

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SECOND REGULAR MEETING**

September 18, 2024

10:00 AM



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



MINUTES-RATIFIED

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

Ratification Date: October 16, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

10:05 a.m.

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

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

PRESENT
PRESENT
PRESENT
PRESENT
PRESENT
PRESENT
PRESENT

Chairman Pitts asked for a moment of silence for employee William Wilson who tragically lost his life while in the employment of Fulton County.

INVOCATION: Reverend Donald Bolton, County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA**24-0580 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 Second Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED)**

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

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

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Thorne

24-0581 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "The American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection Month." **(Pitts)**
Month of September

Proclamation recognizing "Grace Fricks Appreciation Day." **(Pitts)**
September 19, 2024

Proclamation recognizing "Rich Homie Quan Remembrance Day." **(Arrington)**
September 19, 2024

Commissioners' District Board Appointments**24-0582****Board of Commissioners****FULTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

The Arts Council shall be composed of fifteen (15) residents of the County. Initially, each member of the board of commissioners shall appoint two persons to serve on the council, one person to serve for a one-year term and one person to serve for a two-year term. No term of any member shall extend beyond the term of the District Commissioner who appointed the member to serve on the Arts Council Board; thereafter, each year, each member of the Board of Commissioners shall appoint one member for a two-year term. Each member may continue to serve beyond his/her term until replaced. The chairman of the arts council shall be appointed to a two-year term by a majority vote of the board of commissioners. The council shall elect a vice-chairman and a secretary from its membership.

Term = 2 years

Term below expired: 12/31/2022

Vacant **(District 3)**

Commissioner Barrett Gary Snyder for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2024.

24-0583**Board of Commissioners****DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

At the Special Call Meeting, May 30, 1973, the Board of Commissioners appointed seven (7) members to serve on this Authority. In 1992, two more members were added to this board bringing the total to nine (9) members appointed by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County. Historically, each Commissioner has appointed one person to serve on this board. In addition, two persons are appointed and confirmed by the full Board of Commissioners.

Term = 4 years staggered

Term below expires: 5/31/2025

Brandon Beach **(Resigned) (District 2)**

Commissioner Ellis nominated David Belle Isle to replace Brandon Beach for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending May 31, 2025.

Open & Responsible Government**24-0584 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to accept a name change and authorizing the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance to reflect the name change of Full Circle Restoration and Construction Services, LLC to Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. d/b/a Full Circle Restoration. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

24-0585 Finance

No action is requested. This reporting is being provided to meet the quarterly reporting requirement for monetary transfers amount budget funds per Board Resolution #09-1262. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

24-0586 Finance

Ratification of August 2024 Grants Activity Report.

SECOND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**24-0587 Board of Commissioners**

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

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to adopt the Second Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by moving up item #24-0598 and removing item #24-0610 as requested by Commissioner Barrett. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Thorne

b. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to reconsider the Second Regular Meeting Agenda to add item #24-0618. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0588 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Second Regular Meeting Minutes, August 21, 2024

First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, September 4, 2024

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

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

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Thorne

24-0589 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month."
(Barrett/Abdur-Rahman)

Proclamation recognizing "Pianos for Peace Appreciation Day." **(BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Purple Heart Foundation Appreciation Day."
(Arrington/Hall)

PUBLIC HEARINGS**24-0590 Board of Commissioners**

Public Comment - Citizens are allowed to voice County related opinions, concerns, requests, etc. during the Public Comment portion of the Commission meeting.

Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County, including their employees, whether such persons are commenting in-person, via emails or via Zoom or other electronic media (i.e., phone call). Non-Fulton County citizens will only be heard after all in-person Fulton County citizens, representatives of business and organizations located within Fulton County, including their employees, have been heard and the time allotted for public comment has not expired, except as otherwise provided in this code section. County staff shall verify the residency of each public speaker prior to such person being heard by the board. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. Members of the public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The Public Comment portion of the meeting will not exceed sixty (60) minutes at the First Regular Meeting, nor will this portion exceed sixty (60) minutes at the Second Regular Meeting. In the event the 60-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. For more information or to arrange a speaking date, contact the Clerk's Office.

