --"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Sure."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- and get this resolved. And if there needs to be some interpretation from our county attorney in order to do that, so we get that question clarified that should be able to be done without -- if that is the case that should be able to be addressed without us having to intercede on that."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah, very quickly. I was prepared to deal with that hourly rate issue on paper 0237 when we get to it. Because I think we -- my sense is, we do need to reset that hourly rate. I thought that the Judge is correct in that response. So I thought that's where we do it and not this particular paper. And again, I see a difference between attorneys and judges. You know, with all due respect, Commissioner Arrington, we're not paying these folks to be lawyers, we're paying them to be judges. And so that -- that's a little bit different. So I'm comfortable with the distinctions we've made. But again, maybe the County Attorney can help us when we get to 237, if that's the right place to deal with the hourly rate for the -- for the magistrate part-time magistrate judges. I think that's where we probably ought to do it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Arrington, followed by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "What would be the cost of -- and we could go back to the option or the A, the A, B, and C options. How is that number affected by the magistrate judges? Or if we were to include and, yes, Commissioner Morris, we will have to agree to disagree. Because -- and I don't know how other attorneys would view it. But in order to perform the duties of a judge, you first have to perform the duties of an attorney. You have to analyze the situation. So I believe that there are additional duties as a judge. I believe that you first have to perform the duties of an attorney, analyze the situation, apply the law, and then you have to, as a judge, you have to make a decision. Attorneys don't get to make those decisions, they just advocate. But the steps and the requirements are none-the-less the same. And so, I guess I need to know from Finance, how would this number be affected with the magistrate judges being included?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "I believe that Mr. Hermon indicated it was -- he estimated it was about 300,000."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. And so, what does that mean? That means it'll be 6.1 instead of 5.8?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, sir. And it would change the amount that we would be looking to capture through salary savings to 2.7 million."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. And so, what are we being asked right now? Are we being asked -- is the recommendation the 5.8, or the 6.1? What are we --"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "What's before --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "What are we about to vote on? What are you all asking us to vote on to approve?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "It's the, all attorneys option, the 5.8, the 5.8 million."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "All right. I don't -- I fundamentally disagree that that is all attorneys. I disagree with that. I'm going to support it. But I disagree with the definition and where we are. But I'm going to use it as a starting point, and work with Commissioner Morris on 237 and make sure that we take care of our magistrates. But I fundamentally disagree with what is presented and the manner in which it is presented."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Chair, Mr. Chair and Commissioner Arrington. Based on the discussion that we are having right now about whether or not 237 is the vehicle by which we can make these changes and address the part-time judges, I want to allow our County Attorney to respond and answer the question of, where do we do this? And is it just a matter of amending 237 to include the part-time judges right now, so that we can go vote on that? Madam County Attorney, if you could."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I believe 237 is the one that deals with the magistrate judges as well. So that seems like a logical place to make a friendly amendment to add the magistrate, the part-time magistrates if that is the will of the Board."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Absolutely, thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Other comments or questions? If not, the motion on the floor is to improve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Cast your vote, please."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Option A."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously for Option A."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Next item, let's go, let's hurry."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0236**: Human Resource Management. Request approval of resolution to establish new supplements for the Circuit, Public Defender, Sheriff, and Superior Court Clerk."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. A motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Any questions, discussion, comment? If not, let's vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0237**: Request approval of a resolution to establish new supplements and salaries for certain elected and appointed judicial officers -- officials."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. I have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall. Is there a second at this time? All right, Mr. Hermon, seconded by Commissioner Morris."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Anything you want to add?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Just one, two points of clarification, it's 237, correct? On the document, and I believe Tonya and her team circulated. That there was an adjustment on the supplement amount for the Probate Judge and the Chief Judge. We had an error there, it should have been 60,868 for both of them. 60,868 instead of 66,000. That gets them back to the original 193 that the Board of Commissioner had set for a total compensation. I just wanted that to be pointed out. And I do agree with Commissioner Morris that if you are attempting to also address the hourly rate for the magistrates here, this would be the appropriate resolution to do that as well."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And I'd like to make a motion to make that friendly amendment to add the part-time judges."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Second."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And what -- if we could have Chief Judge Kirk provide the information about the salary, because Mr. Hermon, you said that you thought that she said \$75 an hour was appropriate, but you weren't sure. So I want to make sure that we have the appropriate amount that it should be. If we're going to make this amendment."

**CASSANDRA KIRK, CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE:** "Good afternoon, Commissioner. Thank you for the opportunity. At this point, the \$75 was what I asked for in our budget when I did not know that everyone else was getting all these other raises. And so my only ask here would be that that be parallel to what the part -- to what the full -- I'm sorry -- to what the full-time magistrate judges make. And that be -- it's not annualized, but it be made to be an hourly rate that matches that rate. So I believe \$75 is not appropriate, given the rates that the county is now paying for attorneys, that the county is now paying for judges. And so I would ask for an opportunity just to set and figure out what that is. But at this point, I can't tell you. I can say that I believe \$75 is too low for anybody, even working as an attorney that is too low. And so at a minimum, I would say, 100, 125. But I do not want to shortchange those judges that have worked so hard. So thank you very much for that opportunity."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "You're welcome. And Mr. Hermon, based on what we are currently paying, can you provide us with what that calculation is by -- in an hourly rate? I'm sorry? Yes, based on the current increase that is taking place."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yeah, my phone is dead, so I can't do the quick calculation of what the hourly rates are."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Can someone help him with the calculator, please?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Tell you what, this not a good way to run a railroad, the way we're doing this. Lord have mercy. Get my departments up here next meeting."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. Looks like we have a verdict. What is it?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "She's negotiating, that's what she is doing. All right, so mathematically, the magistrate -- the full-time magistrate judges are going to a total compensation of 173, 192. If I divide that by 20.80, which is the total number of hours that they could work, that's roughly, \$83.00 an hour."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Eighty-three and hour, okay. So the friendly amendment is to add the part-time judges at \$83 an hour. And you second it, Commissioner -- oh, Commissioner Morris, I see you on there as the second already."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "No. I was just going to be in the queue to make the -- to make the proposed amendment."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So my only question -- because we seem to be at this juncture so much, is the 83 competitive? I know we want to be fair. But I'm only asking, in that I know that we've lost a couple of part-time judges. And should we be competitive at a hundred? Should we be competitive at 85, 90? I'm just asking the question. If we're going to move on this today, because we have lost part-time judges. So I don't know if Finance needs to or the County Manager, but I'm just asking, in reality, since we've thrown out a couple of numbers. What do we really need to look at the number today in order to make sure that we don't have more part-time judges leave?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes. Commissioner, I would say, yes. Only from the standpoint that in preparation for the meeting today, I reviewed one of the presentations that Judge Kirk sent to me back in June or July of 2021 that had a nice overview of what the compensation strategy or comparators were. And in that analysis, she identified, I think it was like, 163 was where she wanted her magistrate judges to go. And then \$75 hourly rate for the part time. If you approve the resolution in front of you, we would now be putting the full-time magistrates \$10,000 above what the judge recommended a few months ago. So -- and hopefully, the Judge would agree that by us going \$10,000 above her initial number for her full-time individuals that puts her in a much better position to recruit, retain, and definitely position the Magistrate's Office as the public employer of choice for the magistrate-type roles that we're seeking within the county."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "If you don't mind, Judge, if I can pretty much ask you, does that make us competitive? I know it sounds better than what was on the table. My biggest concern is, are we competitive?"

**CASSANDRA KIRK, CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE:** "And so we recognize as public servants that we're not here to get over, that we are here, in fact, to do the work of the people, and we are community servants. We also recognize that any additional money from \$50 -- and we've been at \$50 since 2015, we are thankful for that. And so I want to say, we are grateful. Whether we will be competitive or not, I don't know. We've lost three full times and seven part times since we started in 2019. I believe \$85 an hour makes us incredibly happy. I mean, you can't give somebody that's hungry, like, a little food and say, are you, okay? Oh course, I'm happy. I want us to be competitive, but I would say that at \$85 an hour, I believe that's something that we can move forward with."

I don't know what that's going to do. I don't want us to hold. I don't want to hold them up any longer, is my bigger concern with going back and forth. I think \$85 is more than we've had, and I am grateful for that. I don't know if, you know, in my heart, I'm saying a hundred. But I don't want to break the bank. I realize that we've come from a situation, where our part-time magistrates were making more money than our full-time magistrates. I'm not attempting to return us to that waste. That's not what I'm looking forward to. I want us to be good stewards of the county's money and of the taxpayers money. And so I would say -- I would acquiesce at 85. I can't promise I won't be back in two years."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So Commissioner Hall, would you -- would 85 be an issue for you?"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "No. Commissioner Morris and I were just discussing that 85 is just fine. So make that friendly amendment at 85. Thank you."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I can support that. Thank you."

**CASSANDRA KIRK, CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE:** "Thank you all."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, and Mr. Hermon, please, keep your phone, your county phone charged, because that's the phone that pays you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has spoken. Commissioner Hall has spoken. Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I guess my question is, do we want to make it a specific number, or do we want to make it equal to what -- because unintended consequences. You start paying one group more than you start paying the other, you going to have a problem. And you're going to have a lawsuit. So I think that we should make it equal, so that we do not have any additional unintended consequences. And whatever equal is, I think it should be equal."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "So, I'm sorry, let me get in the queue, Mr. Chair. So what is the impact of what making it 85 instead of 83 if you go back and ensure that all of those who have received that increase are also put at \$85 an hour? Can Madam CFO, can we know what the impact of that would be? Because I see what you're saying."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Commissioner Hall, I'm not sure that I have enough detail in front of me right now to make that calculation on what the difference would be. But I do think that \$85 an hour would be more than the hourly rate, the equivalent hourly rate for the full-time magistrate judges. So if you were looking to at least have it be equal, then I think, language that would just set a rate that's commiserate

with the hourly rate of the full-time judges, would be a good starting point, it would be \$83 and some change."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "So 83 is actually what the full-time judges are making right now? Because if we -- \$83 -- because if we put it at 85, then we're going to have to go back and do the same for the full-time judges."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, ma'am. That would be more than what the full-time judges effective hourly rate would be."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Yeah, yeah. So, okay, 83 it is then."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Well, it's been amended now to 85, so I --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "And what I'm telling y'all is, I don't think we need to do a specific number. We need to say, make it equal. Because you -- I think they're going to be --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "I'll just say, make it equal."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "-- unintended consequences from doing a specific number."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Make it equal to the full-time judges."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "And Commissioner --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Make it equal to the full-time judges."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "So an hourly -- an hourly rate equal to the hourly rate of the full-time magistrate judges?"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Yes. Madam County Attorney, you got that? Judge Kirk, you're welcome, all right. All right, colleagues."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "So that's a friendly amendment. That amendment then replaces the 85 and went back to just equal. So is that what y'all want? Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I withdraw. I withdraw."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Anything else? Get ready for the next group to come. All right, let's vote."

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



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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0238:** Request approval of Resolution to establish new supplements for Superior Court Judges, District Attorneys, Circuit Public Defender after supportive opinion received from the County -- from the Attorney General."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Quick question. If you look at 236 and 238, they both have the Circuit Public Defender in them."

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

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "236 says, a salary of 49,748. And 238 says, a salary of 72,112. Can you explain that for the viewing audience?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Thank you very much, Commissioner. If you can put back up the presentation, please. For, I think it was 235, the same presentation."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "236 and 238. Yeah. 238."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Next slide, next, next, next, one more, one more. All right, thank you. Okay. I'm going to try and go through this one as slowly as possible because this one has a lot of moving parts."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Yeah. The constituents were concerned that it was in there twice. But I know there's some language in 238 --"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Right."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "-- that makes a difference."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "So let me first explain that what we have before you is a resolution, and probably the County Attorney will help me with this part of it. It is a resolution that says, contingent on some favorable guidance from the county -- from the Attorney General's Office, you can proceed. Because you recall the conversation about the \$50,000 cap that is placed on not only Superior Court Judges that ripples down to the District Attorney. And then also we discovered that it also, at least in our opinion, applies to the Public Defender's Office. So what we attempted to do in the previous resolution is, the authority that you have right now, the authority that you have