(CONDUCTED)

8 Speakers: J. Wesley Day (Justice/Solicitor Office); Prophet Curtis Martin Hairston (Homelessness/Fulton County Jail); Rev. Siegfried D. White (Fulton County Jail); Lenny Black (Justice); L.A. Pink (Fulton County Jail); Sheila Hamilton (Property Fraud); Robby Caban (Lifeline/Fulton County Animal Services) and Charles Rambo (Fulton County Jail)

2 Zoom Speakers: Matt Rowenczak (Item #24-0618) and Ben Howard (Seniors Services)

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority**

24-0591 Board of Commissioners
MARTA Quarterly Update (PRESENTED)

Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority

24-0592 Board of Commissioners
Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority Quarterly Update (PRESENTED)

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****24-0593 County Manager**

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

24-0594 Finance

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Finance Department, 24RFP050124C-MH, Employee Healthcare Benefits Plans with (A) Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield (Atlanta, GA) to administer the self-insured Point of Service (POS), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), HMO Medicare, Medicare Indemnity and PPO Plus (Closed) Plans and Consumer Driven Health Plan (CDHP) including pharmacy for all self-insured plans; (B) Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife) to administer the Health Savings Account (HSA); and, (C) Kaiser Permanente (Atlanta, GA) to administer the fully insured HMO Plan to provide Medical and Pharmacy coverage for eligible active employees, retirees (Under 65 and Over 65 (Kaiser Senior Advantage), beneficiaries and covered dependents. Effective date: January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025 with four renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve items #24-0594 through #24-0599. The motion passed by the following vote:. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0595 Finance

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Finance Department, 21RFP071321C-MH, Voluntary Worksite Benefits with (A) Continental American Insurance Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aflac Incorporated to provide Accident Insurance; Critical Illness Insurance; Hospital Indemnity Insurance; Whole Life with Long Term Care Rider for both high and low tiers of coverage and Flexible Spending Accounts (Ameriflex Administrator): Commuter/Transit, Dependent Care, Limited Purpose & Traditional Health; (B) Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. dba LegalShield to provide Identity Theft Protection for both high and low tiers of coverage and (C) Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to provide Short-term Disability Insurance & Legal Plans for both high and low tiers of coverage. Voluntary Benefit Plan Premiums/Contributions 100% employee paid. This action exercises the third of four renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve items #24-0594 through #24-0599. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0596 Finance

Request approval to extend an existing contract - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan - Dental with Aetna Life Insurance Company (Atlanta, GA) to administer: [1] Dental PPO (DPPO) Plan on a self-funded basis and [2] Dental HMO (DHMO) Plan on an insured basis, to eligible employees, retirees, beneficiaries and their covered dependents for an additional 12-month period. Effective date: January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

(APPROVED)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve items #24-0594 through #24-0599. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0597 Finance

Request approval to extend an existing contract - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan with Aetna Insurance Company Inc. (Atlanta, GA) to administer: (1) Basic Medicare Advantage Plan and (2) Enhanced Medicare Advantage Plan (*Buy-Up Option*) to provide medical and pharmacy benefits as a fully insured option to Medicare eligible retirees/beneficiaries and dependents for an additional 12-month period. Effective dates: January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve items #24-0594 through #24-0599. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0598 Finance

Request approval of 2025 premium rates for the Medical and Pharmacy, Dental and Vision Plans effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

(APPROVED)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve items #24-0594 through #24-0599. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0599 Finance

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Finance Department, 24RFP050124C-MH (Vision), Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife), to administer vision benefits on a self-insured basis to eligible employees, retirees, beneficiaries and their covered dependents. Effective, January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, with four renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve items #24-0594 through #24-0599. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