right now, you have the authority to move the Public Defender's supplement to equal that of the Superior Court Judges and the District Attorney. And if you look at the Public Defender line, that's where we have 49,748. So you have the authority to do that now and you've taken the action to do so. However, there is a House Bill, House Bill 1391 moving through the Legislature, from our understanding; it's on the Governor's desk to be signed. Which would then, increase the Public Defender's state compensation to equal the compensation of the District Attorney. So if that is adopted, that's where the 72,112 comes back if you have a favorable opinion from the -- from the Attorney General's Office. And if that opinion -- if that legislation is not adopted by the Governor, then option number 3, again, depending on the favorable opinion from the Attorney General's Office, that's where the, for the Public Defender that his supplement will go to 93,902. So these are all the nuances that we've discover especially related to the Public Defender's situation that we're trying our best to articulate in a simple way as possible. But just trying to follow and ensure that we are, in our opinion, moving within lockstep of the authority that we believe the Board has and staying in concert with the law. And I don't know if the County Attorney's Office want to share a little bit more insight as to her perspective that kind of got us into this. Let's make sure we do what we have the authority to do now, given the \$49,000 supplement. And let's hold off until we get some action on the House Bill that is going to be approved -- that may be approved by and signed by the Governor. And also what also might come from the county -- from the Attorney General's Office."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "So currently, what are the salaries for these positions?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "So on the chart, so we have it broken down, what is the state salary. We have the county's salary, because some elected officials receive a county salary versus a state salary. And then some individuals also receive a supplement. So we did our best to try and breakdown those differences on this chart so you can see how all the moving pieces are as it relates to the elected officials. So you've already taken action on everyone except the Superior Court Judges, the District Attorney, and the Public Defender going beyond the 49,748. And I think that's where the conversation about the Attorney General's opinion and the County attorney's office leading that discussion, may help the Board with coming to a decision as to what your final action is going to be for those three individuals."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Now I'm confused by this chart. Are you telling me, the state pays all those people listed under state salary?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "And maybe when I say state, meaning it's the state salary that either the state pays or the county pays. I'm just saying that's the calculation for their base pay. So there is, for example, the Sheriff, we pay the Sheriff -- well, sorry, the Sheriff gets paid from the state -- no."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So it's not a state salary, it's a salary sent by the state?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "A salary set by the state, yes. Yes, Commissioner, sorry about that."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "All right. Because the -- all the funds come from Fulton County?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "In some respects. Like, the Superior Court Judges, only the \$72,000 or the \$49,000 come from Fulton County."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "The DA -- the DA and the judges are paid by the state?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "They are paid from the state, correct."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Could you -- could you tell us again, the law that the Governor is about to sign? What does that do?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "It's House Bill 1391. And it slid in to increase the Public Defender's state salary to be equal to the District Attorney's. So if you look at the chart, that would move his current state salary from 107, if it's signed --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "-- to 128."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "All right. And I guess, what troubles me still is this, the contingencies in this paper. That if we pass it, these judges and the other folks here, don't get their raises until we get this opinion from the Attorney General. I understand the legal issue. It's -- I was prepared to go ahead and say, I think we agree with the Chief Judge's opinion about this law that gives us the right to go ahead and do this, notwithstanding -- not waiting for the Attorney General's opinion. But you're obviously interested in saying something, Ms. County Attorney, so go ahead."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Yes, thank you Commissioner Morris. I was going to say, and this Body's prerogative to accept that interpretation over mine. That's why we presented both of the interpretations in an effort to get some support and additional guidance and insight. We did ask the Attorney General's Office to give us an unofficial written opinion. However, I have no reason to anticipate that their written opinion will deviate from the verbal opinion that they gave when Chief Judge Brasher and I had a telephone conference with them recently. So I fully anticipate that the written opinion will come back the same as their previously-stated verbal opinion."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Which gives us the right --"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Which --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- to, go ahead --"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "-- makes that statute not a cap."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "It gives us the right to have a supplement that is more than \$50,000 if we currently are not at 50,000, which is our situation. The second step of our recommendation, our recommendation, again, which you may follow or --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Not."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "-- choose not to, would be to travel through Home Rule Power to increase the supplement if we are not at a cap situation. Because the current structure is that that supplement for Fulton County Superior Court Judges is set through local legislation. So originally, our opinion was that it should be changed through local legislation, local law by the state legislature. However, as we examined the matter further, I am comfortable recommending proceeding under Home Rule. And our next opportunity to do so would be in June through July."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right, because it takes a period --"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "You have to have a specific --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- some weeks between meetings."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "-- window of opportunity between the meetings."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right, okay. Can I ask the Chief Judge, if you don't mind, Judge, to -- I mean, I'm prepared, if you all think it's appropriate, to suggest an amendment to this paper to take out that contingency. But tell us, if you don't mind, where you all are with it --"

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "Sure. Thank you, Commissioner Morris and thank you, members of the Commission for a chance to speak to you. I'm going to sound very similar to what I sounded like in November. And I'm going to tell you that, respectfully, the County Attorney and I have had some very productive conversations about it. I appreciate her willingness to approach the Attorney General's Office in the first place, much less, with us jointly. I appreciate that. Unfortunately, we didn't get the opinion request to them until a week ago. That's the way it is, no worries. But I concur with what she said, and that is, as to the applicability of the \$50,000 number in the statute, they will tell you, as I have told you that it's not a cap. That it only affects those circuits that pay more than 50,000, you don't. When we do, if we do, then it will affect us. But it doesn't affect us now. The second issue, I respectfully disagree on is, the issue of Home Rule. There have been, over the years, a number of pieces of local legislation that have been adopted by the General Assembly regarding supplements for Fulton County Superior Court Judges. Until the most recent one, it always said an exact amount. The most recent one, which set the salary -- set the supplement at where it is now, 49,748. It said that the governing authority shall pay a supplement of not less than 49,748. So if you have all the authorization you need to set it as you need to, that's clearly, the legislation before, did not give you that authority. The present legislation does. There is no cap. Again, this is the position that I have taken since we were here last year. And again, I'm -- please don't think anything I'm saying is -- I'm not trying to get between the County Attorney and you all. It's her job to represent you. I'm just telling you what I think the law says. And again, I appreciate her willingness to say, as I heard from the Attorney General's Office, they agree with us on the issue of no cap. Happy to answer any other questions."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "So one approach would be for us to go ahead and approve this as a written, which makes it contingent on ultimately getting that written opinion. The alternative, which I'm perfectly comfortable with -- and again, with all due respect, I understand her position perfectly. It's -- I think it's a -- it's either or -- I would be

comfortable taking those contingencies out, quite frankly, and passing it today without that."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "I asked -- I ask you to remove the contingencies. I ask you to pass it today. And the reason is, because first of all, we've asked for an unofficial opinion. It's not binding on anyone. Second of all, they may or may not give us an opinion. I worked at the Attorney General's Office, and sometimes you do and sometimes they don't. I have reason to believe that they will. And of course, I have reasonable to believe it's going to say what it said. Of course, that's not binding on you one way or the other. I'm asking you to do what the Supreme Court tells me to do, and that is to read the law as it's written and apply it to plain language. And the plain language says, it's not a cap. And that's what I'm asking. Thank you very much."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Well, that's how I read it as well. And I'm going --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Is that a friendly amendment?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Pardon?"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Was that a friendly amendment?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Well, I'm going to -- I'm going to go ahead and make a motion to amend this legislation that's before us to remove the whereas languages and the languages in the now, therefore it's resolved that make it contingent upon an opinion from the Attorney General."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "I'll second that."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "That'll be my motion."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam DA, come on down."

**FANI WILLIS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** "(Off-mic) I just want to make sure that (off-mic) the County Attorney had this conversation earlier in the week. And she did confirm that she personally confirmed what the Attorney General said to our Honorable Chief Judge, said the same thing to her. And that -- and I'll have her speak for herself because she's more than capable. It was her opinion that once that was done that that applied to the District Attorney as well. And the reason was -- and she told me that the language in the statute is exactly the same. And so that it would be her advice upon getting that, that that should include the District Attorney. So I just wanted that on the record today to make sure that you all heard what I heard as well."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right. And that's clearly, I think, in the paper that it deals with the District Attorney and the Circuit Public Defender as well as the Superior Court Judges. So that's my motion, Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. A motion, seconded by Commissioner --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I was --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I'm sorry, Commissioner Hall, then Commissioner -- that's the motion. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you. And so, Madam DA, with the contingencies in or out, does that affect you?"

**FANI WILLIS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** "Well, if they're going to make the motion, it's my understanding -- and I'm glad you asked the clarification because I do want the record clear, is that it would impact me. And so just as the Superior Court Judges were getting a raise today, so would the elected District Attorney, putting us on par."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So the contingency, I just want to make sure for the listening public, because one thing I've learned down here as a sitting Commissioner, Fulton County does what it wants to do. Sometimes when the opinion is good or bad. So I want the listening public to know that the contingency is going to hurt the DA or help the DA."

**FANI WILLIS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** "If I'm understanding correctly -- so I want to make sure. The -- with this, the -- both the Superior Court Judges and the District Attorney will now be given a supplement by the County of \$72,000. The \$128,000 you see, is paid to us by the state. So I hope that that is clear for the record as well. That salary does not come from the county. That salary comes from the state. So what the county would be paying is a -- this supplement of 72,112 -- 2."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So Commissioner Morris, if we do it based on what you're saying that will not hurt the DA."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "It will make it clear that the DA gets the raise and not --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And it doesn't make it contingent."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And as well as you -- thank you, Madam DA. As well as you -- with you, Judge Brasher."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I want to make sure that we're crystal clear. Because I think we have went a little bit too far back and forth with this. And I appreciate all the law partners and what we do. And I know sometimes it becomes sausage making. But sometimes it becomes political too. But I just want to make sure, I want to support my colleague here. But I want to make sure we're being fair. Thank you."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "I appreciate it very much. And I also appreciate what you all have done to help us attract, retain, those key personnel that will help us with this as well. Thank you."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Judge Brasher. Thank you, Madam DA."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. We have a motion on the floor to amend. Let's vote on that motion first."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Voting on the motion to amend to remove the contingency?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yes."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And that was Commissioner Morris and Hall?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yes. Madam Clerk?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "We have to go back. It takes a second, okay. We'll fix it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The amendment."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Now, on the --"

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes. Okay, that's unanimous."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Now, back to the main motion as amended. Vice Chair Hausmann, Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Hall."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "I was just going to make the friendly amendment that Commissioner Morris made."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. Thank you, Vice Chair. Commissioner Arrington."



**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I just want to make sure that the public understands the difference or what change with the Attorney General's opinion. And I just want to make sure that we have that on the record, so that everybody knows exactly what we're talking about. You know, we have the paperwork, we've been reviewing it and the statutes and stuff. But the public doesn't have the benefit of having all of that same information. And so I want to make sure that we understand. I guess, before we were worried that there may be backlash from the state by doing this. And so Chief Judge, if you don't mind just making -- just for the public's benefit, I appreciate you making it real clear, exactly what happened with -- I understand it was a phone call. And there was a previous opinion. And now there's a new opinion or updated opinion."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "Fortunately, it's been remarkably consistent. I had a conversation with the Attorney General's Office in December. And they told me, they agreed with my interpretation that it's not a cap. That it only affects those circuits that pay more than \$50,000 supplements. Based on that, I reached out to the County Attorney. She graciously agreed to get on a phone call with me with the Attorney General's Office. We each stated kind of our take on it, if you will. And they reiterated their previous statement, which is, they don't believe it's a cap. They believe the plain language of the statute is not a cap and only affects those circuits that pay more than 50,000. Again, the County Attorney graciously agreed to jointly request an opinion, which would be an unofficial opinion from the Attorney General's Office. Again, the Attorney General has no authority over what you do, which is why it's an unofficial opinion, it's merely advisory. I have no reason to believe -- I'm not going to speak for them. That would be foolish of me. But I have no reason to believe that they'll be any different than they've been in their opinion than the last two times we spoke to them. And so -- and that is, they don't believe it's a cap and that you are not limited by that language, unless and until, the circuit pays more than \$50,000 as a supplement. Presently, you do not therefore, you are not limited by this code section."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So then that would mean that after we do this -- if we adopt this today, then it would apply after that, because we then -- then we would be paying more than \$50,000 supplement."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "On that point, we are all in agreement, yes."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "Did I adequately answer your question, Commissioner?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "It did. I just want to make sure that everybody understands we -- and that particularly, the public understands."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "And to that end, if I could add one more thing. When that statute was enacted in 2017 I believe, there were already nine or ten circuits that were paying more than \$50,000 as supplements. So there was a target to that legislation. It wasn't just something that was out there lurking. It was -- there were circuits that were paying more. And because of that legislation, they are prohibited from increasing that supplement. Likewise, if Fulton County pays more than 50, Fulton County will also be prohibited from increasing it, unless and until that statute is changed. On that point, we all agree."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay."

**CHRISTOPHER BRASHER, CHIEF SC JUDGE:** "I only add that just so that there's some background that -- we were being paid significantly less than a bunch of other circuits. And so that's one of the reasons why this has come again. I appreciate it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Right. Thank you, sir. All right, Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want to go back to a comment that was made and was very disparaging against the county. And it was, Fulton County does what it wants to do, whether the opinion is good or bad. And I want everyone to understand that Fulton County is not only this Board of Commissioners, this body that sits here. But it is all the county employees who work for this government agency. And we are always trying to do what is right and good for the people. Each one of us County Commissioners may be elected by a district of constituents. But we serve all of the constituents of Fulton County. Because when we come here to vote on anything, we vote on it as a body. So we are each serving the entire Fulton County. And there is no one on this Board of Commissioners and there's no county employee that is trying to do anything wrong or bad. And this particular item, is good. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Let me -- let me address that quickly. Fulton County Board of Commissioners here does what they want to do. And a Cobb County Judge agreed with me. So let me be clear: I'm not talking about Fulton County employees. I'm talking about this body takes whatever actions that this body wants to, whether it's legal, popular, or it affects our Solicitor, DA, judges, or whatever. And I stand by that statement. Fulton County Board of Commissioners takes the position that they want to take, whether it is illegal or not. I stand by that. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Let's vote, please. On the motion before us as amended. Please cast your vote."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Is that it for this -- all this matter?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Thank you very much, Commissioners."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Is that it? Anything else? No, no, no. I wish -- no, because next week, you will have other departments here. But is there anything else on this? All right. We were going to take a break. Let's do the COVID report quickly, then we'll recess for lunch. Madam Clerk."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 7, **22-0230**: Presentation of COVID-19 Operational Response Update."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. I think this will be very brief. I'll make a few comments. And of course, you have the usual materials in front of you. The COVID trends remain very good. They show a slight uptick in daily cases and the positivity rate at 3.4 percent and daily cases at 61. And the kind of world of small numbers that does represent a specific increase or significant increase. It's all driven by the BA.2 variant now, making up the majority of the new cases. So we continue to monitor events in the UK and China, as well as actions in Philadelphia as an example, where new mask mandate had been implemented. But our current projections do not show any spike of being imminent. We will talk about today; briefly, an overview of a new partnership with Emory for wastewater testing that will act as a surveillance tool for COVID outbreaks, as well as kiosk that can be done on a self-serve basis. So again, both of those new initiatives allow us to continue to be at the forefront, but perhaps without as much labor content. In our employee base, there have been nine new infections, nine new cases since the last Board meeting. But employees are being responsive in reporting, as well as adhering to CDC guidance in terms of staying out of the workplace. The Fulton County facilities, I'll say again, more for public benefit than for yours, are in normal operations including the senior centers, which have returned to congregate meals. We just had a grand opening of the Greenbrier Tax Office, which is spectacular. If you've not seen that, I'd encourage you to visit. And it's a real statement of our commitment to our customer service excellence, as well as a return to normal. As we emerge, we continue to push new initiatives. And the most recent one that you would see in your material is, the campaign that draws attention to the importance of mental health. And of course, you've given us resources previously before it -- and very

generously in this whole area. This is just one more initiative to bring messages to the public. And I think are helpful, coming out of the pandemic. Regarding behavioral health, we were deeply disappointed that the state funding was not passed in the General Assembly for our Behavioral Health Crisis Intervention Center. More to come on that as we move forward. But we plan to redouble our efforts to find alignment with DBHDD, both in terms of the design, the funding mechanisms, and then ultimately, approval through the General Assembly process in the next session. In addition, we continue to focus on employee retention, of course, that's what the discussion has been over the last hour plus. Of course, the good news is, with everything that you've done on COLA and ICS in the initial key classifications, I think we have done substantially more than many other governments and even entities have done. But when you read the Wall Street Journal, this week and see, truck drivers being paid 110,000 at Wal-Mart. I don't know that this has subsided in terms of recruitment challenges. So obviously, we will be back, as we talked about, in the July time period. But I think at that point, the BOC will have to strike a balance between the needs of the employees and the needs of the taxpayer. Last, in terms of these COVID financials, they still remain strong and we are on track. However, there is some discussion of the federal government potentially interrupting the flow of ARPA funds. We've asked our lobbyist to research that and come back with any opinion that they are able to gain. Hopefully, that does not happen because that, of course, is a very substantial additional tranch that we anticipate on those funds coming through. And if that were to happen that would be, again, a significant interruption in a number of the things that we're doing including Project ORCA. So that's a discussion, probably for another day. But I want to make sure, if you've heard that in the press, or if you have not, it is at least, being potentially discussed. So with that, Mr. Chairman, the deck is in front of you. I think Matt is here to answer any questions that you may have."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Any questions for Mr. Kallmyer? Any questions. Apparently, none, just standby."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "Yes, sir."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I'm sorry, Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah, on the potential interruption, which I had not heard. What funds have we received and which ones are we still waiting to receive? I thought we had received most of our cash already."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Commissioner Morris, if the Board will recall, the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Award that came out of ARPA, it's what we typically refer to as our ARPA dollars."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Right."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Those were to be received in two tranches. We received the first tranche last May, the second tranche would be due this May. And it's that pool of resources that there have been some, I guess, some comments made around those. But as of yet, I have not received any communication from Treasury, advising that there would be a delay in the expected payment in May. And as the Manager indicated, we have reached out to our federal lobbyists to see if they can provide any additional intel on that."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "What's next?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Anything else?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Nope."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "That's it?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Well, yes, I'm sorry."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Just a minute. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "What I did want to ask was, do we -- I know per the last meeting we had -- and I don't know if we got to this part yet. If we haven't, please correct me. I -- and I think it may have been Commissioner Arrington that may have put it forward. I just can't remember. But we were looking at doing something based on Fulton County trying to do a home mortgage assistance, because there was problems with individuals being able to get the help at the state level, it was cumbersome. Do we know any more information, what's the status of this? Because per my notes, we did entertain a conversation about it last time, Dr. Roshell or County Manager, if you can bring me up to date, if my notes are correct."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Thank you, Commissioner. The question that Commissioner Arrington posed was related to creating a program similar to the Eviction Mitigation Program in Magistrate Court. And so at that time, there was not a discussion about creating a Fulton County Mortgage Assistance Program. As we've shared, the state did receive the \$354 million for that program. That program is up and

running. The concern that was posed is, how can we perhaps create a similar mitigation strategy for home foreclosure?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Is that still in the wraps? Have we looked at it?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "So I did have a conversation with the Madam Clerk of Superior Court. She had two issues. One, she was concerned that, as the Clerk, she wanted a legal opinion as to her role in any type of mitigation strategy, if it would be seen as favoritism for one party in the litigation over the other. And so she wants to get a legal opinion regarding what role she can play and her operations can play in such a strategy. The other question that she wants an opinion on is related to, if this would be perceived as providing legal advice. Where we ended was, looking at the dispute resolution process in Superior Court as a possible path forward for working with homeowners and plaintiffs to resolve the matter through that, that process that's currently in Superior Court."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So Dr. Roshell, I want to make sure for the listening audience, you haven't scrapped it, you're just trying to see if we're able to do it?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Also, I just need the County; maybe, the County Manager can answer this if it's your purview, County Manager. In -- we passed a resolution on 3/17/21. And in that resolution, it says that we actually were going to look at to providing job training or youth services. Since summer will be upon us shortly and this was something that was prioritized and voted on and passed in 3/17/21. Is there any conversations on board for any summer youth training, any summer jobs? We have a serious gang issue here in the county that spreads from one end of the county to the other. And I would hope, since we passed this over a year ago that maybe, we can try to look at some type of summer-youth jobs, some type of summer-job training, since we passed this over a year ago. If you could speak to that County Manager, I really would appreciate it."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "What we do have in the ARPA program is the job-training program that we did now, I guess, twice over, right, Mr. Adams? But it's not really youth oriented. Let me ask you to speak to that and I'll come back to this question."

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "Commissioner, the -- as we briefed the Board, I think it was last meeting. We do have a -- we are using some of the ARPA funding specifically for job training. I don't have the presentation, so I'm trying to recollect how much of that was devoted towards youth and where the youth program fits in. I can get that information

to you. Actually, I can get that information to you by the time we come back after lunch if that's, okay."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "That's fine."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, HHS:** "I can add that, the two partnerships last year that we launched were with the National Black Arts Festival. We did have a summer -- it wasn't necessarily summer, but it was geared toward youth. That launched in October of '21, because it launched late. It's from October '21 through October 2022. The second program that was geared toward youth was with the Fulton County School System and the Restaurant Association. That also launched in October of 2021 through October of 2022. So I believe those are the two that you may be referencing. But they're not specifically for summer."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Is there a possibility that maybe close -- I mean, I know we have a lot going on, County Manager. But maybe we can revisit or try to see if we can make sure we have some type summer youth employment in place, or at least something geared. Because I'm a firm believer that, part -- among other social ills we have, but part of the problem that we're having is such, with gang violence, is ideal minds. And so we have individuals that are in homes that are going trying to find money any way possible, whether it's breaking in cars, breaking in homes, and ultimately taking lives. I know that Fulton County cannot be the answer to everything. I am a realist. But I would like to really, humbly ask that we try to have something in place this summer for the youth, for Fulton County youth, please."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "So let me ask Dr. Roshell to take a look at that. COVID interrupted -- we had momentum --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Exactly."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "-- pre-COVID. And then we tried it virtually as well. So it's probably requires us to sit down and put our thoughts together. So we'll do that."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I appreciate it."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "And to the County Manager's point, what we launched was a partnership with 21st Century Leaders, which is a leadership program across Fulton County with high schools. And it provides -- it's an online platform. But it does provide some financial incentives, but not salaries."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. I appreciate it."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Commissioner Arrington, please."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Thank you. Yes, the -- yeah, my question remains. They're people losing their houses every day. I didn't ask or talk about any type of Fulton County program. The U.S. Treasury has allocated \$354 million to the state of Georgia to help people save their homes. Now, I was told that we don't track cases by foreclosure. But I'm looking at it right now. I just pulled up a case. It says -- it has a space for date, and then it has a space for type. And the type of case it says, judicial foreclosure. So I know we have a listing of it. The case above it says, a name change position under type of case. Where is the list of the type of cases for judicial foreclosure? Where's that list and how many people are on it in Fulton County?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Commissioner Arrington, I did ask the Clerk of Superior Court that specific question. And she said to me that she does not have a list of cases, that cases are randomly assigned, and that she does not have a list."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. I'll -- I will give her a call and have a talk. But I want you to see this."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "When you go into the Clerk's website, you put in the case name or number, it may say, divorce is the type of case, it may say, contract is the type of case. Because what you do when you initially fill it out, you fill out a case in - - initiation form. And on that case initiation form, you check which type of case it is. Is this a breach of contract case, is this a divorce case, is this a judicial foreclosure case? You check that off on the initiation form. And guess what, somebody inputs it into this computer. Because when I look at, it says, hey, type of case, divorce; type of case, foreclosure; type of case, name change petition. So somebody's tracking it. And if it's not us, then we need to know who it is."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Somebody is tracking it. Somebody can provide that list today, so that nobody else loses their home in Fulton County. Somebody can provide this list today. Maybe is Tyler Technologies, maybe it's Odyssey, maybe it's the Clerk. Somebody can provide this list today. Because it is in digital format. And it says, type of case. So please, have somebody provide this information for me today. Because it's been 60 days since I last asked about it. And it was 60 days then from when I first asked about it. So it's been a 120 days of people losing their homes. I'm not losing my home, so this doesn't really affect me. But it's people out there every day losing their homes. Does nobody care about that? Do we want to have to put more money into the



eviction program because homeowners are being foreclosed on? And then once they get foreclosed on, the next step up is eviction. Where is the list of the foreclosure cases in this computer system that we run every day? Where is that list? Somebody has it. I need it today."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "I will certainly go back to the Clerk and ask her that question again, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Call Odyssey. I don't care who you call. I need the list today before 5:00 p.m."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Commissioner Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I apologize, County Manager. I want to make sure, because unfortunately, I was outside of the Assembly Hall. And I do honestly, apologize because I know we're getting ready to end. Now, it's my understanding that the General Assembly funded \$95 million for mental health. Did -- is it that Fulton County didn't get any of that money?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Yes, ma'am. The specific ask that we had was for 9.3 million for ongoing support for a Behavioral Health Crisis Center. And at the final hour, so to speak, which I copied all the Commissioners on an email, set of email exchanges I had with the Commissioner for Department Behavioral Health. That 9.3 million, I believe, got spread into other mental health areas, which there's nothing wrong with that in the grand scheme of things, because we may benefit. As an example, if Georgia Regional Hospital has more bed staffing. But on the other hand, what we were looking for, and had great expectations for, was that 9.3 million was coming to Fulton County. And in fact, had been put into the budget by the Speaker Pro-Tem Jan Jones. That's what did not survive the conference committee process."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. I just needed clarification --"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- on that. Thank you."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Commissioners, I will entertain a motion to go into -- well --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "(Off-mic) Since we're talking about mental health, our campaign, we need to hear a little bit about the Mental Health Campaign. Come on up, Ms. Corbitt. Quickly."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would ask the team to please pull up the slide that shows the Mental Health Campaign. We did want to let the Commissioners know that, as we get -- what we have seen throughout our COVID response and read in talking with the Medical Examiner's Office --"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "That's slide 25."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Thank you, Mr. Manager. Is the impact of COVID-19 is more than physical. And we have seen increase in suicide rates, in overdose stats, in behavioral health impact to children and adolescents. And so we have, as we looked at the dollars that were allocated for our COVID-19 responses, specifically those that are related to vaccination, where we are using a portion of those to direct clients in Fulton County who are experiencing those ongoing behavioral health concerns, and directing them to care within our system. So the first piece of this is a billboard that is up now that you can see is close by. As you can see, the Capitol in the background. It takes people to a new website, which we're continuing to add to. That is [FultonCountyGA.gov/helpishere](https://FultonCountyGA.gov/helpishere). That connects people to either the National Suicide Helpline, to the Georgia Crisis Access Line, or to local services here in Fulton County, where we provide services for children and adults with counseling and other behavioral health services. So more to come. May is Mental Health Month. There will be a lot more that you will see. We do have some social media graphics that we will be sharing with you that you can include in your social media pages and in your newsletters and things like that. But you will hear some radio, digital, and other billboards coming soon. So we're very excited about this. This will also -- one of your agenda items today for Behavioral Health is related to a grant that they received last year. So this campaign will dovetail with the Health Literacy Campaign that they're working on. And again, raising awareness of our behavioral health services, raising awareness of what behavioral health is. Many people are experiencing stress and anxiety. But don't necessarily realize those are symptoms for which they can get help and have better outcomes in their day-to-day life."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "And Jessica, you had an update from our lobbyist relative to the ARPA funds. Would you mind giving that to the Board?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes, sir. Thank you for that. We did -- we have also heard some of the news reports about ARPA. And specifically, because of some of the dynamics with Congress and some of the funding bills that have been brought forward, we asked the lobbying team to just to do some research about the possibilities of those funds being clawed back. They had been unallocated. So the preliminary feedback they've receive is that our deligation does not

believe that will occur. They believe that the support in Congress is for the dollars to remain at the county level, where they can be utilized. Of course, we're going to continue to track that and engage them to make sure that they understand how important those dollars are locally and that they have been committed and are being used."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Thank you, Jessica."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Thank you."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "And a part of our Mental Health Campaign is promoting the new 988 line; is that not correct?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Oh, that is also -- yes, that is absolutely correct. We have had discussion with Ms. Foster and her team about that. And there will be a lot more to come. So I think this is going to be a big year for mental health services. And you will see a lot more coming out of that. The state DBHDD will also be doing a campaign around that. So we will make sure that we're connecting with their messaging as well."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Very good, very good. All right, Commissioners, one more time. I will entertain a motion to break for lunch and Executive Session to discuss land, Legal, and personnel matters."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "So moved."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Properly moved and seconded."

**(Whereupon, the Regular Session Meeting moved to Executive Session at 1:50 p.m.)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**(Regular Session reconvened at 3:21 p.m.)**

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

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Is there a motion to approve the request for representation set forth in items 1 through 3 of the Executive Session Agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

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

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "And is there a motion to approve the personnel matter set forth in item 6 of the Executive Session Agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Please vote."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Any other items, Madam County Attorney?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "No, Chairman Pitts, thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Madam Clerk. We're back to page 7?"

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes. On page 7, County Managers' items."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. It's 3:22. We're going to move quickly."