24-0600 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Fulton County Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 23RFP120423K-JAJ, Design/Build Services for Developmental Disability Programming & Services in an amount not to exceed \$3,655,925.00 with Hogan Construction Group, LLC/The Collaborative Firm, LLC JV (Norcross, GA), to provide design/build services for the construction and renovation at the South Training Center located at 475 Fairburn Road, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331, for the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (BHDD). Effective upon issuance of Notice to Proceed (NTP) and shall substantially complete the work within 270 calendar days and achieve final completion within 300 calendar days. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

24-0601 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a statewide contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, SWC #99999-001-SPD000155-0003, Truck Chassis and Truck Bodies for Fulton County Animal Services in the total amount not to exceed \$162,696.64 with Hardy Chevrolet, Inc. (Dallas, GA), to purchase and deliver one (1) each (A) 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD, 2WD Crew Cab Pick-Up Truck and (B) 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD, 4WD Double Cab Pick-Up Truck, for Fulton County Animal Control. This is a one-time procurement. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

24-0602 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Sourcewell Contract #030421-SIE, Facility Security, Fire, and Building Automation Systems, in an amount not to exceed \$733,946.65 with Siemens Industry, Inc. (Norcross, GA), for Phase I, to upgrade the existing Siemens MXL fire alarm system that has exceeded its useful life and the installation of the Desigo Fire Safety Modular System at the Fulton County Jail Complex. Effective upon issuance of Notice to Proceed for 6 months. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

24-0603 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to increase the spending authority - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 22ITB134949C-GS, Tree Removal Services Countywide in the amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 with ArborServ, Inc. (Lithonia, GA), to cover the costs for additional tree removal services at five (5) Fulton County sites. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0604 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 22ITB135136C-MH, Testing and Repair of Backflow Devices in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 with B & W Mechanical Contractors, Inc. (Lawrenceville, GA), to provide on-site testing and repair of approximately 183 backflow preventive (BFP) devices for required maintenance on an "as-needed" basis for the County facilities. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

Health and Human Services**24-0605 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities**

Request approval of a Resolution creating the Fulton County Opioid Abatement Regional Advisory Council ("Opioid Advisory Council"); defining membership of the Opioid Advisory Council; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0606 Senior Services

Request approval to amend an existing contract, Senior Services, 21RFP000016A-CJC, Alternative Senior Transportation Services with Common Courtesy (Atlanta, GA) to modify the contract scope to include programmatic trip and cost share changes for transportation/ride sharing services for eligible Fulton County residents aged 60 and above at no additional cost. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Pitts

24-0607 Public Works

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Public Works, 22ITB076A-JWT, Water Meter Testing and Repairs, in an amount not to exceed \$354,260.00 with Reed and Shows Meter Solutions (Carrollton, GA), to provide water meter testing and repairs. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

24-0608 Public Works

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County and the City of Johns Creek, Georgia for water main relocations associated with the trail improvement projects along Rogers Bridge Road and Bell Road in an estimated amount of \$175,000.00. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

Justice and Safety**24-0609 Police**

Request approval to increase the spending authority - Police Department, 23ITB139979B-RT, Automobile Repair Services in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00 with Moon's Service Center (Mableton, GA) to provide automobile repair services. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**24-0610 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the creation of a Fulton County Juvenile Court Youth Services and Programs Fund to benefit court-involved youth in Fulton County. **(Barrett) (REMOVED)**

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER BARRETT

24-0611 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance amending Part 1, Subpart B, Chapter 102 - Administration, Article I, Sec. 101-68 - Decorum, of the Code of Laws of Fulton County, Georgia Relating to Rules of Decorum Governing Meetings of the Board of Commissioners; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (HELD)**

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY CHAIRMAN PITTS

Commissioners' Full Board Appointments**24-0612 Board of Commissioners**
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (NORTHSIDE) (APPROVED)

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.