**CLERK GRIER:** **22-0231**: Purchasing and Contract Compliance request approval of resolution to extend emergency purchasing authority to the Chairman and County Manager for COVID-19 related purchases."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris and seconded by, I'll second it -- I'm sorry, Commissioner Hall seconded. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I just want for the sake of the listening public, I noticed that we are trying to go back to normal. So I'm trying to understand the need to extend the emergency purchasing authority of the Chairman and the County Manager for related purposes. I'm just trying to get an understanding, if the majority of us in here don't have on any mask; we're trying to go back to normal. How much longer will this be in place, and what is truly the need of it? If someone could please answer that."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Mr. Chairman, could I ask Felicia to address the types of things that we use this for?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Good afternoon, Commissioners. Commissioners, you are correct. We have gone back to business as

usual in some spans. We bring items to you all the time for regular approval. There are some -- still some items that are harder to acquire, that are difficult, that we're competing with a lot of people to get. We are very judicious in what those items are. Regular items come before this Board, go through the procurement process. A lot of these emergencies still go through a procurement process. But not the regular (unintelligible) because we have to act quickly on these resources that they have. If they have them available, we got to be able to move quickly in order to obtain them."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "This would have been the sake of transparency for our listening audience. Would you mind just giving a example of what would require that action? An item, or, you know, would it be something as far as a truck of hand sanitizers? Just, I want to educate the audience as to why this still needs to be in place."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "An example would have been, the latest ones, when we had to obtain the test kits. It was quite difficult to get those. We had to move with the person that had them, that had them available. And even then, there were shipping issues that we had to deal with. We got some here, some there. So those are the kind of issues that we're talking about. We're not talking about regular day-to-day items or construction items that we can procure through our regular process."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And also, I'm assuming, County Manager, but if not you, do we have an idea of how long we're -- this emergency procurement process may go on? Will it go on another year? Will it go on another two years? Is it foreseeable for at least six months we need to look at it? Could you, please, for the listening audience, please speak to that? If that's your purview."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "Mr. Manager, if I may, while you're preparing your comments. One of the things I want to make sure the Board is aware of is that, FEMA did extend the 100 percent reimbursement for our response until July 1st. So it really behoove us to go ahead and make sure we stay in this emergency declaration period of time, especially as we do -- the package you saw earlier, we're in the phase 2, kind of this ramp-down period that we're looking for. We're still doing vaccinations throughout the community, whether it be at our fixed sites. We're doing more mobile. And to be eligible for that 100 percent reimbursement, I think it would just behoove us to say that we are still in this type of a response period."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so is it safe to say that this could possibly last at least until to the end of 2022?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "It --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "At a minimum?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "It's a distinct possibility."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "We have 100 percent reimbursement until July 1st. We switch to a 90 percent reimbursement process until the end of the calendar year. It would allow us to be able to go ahead and put ourselves in a better position going into 2023. We really don't know. I mean, that's the thing that I think everyone of us wishes we had is, a pretty good crystal ball with how COVID will continue to operate in our environment. We do want to switch more from a pandemic response to endemic response. And that's what we want to build, this capacity and capabilities. And I think that's one of things that you'll see in our handout that we had earlier. And I believe that's the guidance that the County Manager is giving us as well, is to be prepared for what the future will bring us."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And clearly, I understand the need for it. But I have gotten questions from my constituents. This has been a practice since I've been in office. And I understand the reason for it. Would you be able to speak on if neighboring counties are still doing this? Is this the norm across Georgia? Or is it the larger counties? Would you have any information to that?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "I'd have to look into that. I know Cobb County did --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "-- do a declaration not long ago, when we had the surge recently. Their chairperson went ahead and put in an emergency declaration again. I don't know what the time period was for that. The Governor has the ability to go ahead, and at a just a flip of his pen as well, put us back in a statewide emergency declaration process if we start seeing surges to that level. I think what we are trying to do more in a homegrown aspect is, hit that last pockets of individuals that we know that have had poor uptake in vaccination status, and really try to make this final push to get everyone vaccinated that we possibly can before we switch into this more preparedness phase for what's the future."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So would it be safe to say that this one -- this will last -- is this three months or six months, this particular one, the emergency procurement that we --"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "I'm not sure the duration."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "They're just -- they're one month at a time."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "One month at a time."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "We bring it back to the Board at least once each month --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "-- for you to extend it for another -- effectively, another 30 days."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you. I appreciate it. That's all my questions."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "Yes, ma'am. Georgia law only makes it 30-day process. The Governor has to redo his every 30 days as well. So I'm assuming that's why we're sticking --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL:** "Yes, ma'am."

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** **22-0232:** Request ratification of countywide emergency procurements."

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** **22-0203:** Request approval of an ordinance pursuant to the Home Rule provision of the Georgia Constitution repealing sections of certain local acts which establish certain provisions of the purchasing code and amending the Fulton County purchasing code."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Just a quick question. Just for the listening audience, I know what this means. But can you, in layman's term, just explain to the purpose and the need of this for the listening audience, please?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Yes, Commissioners. Good afternoon, Commissioners. This request is for the purchasing thresholds to be increased. Our purchasing threshold --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Speak up a little bit, Ms. Strong-Whitaker."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "I'm sorry. Our purchasing thresholds -- is that better? Our purchasing thresholds have been the same since 1998. That's 24 years. With the -- between the 50,000 and the 100,000, we are losing a lot of staff. There's a lot of pressure on our workload. And we're not at the same -- on the same playing field with our neighboring jurisdictions, such as the city of Atlanta, Gwinnett County, and others. The analogy I make is, to bid with us, between 50,000 and 100,000, you have to be a Navy Seal. To bid with others, just basic training. And so we are competing with them for staff, the same resources, staff, bidders. We're competing with them, and we're just asking that we have ours adjusted, so that we can operate more efficiently. And I believe the presentation kind of details a lot more of that. But this is to increase our purchasing thresholds."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So Ms. Whitaker, basically, so I can know we're on the same page. This is just to bring us up in line for something that has -- it's kind of been in place for at least 24 years? And so this gives you the opportunity to be more, I guess, competitive --"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- so to speak."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And kind of bring you up to date?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Yes. And in line --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "-- with the -- our neighboring jurisdictions."



**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Exactly. Okay, thank you. That's what I needed."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Please vote."

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

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Thank you, Commissioners. My staff and I, thank you tremendously. Thank you."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 7, **22-0233**: Finance presentation review and approval of April 13th, 2022 budget soundings."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Is there a motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall. Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Our CFO Whitmore, if you don't mind, I clearly know what this means. But in layman's terms, for those individuals that are listening, can you, for the public's benefit, please expound just quickly and lightly on the sounding process and, you know, why the Board utilizes this process? And is this the best process for us to keep our budgets balanced?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Thank you, Commissioner. The budget soundings process is the formal method by which we bring department-level budget adjustments forward to the Board for approval. It is required under the budget statutes that changes at the department level be approved by the Board. And the soundings process is the means by which we do that."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "One other quick question if you don't mind, for the sake of our listening audience. The budget soundings process, is this something that, I guess -- what am I trying to ask you? Is this -- is this something that you all are responsible for initiating, or is this something that we bring forward to you all? Do you understand? Maybe I'm trying to ask that in a way that you can answer it for our listening audience."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, ma'am. Typically, the budget soundings process is administered by the Finance Department. They establish the timeframe by which soundings requests maybe presented, the criteria for which a budget soundings maybe presented. There is a review process. And those items are vetted, and then brought forward to the Board for approval. So some items that come

forward, may not be presented to the Board because they did not meet the criteria or there is another way to meet the need without needing to amend the overall budget for the department. So there is a process that's defined by the Finance Department. It's communicated annually to the department heads with the submission dates for soundings request to be submitted. And we receive those between -- and present them to the Board between the months of April and October."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you."

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 8, **22-0234**: Finance requests approval of a supplemental pricing resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of General Fund Tax Anticipation Notes."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Just a quick question once again to our CFO Whitmore. Could you kind of, in layman's terms, for our listening public, explain what this pass -- what the passage of this resolution would mean to the Fulton County taxpayers? And what is the -- I would call the Tax Anticipation Note is, and how do we come to the amount of the 175?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And you can do it just, in layman's term, please."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Very briefly, and in layman's terms as I possibly can. The Tax Anticipation Note is a short-term borrowing. We use it for cash-flow purposes. As you know, the county receives the majority of its revenue, and therefore its cash, through the annual tax billing and collection process. Those receipts come into us in the last quarter of the year. Typically, at this time of the year, each year, we are beginning to enter the trough of our cash balance. We need to do this short-term borrowing in order to have cash on hand to continue to fund County operations while we wait -- await the receipt of the 2022 property tax revenue. The 175 million is a calculated number. It's based on what we brought into the year from the cash and fund balance perspective. And we look at our actual and projected revenue and expenditures

over the first six to eight months of the year in order to determine what our borrowing threshold is for this year. And this year, we calculated around 175 million."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And also, my last and final question dealing with this one. Was this bided out, and competitively bid? And was the lowest acceptable bid met for it?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "We did. We did work with our financial advisors in order to receive competitive offers from financial institutions. We received eight of those. And Truist did come forward with the lowest bid, and it was for 1.04 percent. The range was 1.04 up to 1.87. And what's before the Board of Commissioners today is the most competitive interest rate that was offered."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Further questions? None? Let's vote, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the -- okay -- and the motion passes unanimously."

\*\*\*\*\*

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Point of order, Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "You have the floor, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "We are getting back up to the original agenda items on these various HR items. And I've been informed by Law and HR that we need to reconsider one of the items, item 22-0237."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "What page?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "It's on page 8, its **22-0237**. There was an error in the -- in the state court judge supplement, I am informed. And so that's on the prevailing side, I will make a motion that we reconsider item 22 --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Second."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- 0237."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Properly moved and seconded. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I'm sorry. That was from previous. It never changed."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Any comments or questions on the --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Do we need a vote to reconsider?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yeah. We'll reconsider. First of all, a vote to reconsider. Those -- Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "That's item 237?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "0237."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "0237 --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "0237."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- to reconsider."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. If you would please, put in your motion. Commissioner Hall was second? Oh, Commissioner Ellis. And this is to reconsider item 237?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yes, ma'am."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. On the motion to reconsider, please vote."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. It's before us."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And then, well, I -- Law suggested, then we need a motion to rescind the approval, the original approval of 22-0237. If that's the case, Law, I will make that motion that we rescind the earlier adoption."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "And I'll need a second. All right. Properly moved and second -- there's a mover and a seconder and finish it wrong -- all right. The motion to rescind is before us. Please vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open to rescind. And motion passes; six --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Now, and now I'll move that we approve and adopt resolution 22-0237 with -- with the amendment we put on there for the part-time Magistrate judges at \$83 an hour."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And Mr. Hermon, what is your second correction?"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And I second it."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Good afternoon again, Commissioners. Thank you very much, Commissioner Morris, for allowing -- for bringing this reconsideration. First, I want to apologize for even putting you in this position. But what has occurred is, we erred when we did the calculation for the State Court Judges. We took -- and the chart that I sent you -- just placed in front of you, the State Court Judges, their salary, by state law is supposed to be 95 percent of the total compensation of Superior Court judges. What I presented to you earlier only took the 95 percent off of the base pay for Superior Court judges. So that's where we now need to correct the --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "So this corrects that?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "This would correct the supplement. So the supplement amount in the resolution only needs to be \$3,118."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner -- Vice Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yes. And I believe the friendly amendment for the magistrates was to have it be the same hourly rate as the full-time judges, not a defined about; is that not correct?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "The full-time magistrates judges, that's correct."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Then the part time would be the hourly rate of the full-time magistrate judges?"

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

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Anything else? All right. Let's vote, please."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 8, **22-0239**: Registration and Elections as amended, request approval of the lowest responsible bidder for the printing of Dominion Voting

Systems Election ballots for the 2022 General Municipal and Special Elections and Runoffs."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. A motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Vice Chair Hausmann, you have a question?"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do. Unfortunately, once again, we have an agenda item related to elections that raises questions from the public. And we heard some of those questions this morning. I would like to give our Purchasing folks or Elections people, whoever can answer the questions, the opportunity to explain why this item had to be revised and what happened with the original posting of this item. And then I'll have a couple comments, I'm sure."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Good afternoon, Commissioners. I completely understand your frustration with what should be a simple agenda item action. On Monday as I was reviewing the agenda items, I recognized that the agenda item for Registration and Elections for the ballot printing was incorrect, and did not include all of the purchasing information. As the Chief Purchasing Agent, I could not allow the Board to consider an agenda item that was not correct and did not have all of the required information. The information that was missing was the effective dates with the renewal options and the contractor performance reports. In Legistar, a purchasing agenda item has a minimum of ten people who have to touch that agenda item. And unfortunately, the system does not provide the level of detail to tell me what happened to the agenda item. We simply know that something happened to the agenda item. It was incorrect, we needed to fix it, and that's what we have attempted to do. We do recognize that we have and continue to have some issues with the current system. So with this one, I don't know if it was the -- if it was system-work related or if someone simply -- if it was human error and someone simply did not save the agenda item as it was moving through the workflow. So nonetheless, I do apologize for that. But I needed to correct the record to make sure you knew what you were voting on as far as the time."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Well, thank you for that. I'm going to deal with your answer after I ask, has everything in this line item been verified and can someone explain to the public, the reason that we have to make this special purchase for absentee ballot materials?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Good afternoon, Board. My name is Nadine Williams, Interim Director. I would be more than happy to answer your questions. This is not a special item. We have to order ballots for every election. The quantities that are in this are just a not-to-exceed purchase amount. We will not

necessarily spend that amount of money. But that's what we have in there in case of an emergency of any type of situation. So that's why those items are in there."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "So this is the required paper by Georgia law, what we have to have?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, ma'am. We're required to have Dominion paper by Georgia law. We're required to have 10 percent of the number of registered voters for provisional emergency ballots. We actually provide 20 percent in case of emergency. And we also have absentee ballots and testis has that information in its file."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "And the also according to Georgia law, all of the supplies that are associated with this process are tracked and monitored and accounted for?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, ma'am."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "So if someone did an open records request, we could show exactly where everything went?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "We sure can. We have chain of custody to prove where everything has -- will go and everything has been, yes, ma'am."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Okay. So I'm sure you heard some of the comments this morning about the audit and what sort of improvements have been put in place after the audit. Can you speak to that at all?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "We have made sure that we have a full inventory system that will be implementing for the May election. It's going to help track all the ballot bags, everything that goes out. So everything will be tracked. The system was not implemented previously. We just have full implementation of it, of the WDS system. So, all of that will track the ballots."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. I should have said, congratulations on your appointment before I started asking you all these questions. And I, you know, I feel compelled to do so, because we continue to have comments. And I think it's appropriate to address this publicly. There was also a question raised about poll workers and who's assigned to what function. People, I think, have asked for certain functions that they are now being told are full. Can you just talk a little bit about how you're staffing this particular function, the absentee ballot processing?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "At this moment, the absentee ballots, because the turnout is lower than anticipated, we are not filling all those positions because it's -- it might not be necessary. To date, we've only received 2,142, I believe, absentee ballot applications. We had allocated several positions for that. But right now we're just gauging it to see how many ballots are going to come in. Because it's not necessary for staff to not have to do any work. So they will not there and waste taxpayer dollars if there's not enough ballots coming in. We are fully staffed for absentee. But we have other positions that we are hiring for. For the persons that did make comments, the four people that did make comments, those people have been contacted. Some of them were contacted previously. But I did make sure that staff contacted them again today. So, and all those links for any positions, are actually online on the Fulton County website. So they actually can click to get assignments with all temp agencies that we currently have."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Okay. So what I'm hearing you say is that our elections operations are reverting back to pre-pandemics type situations, where the majority of folks did not vote absentee by mail?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes. It's -- the count is much lower for absentee ballots by mail."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Is there somewhere where people can track how many ballots have been applied for?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "I would have to research that. I was -- I'll have to look into that. I don't believe so, but I'll look into that.""

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "I mean, do y'all report that? I know in early voting, you report the numbers every day."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes. When the election takes place, once they start coming in, there will be a post every close of poll that shows how many people voted in person and how many absentee ballots were received. We don't have that posted at this time. But once the advance voting begins, it will be a daily post on the Fulton County website."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "And we'll have our app again, so people can look at the times it's going to take them if they go vote and all that kind of stuff?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. So the only other thing I want to say -- and I had a conversation with Ms. -- with Felicia earlier about, you know, how it just seems like,



all these election items or jinxed. And everything that gets put on the agenda seems to have something that gets everybody worked up, and not everybody, but a lot of people. And so I'm just going to say every single time, we've just got to really be careful that what we put out in this particular area is accurate. And, you know, and I understand you've got some software issues. If we need new software, we need to be getting new software. So I hope that we're looking at that as well. I think we're all kind of over having to explain every little thing on this. We all know all the hard work that's gone into addressing all of the issues that were raised in 2020. And I know we want to instill confidence with the public. So that's the reason I'm asking these questions. If there's anything anybody else wants to add to this, you're welcome to. But I just, I know how hard y'all are working. And when something like this happens, it just kind of negates all of the good work that we're doing and that's very unfortunate."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Well, I was going to ask you, for the sake of the listening public, to explain this in layman's terms. But I think you did a pretty good job of it just then. The -- to clarify just a couple of points. So it's an up-to amount, correct? And this would be for the entirety of the election cycle for this year, this is Primary as well as the General Election, or is this just for the Primary?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "This is for the Primary."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Just for the Primary Election? Okay. So we'll see Primary and the Runoffs?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "This is for the Primary election."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And any runoffs necessary too?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "If there is a runoff, it will be on June 21st."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. I'm just confused on it, because it says for printing for 2022 General Municipal and Special Elections and Runoffs."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Commissioner, the way it was advertised was for -- was for General, Primary and Runoffs. That's what we were provided and that's what -- that's what was advertised."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So this would be for General, Primary, and Runoffs?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "For 2022, yes."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So that would --"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "And it is a not-to-exceed amount. If -- I'm sorry."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So we wouldn't see another item related to printing come back to us, potentially, for the -- you say, the General comma (,) and Runoff Elections?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Or are we just talking about the Primary and Runoff Elections?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "I think it was all Runoffs. If any additional funding is needed, we would come back to the Board to make that request. But my understanding was, is that it's for the 2022 Fiscal Year for all Elections."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. You're saying -- you said it's just for the Primary cycle."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "For the quantities that's on the sheet that I am referring to, it would for the Primary Election."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Primary Election and any Runoffs necessary, or just the Primary Election?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Just the Primary."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "So it sounds like to me, if there is additional, when we were given the specification, it said, Primary, General, and that's exactly what the solicitation documents says. And that's what people submitted their pricing for. And so if we have to come back, we will come back to the Board."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So we're not clear in terms of what this is?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "So when the solicitation was given to us, Mr. Barron provided us with that information."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "This -- so if this were delayed a week, does this create a problem?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "No. I don't believe we're going to exceed the amount that's listed. So I don't believe it's going to pose a problem."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So would it be worthwhile to get that clarified?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Sure, we can do that."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. Motion to hold. Substitute motion to hold."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Substitute motion to hold. Is there a second on the substitute motion to hold? All right. Seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Please vote."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "But I do have a question."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Even though we're going to hold?"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yeah, because I think when she comes back, she needs to answer this question. Are these printed as you go? Or is this printed in advance? You said you only had 2100 applications right now. So how -- are you conserving what you actually print?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, we're conserving what we print. The absentee that's listed on here, we actually print them in-house. So we probably would not use -- utilize these funds. It is here in case of something problematic with our equipment. That's why it's listed on here for emergency purposes. In regards to the testis, the amount that's listed for the testis, we will not know that amount until we actually received the ballot project, which would actually determine the amount. So these amounts will, most likely, will decrease. But we do -- we print as we go in regards to absentee ballots, yes, the answer to that question is, yes. They only print them as they need them."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "So then the supplies can roll over to the Runoff or the General, as needed."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "No. Because the provisional ballots would be dated, would have the election date on them. So, no, we could not utilize those. And the absentee ballots, they would print them as they needed them. So it would not be an excess that they would waste."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. So these are absentee and provisionals?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Correct."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I'm fine. We holding it, so I'm fine."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yes. All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you still want to be heard?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Just one quick question. In holding this, would this hamper or delay any of our preparations for the upcoming election?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, it would. We have to prepare to be ready for the election. There's several provisional ballots that have to be packed and supplied and ready to go. So if this was held, depending on how long it was held, it could impact the election."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So if we were to hold it today and make a decision on it on the 20th, would that impact your department, yes, or no?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "20th of --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "20th of April."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, because our ballot printer has to prepare the ballots."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I'm confused, Chair. Well, that's why I'm trying to find out."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yeah, I mean, it could. I would --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Wait, just a minute, just a minute, just a minute. Previously, you said that it would not delay in any way. Now, you're saying it will. My guess is that it will. So, which is it?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "It will not delay absentee, because we print those in-house. Depending on the ballot printer -- I'd have to speak to the ballot printer to see how long it will take for them to print the ballot. But I'm thinking April 20th, for us to be prepared to hand out provisional ballots, we have, technically, a month between April 20th and the time the provisional -- I mean, I'm sorry, the managers come pick up their ballots. So it -- so I would say, technically, I would say, no, it could -- it would depend on the ballot printer. I believe he does -- he would be able to a -- he'd expedite it. So it could be possible. But I would recommend not holding it."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So since I have the floor, let me finish asking you a question. We are already under a microscope with SB202. And decisions we make from a budgetary concern, we cannot tie your hands and if there's a problem, come back and say it's your fault. So what I need you to do -- because I don't need you to piecemeal the answer. I'm just going to ask you. If we do not make a up-or-down vote and we hold this today, will it in any way impact your office in regards to the upcoming elections?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes. I'm going to say a definite, yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Commissioner's, in looking at the agenda item; it does say the General Primary Election. We will clarify, but for right now, we will make sure the PO is only for the General Primary Election and not for anything else. If there's anything else, we'll come back to the Board for approval."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Now, the motion on the floor is to hold. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. I will withdraw my motion to hold."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Who was the seconder, was Commissioner Hausmann? You'll have to withdraw your second, first. All right. So the motion to hold has been withdrawn, properly withdrawn. Now we're back to the main motion, which was to approve. Let's vote, please. Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. In the motion to approve, the vote is open. We need (off-mic remarks.)"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Mine says motion to hold."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Just a minute. Just a minute. The motion on the floor now is to approve."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "However, mine says, motion to hold, Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "She's changing. The Clerk is in the process of changing all of the screens. I can do this a lot quicker without this machine."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Motion to approve?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Motion to approve."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "No, no, no, no. The original motion to --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I think we had a motion to hold. I don't -- I second, whatever."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Here's a -- let's do it this way, it's a motion to --"

**CLERK GRIER:** "There it is. Okay, it's open. And the vote is open."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "This is not complicated. Motion to approve now by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. On the motion to approve, please vote. Okay, you got 15 seconds; I'm going to -- what? All right, you ready? Okay. I'm going to do a -- yeah. Okay. Madam Clerk, we're going to vote. All right. Those in favor say, aye, oppose, no --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Aye."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "It's approved, thank you. Next item. It's approved."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yes."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Can I ask, is this not the same software system that gave us the trouble with this particular item? This, the whole voting system, the whole Legacy, or whatever you call it, is that the problem?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "(Off-mic remarks.)"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Please, y'all, get something else."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Next item. Come on, Madam Clerk, let's go. Next item."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "It might just need an update."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 9, **22-0240**: Real Estate and Asset Management request approval of the lowest responsible bidders to provide landfill solid waste disposable and single-stream recycling services."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by -- yeah, it's disappearing. A motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "What -- I'm not sure who would answer this. But I have a question. What landfill -- what landfills do we currently use for the county's waste? Who would answer --"

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "The county has two."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay."

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "One is Wolf Creek and the other is Morgan Falls in Sandy Springs."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And of these two, are any of them, minority owned or women-owned business? Are they part of either one of these contracts?"

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "No, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion is to approve or approve, please vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays, seven with Commissioner Hall, unanimously."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0241**: Request approval to utilize corporative purchasing for the purchase of landscape and ground maintenance equipment."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the motion passes unanimously."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0242**: Request approval to increase spending authority for the replacement and installation of a new battery in the uninterrupted power supply system unit at the Fulton County Justice Center Tower."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes. Also with this question as well, are either one of these -- or is this a minority owned or woman-owned businesses? Are they a part of any of these contracts for this particular item?"

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC:** "Commissioner, for this item, this is not -- this is a nonminority on this item. On the previous item, I do apologize; I couldn't get to my mic quick enough. It's 88.39 percent minority and female participation."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. I appreciate that. No other questions."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Let's vote, please. All right. What's going on?"

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0243**: Request approval of statewide contracts to provide tires, tubes, accessories and repair services for county fleet vehicles."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 10, **22-0244**: Request approval of the lowest responsible bidders to provide HVAC equipment and parts on an as-needed basis."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Let's vote, please."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0245**: Request approval for use of Beltline TAD Funds for Phase 2 Library Construction Projects."

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



**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a question because I'm thinking maybe; I might be missing some pages. I'm not sure. This actually says that it covers the renovations of the Peachtree Library, the MLK Library, and East Point Library. But the only thing I see the most detail on is the East Point Library. I see drawings and everything. It's like pages and pages of them. So I wanted to know more about the MLK Library, because we've actually had meetings in the past about it, gone to look at it. And wanted to know what the update was on that and in relation to this."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "The East -- excuse me, the --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Martin Luther King."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "-- MLK Library will be a renovation at this time. It will stay in the exact location that it currently exist in. We will go in and we will repair that facility, repaint, put new carpet, new furniture. All are consistent with what we've done on other projects. One of the things we found as we looked into the cost of construction for new construction, at this time, it has risen so dramatically. It has outpaced our ability to pay for it at this point. So we think that the approach to stay where we are to fix that facility to get it consistent with the other libraries that we've renovated to date is the right approach. And we'll look at what can be done down the road --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "-- as construction costs -- is a downturn --"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Yes."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "-- in the costs. Materials are hard to get. It's really been interesting."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Yes, it really has. Well, thank you."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "Sure."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Vice Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Mr. Collins, I just wanted to say, welcome back."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "Well, thank you."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "And we're glad you're back and glad you're doing well. And just glad that you're healthy again."

**ALFRED COLLINS, DREAM:** "Thank you, I really appreciate that. It's good to be back."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I was going say, welcome back too. But just a real quick question: Is that amount, the TAD funds, is that roughly the amount that we have available to us each year, or is that -- how does that sort of determined when we could drawdown on those?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "That was 69 million at one point, six, seven years ago."

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "Joe Davis, Director of Real Estate Assessment Management. Commissioner Ellis, when you refer to that amount, are you referring to the 1.114 million listed in the item?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah. Or in just sort of generally, you know, what's available to us and the process for us drawing down, and what can we use them for."

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "So the requirements for the TAD fund usage is that it has to be a capital improvement project."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "At any of the given libraries in the system. In terms of the availability of the funds, we currently have roughly, a little over \$14 million available in accrued TAD funds. However, I would defer to the CFO for any insight as to how that accrues over time. But as it stands, any approval by the Board for the use of those TAD funds, would be permissible under the current resolution."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "They come in annually. We receive about 1.3 million each year."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "And what, Ray, you think, five or six more years' worth of receipts?"

**RAY TURNER:** "Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So, I mean, what -- how do we ensuring that we actually use -- we had this big discussion about TADs the other day, right, and how much of our tax funds have gone into it. And I guess, I don't know how many of these where we have access to a certain amount of funds. This may be the only one where we've got -- the way it's structured where we monies to potentially use for capital projects. How are we ensuring that we actually get these funds, use them, and expend them on county projects? Because we would have done -- and if we got money -- monies accrued, I

would have thought we would have had enough projects we would have been doing already, where we could have drawn down on all of them. I mean, what's sort of our method to drawing down on these funds?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Well, Commissioner Ellis, we really are only just now but drawdown on those funds."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "I believe we have used them previously to purchase bookmobiles a few years back. And maybe a very few small other items, primarily because we had the bond construction program underway. So our focus was on completing the new facilities and the renovation of the existing facilities. So we've just now really begun to turn our attention to use of the TAD funds."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Do they expire or are they just allocated to us until we've fully expended them?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "I'd have to go back and look at the original -- the original items to see if they have an expiration date. But it would not be before the end of the TAD itself, so."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "This is the Beltline TAD?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "This particular one?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "All right. Okay, thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Vice Chair."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Is this not where we got the million dollars to add to the book collection this year?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "It is."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "So that's the capital use that we could consider in the future?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yes, ma'am."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "And then could it be used for maintenance items if, you know, something happened, rather than using general fund dollars for large, like, chillers or anything like that?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Significant maintenance items, yes, ma'am. But not light bulbs and things like that."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Let's vote, please."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0246**: Arts and Culture request approval of a resolution approving an IGA between Fulton County, the city of John's Creek to create selection panel and to commission artwork from the steel material used to construct the historic Rogers Bridge."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Any questions? Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0247**: Community Development request approval of substantial amendment to the HUD 2021 Annual Action Plan for home investment partnerships for a 2021 budget revision."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, is there a second? Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Any questions? Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Could you please, for the sake of the listening audience, please explain how this -- because I see that is for the 2021 budget revision and authorize the Chairman to disperse funds and execute them -- and administer contracts approved by the Board of Commissioners. So are these done -- are we back loading -- how -- could you just explain this to the listening audience, please?"