Term = 4 years

FOR SPREADING UPON THE MINUTES: The Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority of Fulton County (Northside), at its meeting on April 24, 2024, reappointed the following appointees for terms ending April 1, 2028, in accordance with a slate of names submitted by the Board of Commissioners at its April 17, 2024 Second Regular Meeting:

Anthony J. Salvatore (Position #1)
Kenneth Kupke, MD (Position #2)
Thomas Hills (BOC 3)

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

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

Abstain: Pitts

Did Not Vote: Arrington

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**24-0613 Board of Commissioners**
Discussion: Open Records Requests (Thorne) (HELD)

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER THORNE

24-0614 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Sheriff's Office Outstanding Invoices (Pitts) (HELD)

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY CHAIRMAN PITTS

24-0615 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Inmate Phone Contract & Jail Commissary Contract (Pitts) (HELD)

ITEM HELD AS REQUESTED BY CHAIRMAN PITTS

24-0616 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: September 5th Reparations Taskforce Meeting (Pitts) (DISCUSSED)

EXECUTIVE SESSION**24-0617 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

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

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

Did Not Vote: Thorne

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

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

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Arrington

c. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve the request for settlement authority in item #4 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Arrington

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to approve the settlement in item #5 in the matter of Maria Preston in the amount of \$45,000.00 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

ADDED TO THE MEETING**Items Added to the Agenda****24-0618 Registration & Elections**

Request approval to amend the County's Statewide Contract Agreement executed with Dover Staffing, Inc. on July 10, 2024 to provide temporary staffing services for the General Election and General Run-Off Election at no additional cost to add two Advance Voting locations at Flipper Temple AME Church and the Fulton County Government Center; to add twenty (20) temporary staffing positions to properly staff the additional Advance Voting locations; and the reallocation of funding. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

a. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve. The motion failed for a lack of a super majority vote:

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

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Ellis

b. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve hearing add-on item #24-0618 before the end of the meeting. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Pitts, Thorne, and Ellis

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

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

Abstain: Thorne

Did Not Vote: Ellis

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
SECOND REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC
"A Court Reporting Firm"

(Whereupon, the meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Second Regular Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is Wednesday, September 18th, 2024. It is 10:05 a.m. Madam Clerk, please, call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bob Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Present."

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

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. And before we begin with the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, let's have a moment of silence, please, for one of our employees, William Wilson, who tragically lost his life while in the employment of Fulton County."

(Whereupon, a moment of silence was observed.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Proceed."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, please."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **24-0580**, 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 Second Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any items on the Consent Agenda? Commissioners, anything?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, entertain a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion to approve by Commissioner Dana Barrett; seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 4, Second Regular Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have an item that has been requested to be added to today's second regular meeting agenda, 24-0618, Registration and Elections: Request approval to amend the County's statewide contract agreement with Dove Staffing to provide temporary staffing services at no additional cost to add two advance voting locations, to add 20 temporary staffing positions, and the reallocation of funding."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. This one is an emergency. We had a request from a minister from Central United Methodist and that ZIP Code 30314; that was not an early voting precinct. I took that to the Board of Registration and Elections; they considered it and decided to add that as an early vote location, as well as the Government Center. And the cost of that will be -- really will be no increase. It will be managed within the budget that's already approved, but it is an emergency. Training is in process, so we need to approve that today. So take a supermajority of five votes to add it to the agenda, so I would respectfully ask that we add it. Yes. We have a motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman; seconded --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- is this for the whole agenda because I have another change."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- yeah, this is -- just this one."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- just this one?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- right. And it's seconded by Commissioner Natalie Hall. Let's vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion fails."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. You have another?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. I'd like to hold -- pull 24-0610, please."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "To hold it?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. Or just pull it; I'll put it back on."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Again, what page?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It is page 9, 24-0610."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You want to remove this?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Hold is fine; either way."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, it's a little difference."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, it's going to be changed, so let's just pull it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It's removed. All right."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. We will remove it; so noted."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, ma'am?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order. I may be incorrect, but I don't know if the supermajority who is seated here, because if we go about who is seated here, it would have passed because Commissioner Thorne is not seated here. So I just need clarification on that. Maybe you can actually weigh in on that, County Attorney?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Vice Chair. The supermajority is always going to be five. It's going to be the supermajority of the Full Body."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else? So there are no changes, right?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes. I have one change, 24-0587: Adoption of the Second Regular Meeting Agenda. Commissioner Barrett has requested to move up item 24-0598 on page 7 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- which item?"