**STANLEY WILSON, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:** "Good afternoon, Commissioners. Stan Wilson, Community Development Director. Each year, with our federal HOME money, HUD requires a 15 percent set aside to community housing development organizations. For the years 2017 through 2020, they waived that

requirement. So they reinstated it in 2021. And so now we're putting the money back into that funding category."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Let's vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0248**: Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities request approval to utilize a corporative purchasing agreement to provide a customized mobile vehicle unit for community outreach efforts."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall. Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Questions, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I'm trying to make sure I have an understanding of the passage of this resolution as to what it improves to the lives of the citizens of Fulton County. I know there is an emphasis on the underserved minority communities. So I definitely can support it. However, could you speak to what the mobile vehicle will be specifically used for? And I would say, at this present time, would you consider that this to be an extremely important need for the county?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Thank you for the question, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. This is a purchase as a part of a grant from the Department of Minority Health that the Department of Behavioral Health received. And one of the key items in their grant was the acquisition of a special vehicle for the purpose of outreach in minority communities. It will be equipped with special assessment rooms, other resources and services in partnership with several partners including the Board of Health. And the purpose is to ensure that the Department of Behavioral Health can take this information, resources, assessments, and other services into the community."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So would you agree that it would be liken to maybe, a mobile health unit? Not health unit, but mental health unit to the minority communities to get more individuals to seek, maybe, behavioral or mental health services?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, ma'am. It will include assessment services for behavioral health services as a part of one of the service offerings. And it is 100 percent grant funded."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And my last question to you is, as far as what communities it will be dispatched to. Is there a criteria that will be adhered to as to what communities it will be dispatched to?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, ma'am. As a part of the grant application, there was criteria for low -- low-to-moderate income communities, those that have documented health disparities, high rates of COVID impact. And so those were some of the criteria that were used and identified in the grant application."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so my last final question to you -- and thank you, Dr. Roshell, is for instance, in District 6, if we wanted the unit to come out for a particular area that may meet all that criteria, we would just go through your office?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, ma'am. It'll be housed in the Department of Behavior Health, and, yes, that office will be the gatekeeper, the keeper of the mobile unit and the scheduler."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "You're welcome."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Hall, please."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I was so happy to see this. My Chief of Staff, Anita Harris, saved it to talk to me about. And she said, you're going to love something that's on the agenda this time, because of you being known as the mobile unit advocate. And everyone knows from County -- Mr. County Manager and Dr. Roshell, back when she was the head of Senior Services and Sharon, everyone knows that I've been an advocate for these mobile units. Because I really believe that, when you have a heart of service, you don't sit in your cushy office in the summertime in the air conditioning, you don't sit in your office in the wintertime in the heat. You go to the streets and you take those services and programs to the people. And so this is just right in line with the mobile unit request that I've had in the past for it. Workforce Fulton, which I'm so thankful to Mr. County Manager and Dr. Roshell, and Samir and Brett for -- they went and literally, got a bus. I remember you guys talking about, there's a bus in another state, we're going to go get it and we'll fix it up. And so I'm happy to see this Behavioral Health Mobile Unit during a time where the APS Superintendent and Fulton County Schools and the private and charter schools are talking about what's going on throughout our county at the schools with the young people, they're in depression and they're having behavioral health issues. And it's not all due to COVID. There were issues that were already present, but COVID just heightened that. And there's so much going on right now, and we need to reach them. I was told that, you know, the schools may or may not have a

nurse's office. And when they do, there's only one person present. It's not enough, so this will help us in our effort to really serve the youth and their families. Thank you so much."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "You're welcome."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Cast your vote, please."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 11, **22-0249**: Public Works request approval of an MOU with Georgia Department of Transportation for main relocations to construct bridge replacements at Pitts Road, Roberts Road, and Kimball Bridge Road."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Is there a motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0250**: Request approval of an IGA with city of John's Creek for water main relocations associated with the replacement of an existing bridge along Bell Road."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion on the floor is to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Morris. No questions, let's vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0251**: Request approval of an IGA, city of John's Creek for water main relocations associated with the Rivermont Parkway improvements."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0252**: Request approval of an IGA with the city of John's Creek for water facility relocation associated with the Buice Road improvements."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve -- what? Did you vote, yes? All right. Record Commissioner Hall as voting, yes. All right. On this item, motion is to approve by Commissioner -- strike that -- Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Any questions or comments? Let's vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0253:** Request approval of a MOU, Georgia Department of Transportation for the adjustment of 32 sanitary sewer manholes associated with the resurfacing of Roswell Road."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I see a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0254:** Public works request approval of an IGA, city of Alpharetta and North Fulton Community Improvement District for water main relocations associated with the Davis Drive roadway and sidewalk extensions."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Let's vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. Five yeas, zero nays."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 12, **22-0255:** Request approval of an inter-governmental agreement between city -- with the city of Milton for water main relocations associated with the intersection improvement of Hopewell Road."

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0256:** State Court request approval to extend GreenCourt Legal Technologies, LLC into State Court."





**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0257**: Medical Examiner request approval of a contract to provide part time and intermediate pathology or autopsy services."

**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."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Commissioner's Action Items **22-0258**: Request approval of a resolution approving a right of access license agreement between Fulton County and the City of South Fulton for the purpose of granting temporary access to the Wolf Creek Amphitheater and Southwest Arts Center, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** Okay. This will allow the City of South of Fulton to use the Amphitheater for an upcoming, I think, its fifth-year anniversary, and plus, there's a Juneteenth celebration, I believe. In the meantime, there are ongoing discussions between our County Attorney and their City Attorney. They're very, very close to a final agreement. Should that happen before the expiration of this agreement, the new agreement will take precedent over this one. So this will assist them in having access, as is, to the Amphitheater once approved. A motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes. I would like for the County Attorney, just for the constituents that are listening right now, could you please tell them -- I know the Chairman put it, but I would like for you to put in layman's terms, so they will understand, this is temporary. And should something arise that will -- that's an agreement, then it will -- legally, what it will do. Thank you."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Yes, ma'am. As Chairman Pitts was saying, the item that is before the Board today for vote is through the Juneteenth celebration. It is something that will allow the city to be able to use the facility for its upcoming planned events. And it just gives us a little more time to finalize the lease agreement that we are very close to finalizing, which once that comes online, would take the place of this permit."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so this is a one-time use permit that allows the City of South Fulton to use the Wolf Creek Amphitheater for up until the Juneteenth celebration. And if there is not an agreement reached by the County and City of South Fulton that agreement, that one-time use permit, will expire, correct?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "The expiration of this item is the earlier of the after the Juneteenth celebration that's currently planned or when the lease is executed, whichever comes first."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so if there is not a lease executed, it will expire? That's what I'm trying to get an understanding because someone just text me that question. And I just want to make sure that the constituents understand, best-case scenario is that there will be a lease and you won't have to revisit this. However, if that lease has not been executed and it's past the Juneteenth celebrations, then it will just be in a hold -- well, I don't want to put words in your mouth. So please, just, for the listening audience, please."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** To respond to your question, it is correct. If there is not a lease in place at the time when the Juneteenth celebration occurs, this right of access will expire. However, we fully anticipate that there will be a lease in place."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 12, **22-0260**: Request approve of Resolution to approve salary supplements for state paid staff in the office of the District Attorney, sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Is there motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall. Is there second?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I'll second it. This wasn't addressed in the earlier? Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah. If we could, just a quick explanation of what this covers, who this covers, and what the estimated cost might be."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Which -- are we on the item --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "260."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Okay, 260. This -- okay, so this item will cover the District Attorney's ability to provide supplements for employees within her department. I believe, it's my understanding that it covers a small number of employees who are non-attorneys, so investigators and other staff. But it doesn't have a budgetary impact, in that, her discretion is limited to the budget that she already has. So within the confines of her budget, she would have the ability to provide these supplements."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And we have this retroactive, Commissioner Hall, to January 1st of 2021; is that correct? Is that a good thing?"

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Kenneth Hermon actually sent everyone a memo concerning the number of positions, the total amount of funding incurred, and everything. Mr. Hermon, if you could speak to that, just to give some clarity."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Thank you very much, Commissioner. To answer Commissioner Morris' conversation, a question about retroactivity. So we do have two employees that -- well, one employee that has inadvertently got the supplement ahead of time. So we're trying to clean up that record now with this resolution. We thought we had the authority, but that authority that the Board granted in the previous resolution was only for the ADAs. But inadvertently, we -- the DAs provided a supplement to a Senior Investigator, so now we're trying to clean it up. And provide an extended authority to the ADA to also provide county supplements the other state employees that she may have that are not ADAs. Did I answer your question, Commissioner Morris?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Not -- and again, retroactive to January 1 of '21?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And how -- about how many folks is this? I saw the memo, now I can't find it."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Again, so the employee is already receiving it. This is to, quote/unquote, perfect the record to make sure that the --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "They've already been receiving it?"

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. That's right, okay. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "You done? All right. Let's vote, please."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 13, **22-0261**: Request approval of a Resolution to approve salary supplements for state paid staff employee in the Superior Court of the Atlanta Judicial Circuits, sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Approved -- motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Any questions? Please vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "Commissioners' Full-Board Appointments, **22-0266**: Sponsored by Commissioner Morris, Hospital Authority of Fulton County, Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority of Fulton County Northside, submitted names for the Board of Commissioners consideration to terms ending April 1st, 2026."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. A motion is to improve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Any questions? Everybody understands how this works, I assume. Okay, let's vote."

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0263**: External Affairs presentation of the 2022 Legislative Agenda."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Ms. Corbitt, andale, come on."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Heard you, practicing your Spanish, Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I don't need any practice."

**JESSICA-CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Good afternoon, Commissioners. This is our last legislative update for 20 -- until we come back to you with our 2023 or the last date -- thank you, Ms. Calhoun -- state update. So we wanted to give you an update with the session that wrapped up last Monday. And give you -- just go over some of the highlights, and then answer any questions. Next slide,

please. So again, as we do every time, these are the priorities that were adopted by the Board last fall as we prepared for this session. And we'll go over some of these in a little bit more detail. Next. The budget is one of the most important things that the General Assembly undertakes. And we've had a lot of discussion today about the impact of changes for constitutional officers in state government, as far as pay raises for teachers, very important. And also, an increase in refund to taxpayers that will be part of everyone's income taxes. Next slide. There's been a lot of discussion about the Mental Health Parity Act. And I wanted to address the -- some of the ways that this legislation will affect us specifically. This was one of the most important pieces of legislation adopted. This here, was bipartisan support in both chambers. And the members who brought this forward acknowledge that this is one of a number of bills that will need to be addressed -- need to be adopted to address mental health issues in Georgia. In addition to what's on here on the slide, I want to specifically call out funding because that was brought up earlier. There are several pieces where funding is built in, in either competitive or formula grants funding for accountability courts and things like that. Commissioner Hausmann talked earlier about the outreach for the 988. That is part of the budget as well, Criminal Justice Counsel, et cetera. We also -- next slide, please. We also had a few questions about how this would impact Fulton County as an employer because we are -- we have thousands of people in our health insurance plan and there could be some cost impact. So through the Finance Department, they checked in with Segal, which provides consulting services for the county. And because the county is ready in compliance with the federal parity legislation, we do not anticipate any cost impacts significantly. So that was good news for us. This is in alignment with our values and commitment to mental health services for our residents. So we feel like this is generally a very positive piece of legislation for Fulton County and for our residents. Next slide. Also want to highlight here, one very important piece of legislation related to Medicaid and women's health. The postpartum coverage under Medicaid for up to one year after delivery, we know that maternal mortality rates in Fulton County are somewhat higher than we would like to see, not only here, but across Georgia. So that was important legislation. Again, reimbursement rates and community health, so there's a lot to unpack under healthcare that may not be directly affecting our operations, but it does affect the people who live here. Next slide, please. Again, behavioral health, we've talked a lot about this. And there are some other areas, a psychiatric advanced directive, is another important piece of legislation. And then the Georgia Behavioral Health and Peace Officer Co-responder Act requires counties to list law enforcement agencies who report, respond to emergency calls. Now that we're in the implementation phase of legislation, we will be working with the Law Department and county departments to make sure that they're implementing this legislation and have some debriefing time with them. Next slide, please. So the most important election bill that passed was Senate Bill 441. And I'm sure you all were

monitoring, there was a lot of -- lot of things put in the bill, taken out, put in again, taken out. At the end of the day, Senate Bill 441 provides -- authorizes the Georgia Bureau of Investigation as the agency responsible for investigating election-related claims. And if there are charges of fraud or doubt about the results of an election, GBI did in fact, work with the Secretary of State's office after the 2020 election. They interviewed people here, so this wasn't entirely surprising. It also talks about production of evidence. There were a lot of things that were in other versions of the bill that did not end up in the final. Next slide, please. Next, please. We may have skipped over. No, we're in the right place, sorry. That was me, go back, please. Forward. All right, forward. Thank you. Ten, thank you. Sorry about that, I got mixed up. So here we've got several issues related to courts and gang activity. This is one that I believe, Madam DA supported. There has been a lot of discussion about constitutional carry, which was signed by Governor Kemp yesterday. We have been in touch with Judge Johnson about what the public information needs to be moving forward, as so-called gun permits, which are concealed-carry permits, are essentially done away with under constitutional carry. That is a big area of activity, although there are many other things that the Probate Court does. Also, some legislation related to 911 that we think is very important and we'll be working with that department on that bill. Next slide. Development Authority per diems was one piece of legislation Representative Oliver, out of DeKalb, passed this legislation. Again, it just provides some guidance for what those would look like, as well as legislation about creation of regional authorities. Next slide, please. On Senate Bill 435, this is about the so-called COVID vaccine passports, and those are prohibited. So that is for one year. Thank you, Fran. Next, please. We want to specifically call out House Bill 836. This was the bill that was incorporated -- excuse me, introduced last year that would have annexed the so-called cheese slice on the remaining area of unincorporated Fulton that was proposed to be annexed into the city of Atlanta. The city ultimately decided not to pursue this. They wanted to look at some feasibility. So Fulton County still has that responsibility for serving that remaining unincorporated portion of Fulton County that is north of I-20."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Excuse me."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes, sir."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Any indication as to whether the city will pursue that, or can we keep it and develop it, or do you know?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Mr. Chairman, those -- the county doesn't own that property. Those are other property owners. But we -- it isn't really clear what the city's long-term intentions are --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "No, I mean, just keep it, it keep. Okay, all right."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "But we will -- we are -- we are in discussion with their Intergovernmental Affairs Office and we'll keep you all posted."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "But during the interim, we still have responsibility for it?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "That is correct, Mr. Chairman. Also speaking of annexation, this is primarily an issue outside of Fulton County, but it does also -- there were changes in annexation law that provides school systems a greater opportunity to participate in that process. Next slide, please. This is legislation about procurement for Public Works related matters. Both Ms. Whitaker and Mr. Clark gave some feedback on this. Ultimately, we believe it is workable legislation. But this is one we've been tracking. Next slide. I won't go over these. These are two bills that did not pass. But just wanted to provide those for information. Next, please. Again, income tax changes, the homestead exemption legislation here, specifically provides an additional senior, would provide if adopted by voters, an additional senior homestead exemption for Fulton County School System taxes. And that will be on the November ballot. Next slide, please. Again, veterans affairs -- and Ms. Calhoun, I don't know if you want to add anything to any of these. But essentially, we know that veteran's affairs are matters that this Board is interested in and really just wanted to provide you with an update. Next slide, please. There will be a number of study committees that we will be tracking, music heritage is one; affordable housing, major issue here; law enforcement salaries, we've had a lot of discussion about public servant compensation; cannabis issues. Also want to mention that the existing Mental Health Reform Study Committee that has been in effect for a couple years has also been extended. And that has really been the genesis of a lot of the behavioral health legislation that has come forward."

**FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Good afternoon, Commissioners, Fran Calhoun, External Affairs. I would like to just add two footnotes regarding a couple of these study committees. SR477, the Joint Georgia Music Heritage Study Committee will be comprised of 14 members. The President of the Senate will appoint six, and the Speaker of the House will appoint eight. There certainly is an opportunity here, should the Board of Commissioners want to send a letter regarding one of those appointments as a Fulton seat. That is an opportunity that we might want to consider. And then also, we want to let you know that SR615 is a --"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "It's on the next slide, please."

**FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I'm sorry, next slide, forgive me."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "So go back to the Georgia Music Heritage, that one."

**FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes, sir."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "This is a budget question. Was there money in the budget for the GRAMMY Museum?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Mr. Chair, I would defer to Madam CFO."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "It was on the list, Mr. Chairman, to be considered."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Was that -- 7 million not make it? You don't know if it made it or not."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "It did not. It was 3 million, is what was on the list for part of the midyear review."

**FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Okay. May I proceed? Okay. SR615 is a Senate version of the House Bill that you supported previously that had been sponsored by Representative Boddie. And so I just want to at least echo here that we will be looking at homeowner and condo associations this summer. And then finally, the third one actually is -- let's see, here. Forgive me. There is an opportunity for us to opine on SR659, which is a Senate Study Committee on unsheltered homelessness. This was a compromise bill that came from a bill that was a preemptive bill for local governments that was to ban, quote/unquote, unsheltered homelessness, and then prevent local governments from using public funds for permanent supportive housing. And so we will be following this study committee. There certainly is an opportunity for us to weigh in via a letter, Mr. Chairman and Board Members, as to some of the ways that, of course, permanent supportive housing is utilized by Fulton County to get ahead of the game and to provide any testimony. That is -- that concludes my remarks, Mr. Chairman."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Thank you, Fran."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "That's it?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I think there's one last slide. These are a few resolutions, primarily for informational purposes. I don't think we have any call outs here. And we can take any questions."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "That's it?"



**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes, Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Are there questions? Any questions? All right. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah. I got just a few here. Let me get back to my notes. So on the constitutional carry stuff, are y'all going to bring something back to us about kind of what that means for our services we're providing. Because I mean, I know they provide more services than just carry permits, and all that. But it's a high volume of the services, I think, maybe the only services they're providing at certain locations right now."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "You want to talk to that, Alton?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And when does that go into effect. I guess, you know, that's other thing. I know it was signed. But when does it go into effect?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "So I'm not sure. We were just chatting about that offline. I'm not sure that she hasn't already stopped to some degree. Because I was sending a friend to be fingerprinted this week, and was told it wasn't available at North Annex."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "So give us an opportunity by the next meeting to come back with, how does this affect their services at the locations."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Because I mean, I guess, there could be a desire for people to still access them if they need them in other states, right?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I think that's something that – we've reached out to Judge Johnson and asked about, for example, what content on our website. That is one of the top --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Right."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "-- web pages that public visits. And so we just need, as the County Manager said, just a moment to --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "-- align with the Probate Judge and make sure we're --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So --"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "There may be a reason to continue to do it for reciprocity for other states."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Right."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "That, I don't know."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Again, I'm not sure if --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So we might be going in a little bit of, you know, don't want to say, chaos mode, but a little bit confusion mode for -- until we kind of get that sort of settled down for people."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Right. We'll bring something back --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "-- for next meeting."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "On the bottom of page 11, I realize this is something that didn't pass. But I don't know if there's any language in this particular piece of legislation that we might can pull out of in terms of the continuing ed courses that they were contemplating requiring for development authorities. So if somebody can look at that."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Sure."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And if there are some things there, I would be interested in knowing what they were specifically noting, and whether that might be something we might want to consider maybe not mandating, but at least urging that be a requirement of our Development Authority for continuing that."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Okay."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "On the bottom of page 16, there is a \$10,000 homestead exemption. I guess this -- this was able to be passed without a referendum, or is this calling for a referendum?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "It's my understanding, Commissioner Ellis, that this will require a referendum for the November election. But I will verify that."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I didn't review that specific provision."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. If -- certainly, if it's not a referendum, I'd be interested in knowing, kind of, how they were able to do that, I guess."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Right."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And then when it would go into effect."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I believe it does require a referendum --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "-- in November."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. Then on that, let's see, a couple more here. And so there is also a study committee -- I know there was some stuff passed on the Development Authority's caps and some fees and ability to create a Regional Development Authority and some stuff like that. But so there is a study committee for this on development authorities as well that was authorized, I'd be, you know, interested in sort of following that one."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Okay. We'll make sure we send those notices."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "As well as one of the other one that you mentioned, the --"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Thank you."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- 659, so. I think that's all I've got. And I think what you were referencing on 477, there was nothing in the state didn't fund any money for this GRAMMY Museum. Was that the question you were asking, Mr. Chair?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I'm sorry?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Were you asking whether the state had put any money in their budget --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- for the GRAMMY Museum?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "That, I had heard that they had put in 7 million, which I thought -- I found interesting and surprising. I wanted to confirm that."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. But the state did not. That's what we were referring to as a state ask, not a county."

**FRAN CALHOUN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Good afternoon, again. There was debate on funding, and so we'll verify whether that funding made it through the final cut of the budget and get back to you on what that exact number is, Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "So what question was it that our CFO answered?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "About whether the county had --"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Yeah, I was talking about our budget. My apologies."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. All right. That's all I got."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Vice Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yes. I think the permit less carry bill actually took affect when the Governor signed it the other day."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I believe you are correct, Commissioner Hausmann. What I am not clear on is, Ms. Calhoun let me know, there is a reciprocity bill. And so what we would like to verify with Judge Johnson is, is there any activity at all in the Probate Court related to concealed-carry permits, or is that function completely eliminated. So those are a couple of things that we would like to talk to her about. But I believe you're correct, the -- or I know you're correct that that legislation took affect immediately."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "And you know, we had plans to open up an office at Maxwell. Maybe this is one time, just one time, where we didn't need to do what we were planning to do since we haven't done it anyway. But I would like an update on what's happening with that. Can you give it to me now or are you --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "No."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Don't answer my question --"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY COO, FC PSS:** "No. Happy to. Where we are is, you know, we've done the specking of the space, because we had to move some offices around. And we've done some estimating of the costs. Joe may actually have some more detail on that. So there has been some work done since the last time we had our conversation. Joe, do you have a quick update on the construction side?"

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "Yes. We we're at a point now, where we're ready to move forward with the first phase, which is moving Public Works upstairs. We're trying to identify the funding for that now. That is the piece of this entire puzzle that actually sets the foundation for all the other subsequent phases to move forward. So we're at the precipice of being able to move forward."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Well, you know, I feel strongly that we need to utilize that facility. So I'm happy that we're doing that. But I do think we probably should take a look at if that's the proper use. If we're moving more services up there, is that really needed at this point? Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Since we're asking about new space, can someone in the County -- maybe the County Manager, you can answer this. Last year, there was a resolution for the feasibility of senior high rises. And I believe they were in district -- I mean, the senior center, I think they were in Commissioner Lee Morris' District, Commissioner -- Vice Chair Liz Hausmann, and also, the -- I think it may have even been Commissioner Bob Ellis. But at any rate, there -- we never got information back about it. And so the actual senior center in South Fulton, have we broke ground on that already?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "No, ma'am. What we were planning to do now is, we're looking at the -- if you recall, the building the County bought at 4700 North Pointe in Alpharetta, we used for all of our COVID response. Now that that's winding down, and as soon as we move the equipment out of that building, we're going to plan for something that will be a Health and Human services building there. And most likely have as a major component, a senior center set of offerings, and I can defer to Dr. Roshell. Likewise, we've got a -- actually a call with the two Commissioners for 1 and 2 on that, on Friday. And in a like manner, we're going to develop something that will mirror that for the South Fulton. And we had been talking about a location that we own that's across from the South Annex. I'm not sure if that's the best location or not. So we haven't got that far down the path. But using that same template, maybe a 100,000 square-foot building, as a senior center, as an anchor tenant, and then a set of other services that would be complementary to that. Dr. Roshell, you speak better to it than I did."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "No, Mr. Manager, you covered the basics. So the reason it's called HSS North and South is because it is much more than senior services, is the concept. And so senior services is one component. It would also include behavioral health offerings, DUI court. It would also include some Board of Health services. And we're looking at an opportunity to provide some sort of primary care. So it's very conceptual, no partners or anyone has been contacted. The difference in North and South, as the County Manager indicated is that the North facility is a standing facility, and is in a much different place as far as planning. The other facility, we would need to do some more feasibility and research to move that forward."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yeah. I was wondering, because I remember that we had a resolution that we were supposed to just go countywide and look at the feasibility of those districts for South Fulton. But it sound like -- it sounds to me that the one in North Fulton, you all are about to pull the trigger on, and the one in South Fulton, you're still working on, if that particular site will serve the purpose of what you're trying to do. Okay, thank you. That's what I needed to know."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Anything else, Ms. Corbitt?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "No, sir. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Madam Clerk."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next item is Commissioner Arrington's. Did you want to do that one, the Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority? Okay. The next item is **22-0265**: Discussion update on the status of the preparation for May Primary Elections, sponsored by Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Thank you. And I know that we've got a small PowerPoint, I think that was shared with us. Y'all have access to that? And I guess, before we get started, just welcome, Director Williams. So sort of a new day and we welcome your -- your leadership. And I thought it was good, and just -- I do want to make a comment just for these comments that -- well, before this presentation that, we as a Board of Directors, we do not oversee the elections. That's the role of the Board of Elections. Our role is in hiring of the Director, and that's definitely been a point of confusion for the past year or so. And probably is that point of confusion that's probably held us back from being further along than where we are right now. But be that as it may on that, that's really our role, and then also, approving budgetary items. I do think this though, this topic is certainly very important. We certainly get a lot of commentary on it. I think all of us would want us

to have a cycle which is as clean as possible. And before our Director gets started, and I don't know if they're listening or not. But, I mean, I'll just personally say, I've been a little bit disappointed with the engagement of all of our Board of Elections Members, when it comes to the day-to-day activities of elections. And I feel like -- I feel like, there's an opportunity to for them to engage. And I'm speaking about both the Democrats and the Republicans, everyone one of them that are on that Board of Elections to engage or lean into this a little bit more heavy into the operational aspects of elections and supporting our team and asking meaningful questions. Because I don't see the type of activity that I would have hoped to have seen come out of that group. So with that, really, what I'd asked for was just a kind of briefing for our Board, as we're heading into the Primaries, about kind of, where we're at. And when it comes to, you know, staffing, number of employees, early voting, you know, et cetera. So, looks like you've got to a nice deck, sort of, prepared for us to kind of walk us through that, if you could. Thank you."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Good afternoon, Chairman and Members of the Board. Today, I will be presenting the procedures for the Department of Registration and Elections in preparation for the May 24th General Primary Election. Next slide, please. Advance Voting will be held May 2nd to May 30th. Our Board of Registration and Elections approved usage of 30 advanced voting locations, to include seven absentee drop box locations; the dates and hours in locations, which include Sunday voting, have been posted on the county website to inform voters of all available locations. There will be a total 250 Election Day locations. We're continuing to encourage voters to visit the Secretary of State My Voter Page, where they're assigned Election Day location and voter information. Please be advised that we are aware that the Commissioners office's, County Manager office's, and our department as well, has received phone calls in regards to discrepancies or missing information on the Secretary page, My Voter Page website. Please be advised, the My Voter Page site is operated by the Secretary of State. Therefore, we are not fully aware of what has caused the discrepancies. But the Department of Registrations Elections has made the SOS Election Division aware, and they are diligently correct -- making corrections to their website. But we do encourage voters to continue to revisit the My Voter Page website or to call our office for their voter information. Next slide, please. Four temporary staff agencies have been contracted to assist with recruitment of over 200 temporary staff persons. Meetings have been held with each staff -- staffing agency separately to streamline onboarding process. Links to each staff agency have been added by position to the Fulton County website to simplify the application process. The temp agencies are actively recruiting, and we are on target to fill vacant positions by their onboarding dates. Next slide, please. Recruitment is being finalized for over 300 advance voting workers and over 2500 Election Day workers. Recruitment has included conducting municipal recruitment fairs by our Voter Education Team for all available position types. The recruitment is on target.