CLERK GRIER: "0598, Finance: Request approval of the 2025 Premium Rates for the medical, pharmacy, dental, and vision plans."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So --"

CLERK GRIER: "-- to move it up to be heard after the -- after item 24-0593, the Operational Report, on page 5."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So there are six items related to health insurance. What were you asking?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. I am asking for the one that is 0598 to be moved up, because that is the one that relates to the rates and several of the others that are listed after our contracts that are based on those rates. So it just makes sense, I think, to take the rates first, have that discussion and then agree to the contracts. That was the only logic there. I think also that that one, 598, has a presentation attached from Finance about the rate changes, and it would make sense to take that presentation first."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Any objections?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "None?"

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. The vote --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- then we will approve the Regular Meeting Agenda as amended. We have a motion to adopt as amended by Commissioner Natalie Hall; it is seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**24-0588**, Ratification of Minutes: First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, September 4th; Second Regular Meeting Minutes, August 21st, 2024."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0589, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing 'Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month' sponsored by Commissioner Barrett and Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, and this is something that is sort of near and dear to my heart. I'm a breast cancer survivor myself, and met many women, unfortunately, along the way who -- through my treatment -- who were getting treatment for ovarian cancer. And once you sort of become part of a cancer family, it really stays with you. So I will read the proclamation which says: WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer-related death for women in the United States; and WHEREAS, a woman's lifetime risk of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer is about one in 78; and WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates approximately 20,000 cases of ovarian cancer will be newly diagnosed in 2024, and approximately 13,000 people would die from the disease nationwide; and WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is only 50 percent with earlier diagnoses leading to better outcomes; and WHEREAS, early detection is not possible as symptoms of ovarian cancer are often vague or absent, and there are no effective early diagnostic tools; and WHEREAS, the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance is the world's leading organization dedicated to curing ovarian cancer and approving treatment by advancing science, promoting preventative measures, and advocating for educating and supporting anyone affected by the disease; and WHEREAS, the Georgia Ovarian Cancer Alliance focuses their efforts on raising awareness and educating women of all ages in Georgia, their families, and healthcare community about the risks, symptoms, and treatment of ovarian cancer; and WHEREAS, Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month is recognized globally every September as a time to raise awareness around ovarian cancer risk factors, prevention, and the importance of genetic testing; and WHEREAS, Fulton County is committed to improving health outcomes for all citizens. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners stands with the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance and the Georgia Ovarian Cancer Alliance in their efforts to raise awareness; and does hereby proclaim September 2024 as 'Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month' in Fulton County, Georgia. And Denise would you like to say a few words?"

DENISE, RECIPIENT: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett, and thank you to all the Commissioners. Melissa Malone got the Proclamation here in Fulton County and other counties. She is unable to be here, and she had asked me if I want to share this. 'My name is Melissa Malone, and I regretfully cannot be in attendance today. I was