In the case of personal circumstances change for those that are recruited, the County Manager's strategy team is assisting and securing reserves of county employees from various departments. Recruitment of all staff and reserves is on target and to be completed in the next few weeks. Next slide, please. I'm taking into account, feedback from our poll workers and our Board of Registration and Elections. Our poll worker training program has been modified -- has a modified curriculum to ensure all poll worker positions are receiving clear and concise hands-on training. Our new Election's Officer has implemented a Poll Worker University Kiosk, which offers, one-on-one training for any poll worker who wants additional instruction. In-person training is currently underway for a Election Day and Advance Voting. And we continue to conduct poll worker training until all poll workers are trained by Election Day. Next slide, please. Logic and accuracy testing of election equipment began on April the 8th and will be conducted at Election Preparation Center in Hapeville warehouse. Per election code, the location and time of L&A has been advertised in the AJC and on the County website. Logic and Accuracy testing is always open to the public for observation. Deployment of Advance Voting equipment will begin on April 26th. And deployment of Election Day equipment will begin on May 16th. Next slide, please. The construction planning phases for the Election Central are currently underway. The anticipated completion date is to be determined. In the interim, temporary warehouse spaces will remain until after the June election at the Election Preparation Center and the Hapeville warehouse. After the June election, the temporary space will include the Election Preparation Center and pending space at Greenbriar Mall. The Department of Real Estate and Asset Management is diligent in working on securing those spaces. Next slide, please. Okay. Temporary staff have been on boarded for Absentee -- for the Absentee Division and are processing absentee ballots applications as received. Based on like elections, we anticipate requests for absentee ballots to remain low. Therefore, the status of onboarding additional temporary absentee workers is pending. The overseas military ballots you will recall, were mailed out by the Election code deadline. To date, we have received over 2000 absentee ballot applications and will ensure absentee ballots are mailed to voters starting on April 25th, as required by Election code. Next slide, please. Redistricting was completed on April 3rd as of this presentation, when this presentation was drafted. After this presentation was drafted, our Elections Division deemed it necessary to go back into redistricting to make edits and accuracy; therefore, it was completed today, April 13. Redistricting cards will be mailed when received by the SOS. And we anticipate the cards will be mailed by April 24th. In an effort to communicate with voters and to keep voters informed, the Communications Department has created a landing page on the Fulton County website with additional information regarding redistricting, which includes links to maps created by GIS and the SOS My Voter Page. Next slide, please. The possible Run-off Election is scheduled for June 24th. Election Day and Advance Vote locations will be determined



by contest requiring a Runoff Election. If a statewide election is required, we will utilize the same amount of locations that we were using for the May 24th Election, 30 Advance Voting locations and 250 Election Day locations. Next -- sorry -- we've already -- we've also received commitments from the May 24th poll workers to work for the June 24th Election, if necessary. Next slide, please. Okay. Commissioners, I'd like to time to point out future -- the future vision and direction of our department. The current slide lists some of the many items we would like to enhance or implement moving forward. We will have a full implementation of our equipment and inventory system to ensure accuracy of equipment in supply and retention files, creation of a poll worker newsletter for better communication with poll workers, one-on-one training for poll workers upon request, our Voter Education Team will continue to conduct recruitment affairs throughout Fulton County, a Six Sigma business process review will be conducted prior to November 22nd -- November 2022 Election. And we will implement a poll worker staffing plan and the creation of Elections University to provide education for voters of the internal -- election internal processes once Elections Central is constructed. And these are just a few of enhancements that are underway, will commence later this year. Next slide, please. Okay. We thank you for your time and support. That concludes our presentation and we'll take any questions at this time."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I had two questions, if you don't mind, before you pass on. On the absentee piece, I noticed you noted it was -- you expected it to be down -- I think we got, what, ten staff there. If it started to ramp up, do you have a contingency plan to get to bring in additional staff as needed?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "We do."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And have them trained?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, we do. We have -- it is allocated with one of our staffing agencies. And they know that we -- they have reserves to bring them in if need be."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. On the one piece -- and maybe you spoke to it, but I - it didn't look like it was necessarily a direct slide on it that I know I've gotten feedback on, on the past couple cycles. It's not consistent, but it's, you know, more spotting. And that was really on the logistics for pre-Election Day. There are a lot of the workers -- many of the workers did express frustration to me about not knowing whether their stuff was going to show up and being stressed out about that. And was it going to arrive in time before the location closed down, you know, and that sort of thing. So in terms of just the logistics for getting the equipment and everything to the Election Day sites and that

process, have we made any changes there to ensure that that's a more smooth and consistent process throughout the county?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "We have. We have a platform called, Cydle (phonetic), that our poll workers can log into. The actual delivery of equipment schedule is posted on that site. So they'll be able to see exactly when their equipment is being delivered. I believe some of the frustration was with our poll pad delivery. But we have some internal processes put in place, so we won't have that issue again."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So that system is new? That --"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "The Cydle, we've enhanced it, so, yes, it is new."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So that'll be new for the workers to see it?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by Vice Chair Hausmann."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Nadine, I think that you -- first of all, congratulations. I think you're going to do a great job. But I'd be remiss if I didn't tell you, I have a concern. Back in January when a lot of conversation was around the Elections Director, my biggest fear that we will come up to Election Day and not have an Elections Director. Now, that's not your fault. So I'm not laying it at your feet. What I'm telling the listening public, is that I apologize, because my office has filled over 150 people that have called in with concerns. They've even called in and asked, what's in place to keep any of us from interfering with you all doing your job. And so I would be remiss if I did say that's a concern of mine if we don't have an Elections Director, we don't. And Fulton County being the largest county in the state of Georgia, that's a -- that's a black eye that's on us. You can be Republican or you could be Democrat, but at the end of the day, we should have somebody at the top. Now, what I'm asking you -- not -- and I don't mean to put you on the spot, because I have full faith in you, but I've got to ask you this. What are we doing -- remember, I think, we had 30-something drop boxes, it's dropped down to seven, right? What are we doing to make sure that the voters of Fulton County know the hours of those drop boxes, and now that's only seven, as to where their locations are?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "That information is posted on our website. And also, our Communications Department will have it in a mailer that they send out to every household."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Now, I know that a lot of the money that you all had been able to use before was money because of the SB202, you cannot use anymore. What I'm asking is, at the end of the day, are we fully funded? Do we have staffing issues, and is there anything as a Board that we should be looking at now? I am so tired of us being in the news about this. Now, I will say, when I say that to you, I've had a couple Town Halls, I've seen how you all have come out and told people, especially with the issue of the voter precinct card, because I was getting calls saying that Fulton County was sending that out, and thank you for accommodating those calls when I talked to your department about it. But people are getting third-party mailings that have absolutely nothing to do with Fulton County. But then it's being said that Fulton County is sending it out. And so, what are we doing that we can control? Because we cannot control the Secretary of State's office and what they do. What are we doing to control to make sure the base of Fulton County, from one end, whether it's south to the forth -- south to the north -- that they know where their precinct is?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Well, the redistricting cards have not been mailed as of yet. So we will, when we receive those from the SOS, we will -- they'll be mailed out to voters. Anything that we mail, we would like the public to know that comes with our logo. We want it to be clear that if it comes from Fulton County, it will have the logo. If it does not have the logo, it's not from Fulton County. But we ensure that that happens and we prefer that people just continue to check our website because all the information is listed on our website."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And finally, I know that we don't -- we don't have mobile vehicles, whereas before we allowed -- we were able to take them out in the community for people to vote. We know that's not a reality anymore. However, I don't think that the public knows, especially those that are seniors or those that are challenged that need their ID copies of it, and so it is my understanding -- and I just want you to confirm this. It is my understanding that the mobile units that are out in certain areas of need, will assist with copying. Once the person shows their information and everything, they will assist with the community to make sure those copies or made; is that true?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "That is correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you for that. I'm praying that we don't have any issues. A lot of this stuff I know is not in you all's control. But I know that you all will do the best you can. At the end of the day, I appreciate all the employees, as well

as you and those that work very hard for us to have a safe and fraud-free election. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Vice Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Good afternoon, again. First of all, I want to commend y'all on the voter -- I mean, the poll worker fairs that you did throughout the county. I went to one or two of them and there was a lot excitement and a lot of energy. And it looks like you had good participation from the community. What is the -- were you able to place everyone that came out to those fairs, or how's that going?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "It's going very well. We've made them a priority to make sure those people are placed. I don't have the numbers in front of me, I apologize about that."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "That's fine."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "But I could email that to you. But we have made sure those people have priority placement."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Well, if you're taking the time to come out on a Saturday morning somewhere to do that, that means you're really interested. So I'm glad of that. The question earlier about the absentee ballots and the different functions, are we using any community members for those functions or are those only temp staffing folks?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "No. Any position that we have is open to the community. The community can go on our website and apply through the temp agency. All the links are there under every position that they can apply. Even though they're on boarded by temp agency, it's open to all residents or people from adjacent counties as well."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Well, it's just another one of those things that people are chatting about. So if you could just let us now, perhaps, what the facts are, who's getting staffed where, and where they're coming from that might be helpful to, you know, communicate to the community. And then I think you mentioned that all of the changes have been made in the system at this point?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes. We did confirm redistricting this morning."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Okay. Well, I'm going to give you a copy of a candidate's voter card that doesn't show him in the office location that he's running for."

It's a split precinct. I mean, it's just -- this is from this morning. I just, you know, there could be small pockets, as you know, of problems out there. And so, I'd rather let you know about it, than have it go all the way until Election Day, and then really be a problem."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Is it from the My Voter Page website?"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yes."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yeah, I -- yeah, as I said earlier, that website is not under our control. It's under the Secretary of State's website. They are aware that there are some glitches and they're diligently working on it. My own precinct was not showing a few weeks ago and they corrected that problem. But, yes, as -- we have no authority over the My Voter Page website. But if --"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "I understand that. But since this guy is a candidate and they reached out to me this morning when they verified it, I want to make sure that it -- that one gets corrected."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "It could be a whole half of precinct of something, I don't know."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Okay. If you email that information, so we do more research --"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yeah, we'll get it to you."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Thank you so much."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Other questions? Any other questions?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Chairman, I'm sorry. I meant to ask you, you may have already said this. A mailer -- will a mailer go out from Fulton County? And approximately -- for the listening audience, approximately when do you think it's going to go out?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "I would have to defer that question to Communications, because they are the ones who process the mailer."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I've received the quotes. We've been working with Ms. Strong-Whitaker. So we are prepared to submit to them this week to begin production so that it hits during that early part -- either right before or in the first few days of early voting. So we're -- and that's something we've done for the last two years. It includes all of the early voting dates. It includes where the drop boxes are located. It encourages voters to check the My Voter Page, reminding them that their districts may have changed. It also includes the absentee ballot deadlines."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So we're looking maybe around the week of the 28th, maybe?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Or somewhere around in there?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Yes. And they'll be doing -- the printers will be printing and mailing as they go, because it is about half a million pieces. So some people may get them, you know, over the course of a few days."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "I just wanted to, while I'm here, also congratulate Nadine, who I've known for more than 20 years. And I'm really proud of her to see her in this role."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Nadine."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "I want to congratulate you too, Nadine. And I want to just be clear that you are the Director right now, you're the Interim Director, and you're doing an awesome job, and to just encourage you to keep up the good work. We all know that you're picking up a mantle that is very heavy, and that there've been -- there's a lot of mess and confusion that has gone on, but you're the right one for the job right now. So I want to encourage you to continue to do the work. And I'm glad to hear about the communications. I heard you say a minute ago about the redistricting cards. That they will inform people about their polling places; is that correct?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR:** "Yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. Because there's been a lot of confusion about that. People have been receiving some information, somehow. I think it was a letter that one

senior told me that she received, or a card or something that told her about her new polling place. And she said, how in the world did my polling place change from somewhere that I could walk to, to a place now that I have to drive -- I have to find a ride to get to my polling place. And I told her it was because of the redistricting map. And so there -- she said that she called the Elections Department and was told that there were -- you guys were flooded at one point with calls about the polling places. And so I'm really looking forward to these polling cards, these redistricting cards going out, so they can know exactly where they need to go. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you very much. Continue Madam Clerk."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "**22-0266**: Transparency and accountability in Fulton County sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Clerk. The nature of this was because of the calls that I received to my office. I'm just -- I'm just wondering, Chairman, are we -- are we going to have a quorum for this? Do I need to put this on hold?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "We still have a quorum. But it's up to you whether you want to discuss it today or wait until we have a quorum. We meet next Wednesday."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I think it would be best for me to wait."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. You want to hold?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, let's hold that until next --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. Without objection, we'll hold. Madam Clerk, anything else?"

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "We have an item that was moved from the Consent Agenda on page 2, **22-0208**: Development Authority of Fulton County, it was removed by Commissioner Ellis for separate consideration. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Rodney Littles to replace JoAnna Potts for a district appointment to an unexpired term, ending May 31st, 2025."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Now, this gentleman actually is qualified for this. I'm not sure why it was taken off. But here again, we have other individuals that sit on that Board right now that are nowhere as qualified as Mr. Littles. And so I'm not sure why it was taken off. But I would ask that my colleagues understand that this is my board appointment for my area. And we send a message of discrimination when other areas

are able to actually appoint someone with no problem. But when Commissioner Khadijah appoint someone -- now, if you didn't get -- my understanding, yesterday, resumes were sent out, bios were sent out. But we -- this is the second time that this has come up here, where there seems to be an issue with my board appointment. So I would just ask that my colleagues, in the sense of fairness, if I can support someone like a, Mike Bodker, for instance, I'm quite sure that they can support Rodney Littles. And so with that being said, doesn't even look like we have a quorum now, which is no surprise to me. But for the listening audience, Rodney Littles is well respected in South Fulton. Rodney Littles is a upstanding member of the community and has the qualifications. And I will bring him -- be bringing him back again."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. You want to hold it, or take it up --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "We can hold it. We can hold it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Any objections of holding? None, we'll hold that item. Anything else to come before us today? All right. No further items to come before us, we are adjourned. Thank you."

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.)