diagnosed with Stage 1C3 ovarian cancer last year at age 38. Two days after my 39th birthday, I had surgery followed by six months of chemo. Last week, I found out my ovarian cancer has returned and spread to at least one lymph node in and around my lung and heart in less than eight months after my last chemo treatment.' She wanted to especially thank you, Commissioner Barrett; and please know that if you walk out of here, one thing the Pap smear does not detect ovarian cancer. And the Georgia, Ovarian Cancer Alliance Tail Trot is this Saturday at Chastain. You can go on their website to get information. But thank you so much."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Pianos for Peace Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioners Hall and Arrington."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "It is an honor to present this Proclamation to Pianos for Peace. They do so much around the world nationally and internationally as it relates to their charity -- their (inaudible.) charity. And I am sorry to see that my colleague, Commissioner Arrington, is not present. But he is also a cosponsor in this, and it is Full Board and it read: WHEREAS, Pianos for Peace is a nonprofit organization founded by composer and pianist Malek Jandali in 2015 as a 501C3 public charity with a mission to bring peace through music, art, and education; and WHEREAS, their annual Pianos for Peace Festival takes place in Fulton County over a three-week period where painted pianos are placed in public spaces that include parks and MARTA train stations for everyone to play. After the festival, the pianos are donated to various schools, community centers, hospitals, and nursing homes, and other organizations; and WHEREAS, Pianos for Peace, volunteer artists and musicians contribute to outreach programs that reach various under resourced communities throughout Fulton County and surrounding areas serving seniors, veterans, and children in need through the healing arts program; and WHEREAS, Pianos for Peace offers free public concerts and events at community centers, public libraries, and senior centers throughout Fulton County in Metro Atlanta which creates employment opportunities to local artists and musicians, and allows them to share their talents by performing, designing, and painting colorful pianos; and WHEREAS, for the past nine years, Pianos for Peace has painted, placed, and donated nearly 500 pianos, employed hundreds of artists and musicians and has impacted millions yearly by the kind gestures of showcasing pianos throughout Atlanta and Fulton County. This promotes Fulton County as a premier location of the arts, music, and peace. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Pianos for Peace for extending the gift of music and art for all citizens who live, work, and play in Fulton County; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, September 18th, 2024, as 'Pianos for Peace Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Thank you so much, Malek."

MALEK JANDALI, RECIPIENT: "Thank you so much, Commissioner Natalie Hall, and all the commissioners. We are deeply grateful for this recognition and this award. As always, it's better to be together. It is to play for Peace. And there's no other place in Fulton County and Metro Atlanta to initiate such a symphony for peace. And also, we couldn't have done it without your support, without (inaudible) without the partners and

collaborators; and I have an on-board member, shall remain neutral, and as an ambassador for peace our local amazing artist, (inaudible), and will take the podium and extend their appreciation and thank you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Purple Heart Foundation Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioners Arrington and Hall."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. It's truly an honor to do this today; to honor these great veterans. Obviously, we thank you for your service and are certainly delighted that you can join us here today. The Proclamation reads as follows: WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the military's oldest award and was created by General George Washington in 1782 as a badge of military merit to recognize heroic acts by his troops; and WHEREAS, since 1957, the Purple Heart Service Foundation has seen it as a patriot -- as its patriotic duty to be a beacon of hope and support for those who have given so much of themselves in service to their country. WHEREAS, the gold of designing Purple Heart entities is to bring more awareness of the Purple Heart medal and to gain benefits for veterans in return for designations; and WHEREAS, the program began as the Purple Heart Trail Program to have roads, highways, and bridges designated with distinctive signage. Request for designations have swelled to include high schools, colleges, universities, cities, states, counties, and a variety of businesses; and WHEREAS, this procedure will standardize request and approvals and ensure maximal benefit for the veterans and/or the Purple Heart medal. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the valiant sacrifices of our brave men and women in uniform; and acknowledges the designation of Fulton County as a Purple Heart County; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday September 18th, 2024 as 'Purple Heart Foundation Appreciation Day' in Fulton County. Let's give them a big round of applause. And thank you, certainly to Representative Schofield for bringing this to me and to us here in Fulton County. Thank you for your service as well."

RECIPIENT: "The military order of the Purple Heart Special Recognition Award is bestowed with pride on this day, September 18th, 2024 to Fulton County for your dedication and support honoring America's combat wounded veterans by becoming a Purple Heart County; signed September 18th, 2024 by Louisiana's military unit Purple Heart, Department of Georgia Senior Vice Commander. On behalf of the military and the Purple Heart Department, I wish to thank you all for your support, and I wish to thank everybody who's involved in getting this done. We really appreciate it, and welcome to the family. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You all will be glad to know that we have donated over \$3 million in the last three years for veteran services here in Fulton County. So again, we thank you for your service and we're glad to be able to honor you all for your service today."

REPRESENTATIVE SCHOFIELD: "And on behalf of the state of Georgia, we would like to say thank you to the Chair and the Full Board of Commissioners for the support and just an honor for this prestigious designation that when we come into Fulton County, veterans and their family will be forever respected and know and be thankful for their service and their duty; and thank you to Representative Rhonda Burnell for doing this in other counties. So thank you. This is an amazing day in this county. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 5, Public Hearings, **24-0590**, Public Comment: Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing or by submitting their comments in writing registering on the county website www.fultoncountyga.gov. Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 60 minutes. In the event the 60-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we will start with the speakers in Assembly Hall. We have received eight speaker cards. Will the first five speakers, please come forward: J. Wesley Day, Prophet Curtis Martin Harriston, Sigfried D. White, Lenny Black, and LA Pink."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. When you have 15 seconds remaining of your two minutes, I'll simply say 15 minutes that's your clue to begin to conclude your remarks. You have the floor, sir."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Once again, my name is J. Wesley Day, and I am here to ask that you hold Keith Gammage responsible for his unfairness; for being not smart with justice, and not providing restorative justice. I made a request under the open records using the Freedom of Information Act asking the solicitor's general office how many people have you charged with affray which is what he charged me with in 2018 after I was beaten into a coma. Keith Gammage declined to provide me with that one question. For those that don't know what affray is, it's similar to a disorderly conduct. My next open records request was asking the solicitor general's office how many people that you have charged with affray that you've escalated to a felony as he did with me. Mr. Gammage declined to answer those questions. So I challenge you, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to ask Keith Gammage to answer those two questions for you because it clearly will show you prosecutorial misconduct. The packet that I provided with you today, are examples on

page 3 of the biases that Keith Gammage have used against me. There's been three or four instances where assailants have attacked me on Atlanta street. I'm the nonaggressor --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- Keith Gammage never added charges to them. Keith Gammage never upgraded charges to them. So the two times that I've been charged with Keith Gammage, I'd left my home with no intentions to do harm to no one."

PROPHET CURTIS MARTIN HARRISTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Amen. Y'all ready? For one, praise the Lord, everybody. I just want everybody to know, if anybody needs to come to me for prayer, I'm open to pray for anyone. But business at hand, like we said before, people are dying in our Fulton County Jail. We need a new sheriff. We've been saying -- I said that when that first guys got killed in that Fulton County Jail. I said we needed a new sheriff then. Now 13 people have died since then, and we're still trying to make it look good. Okay. You got homeless people dying on our streets. Nineteen people died and froze to death on the streets of Fulton County: freezing to death. We just celebrated the veterans. But I'm talking to the homeless veterans right now. I know -- I can take you to five homeless veterans right now, but y'all might not know that, because y'all don't talk to you people. Now, I'm saying this that we need shelters and shelters to be ran right. People are coming -- being corrupt because the city is corrupt. If you get the corruptness out, then corrupt things stop happening, because they, by example -- an example of that is, an off-duty black police officer kills a black man in College Park which is Fulton County. So when does black men start killing black men? Now black cops are killing black boys, not just white guys. So if we come down here and tie this place up, then we wrong. While our homeless people are dying on the street -- black people dying on our streets, and at the same time, the cops are taking out vengeance on young black boys. Not white cops, black cops. What's your other cop?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

PROPHET CURTIS MARTIN HARRISTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- you're getting your cop killed -- that killed Johnny Hopkins, and your cop that killed Rashad Brooks."

SIGFRIED WHITE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Reverend Sigfried White; founder and CEO of Concern Dads, Inc. Please, Commissioners, I'm asking you all a question -- Chairman Pitts, you often state that it is the public fault that we are allowing the jail and allowing things to happen at the jail. You often have said, Mr. Pitts, that you're tired of throwing money to the jail. What can we do as voters? What can we do as -- what is your suggestion? As you know, Sheriff Labat has to go, in my opinion: mismanagement. People are dying at the jail. I spoke recently to Mr. Rambo sitting in the back, I'm praying. I believe in miracles. So my

question is, what can -- you always say the voters, talking about the mismanagement of the jail, and we see that people are dying. Nobody should go to jail and die because, Mr. Arrington, they're in there because of child support. No one should just die. They're lot of preventative deaths. I understand by preventative death you know, you have a diabetes attack, a heart attack, you die. But to die because no one is walking the cell, looking at, you know, checking on the inmates. And if someone is calling for help, you ignore, you turn your back. What if it was you, you in jail, and you're calling for help, and someone turns their back."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

SIGFRIED WHITE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "So we need to do something about this situation that's happening in the jail. And also Mr. Len Black, there's been a lot of people that got shot in Mechanicsville. And nothing has happened, arrests as it relates to the shooting. Why no one has been arrested? It's because they look like me."

LENNY BLACK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Lenny Black. My granddaughter was one of the shooting victims in Mechanicsville. And no one, city council, mayors, no one has reached out to none of the victim's family. And if I'm not mistaken, Commissioner Hall, that's your area. Why haven't we heard from you? You of all people have not stepped forward and said nothing. Do you not care about those people? Are we cockroaches to you? Where you at? What are you going to do? Is everybody here just gone to sit there and look crazy and not do anything? We're the ones that helped you get into office. When are you going to help us? We're reaching out; we need help. But what can you do and what will you do, and when will you do it? I'm challenging you, everybody here, to come forward and help. When will somebody step up? And this is tragic. And it's not just my granddaughter, it's nine other families. They're talking about five, but it's ten total. Ten and no one is stepping forward. When are you going to come forth; when?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

LENNY BLACK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "And everybody's sitting here looking at me like I'm crazy, but I see no one trying to help."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "So like he said, it's ten. Commissioner Hall, chasing balls, have not done anything for these families, but of course, when I was here the last time, and I called for Mo Ivory to step forward, and she came on out; and not that she came because of my voice, she was coming anyways because that is her new area. But there's ten. Tabitha, she's in the hospital now with her daughter that is -- have been shot in the face and the head. Britney was shot in the leg. No one has reached out and said nothing, not even the mayor. But you guys are visiting the jail, Dana Dane. I don't know what your intent was to go to the jail. I don't understand how you're able to go to the jail and visit inside the jail, get a walk-through, but they are -- have blocked it for our grand jury to be off in there to see exactly what -- what can you do that the grand jury

can't do? That's what I want to know, possibly, but giving ass and beg for more money, you know. And then, Michael Sterling: I don't understand how they can sit up under oath and lie and say that someone can forge his signature on a legal documentation and nothing be done about it. So we're forging legal documentations down here? So I want the, whoever the notary is, whoever his paralegal is, and if he works for this county, I'm coming after it, because they said up under oath that they lied and signed Sheriff Labat's signature on a legal documentation and nothing has been done about it. So we're forging signatures down here in Fulton County now?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "This is to whoever your attorneys are, we're forging signatures? That's what we doing here, huh? That's why we after the corruption. It's coming down."

CLERK GRIER: "Last three speakers here in Assembly Hall, please come forward: Sheila Hamilton, Robbie Caban, and Charles Rambo."

SHEILA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings, Commissioners. I am again coming before you with the concern that I brought to your attention August of 2024. And it's about missing items from the evidence room at 4701 Fulton Industrial Boulevard, city of South Fulton. Having gone to this address to get items held since 2020 with a case being heard May 2024 and Fani Willis' office finally heard it, personal items that were confiscated from the property has never been found. I was asked for a list because I have power of attorney to produce the items that were taken from the house. I spoke to a Lieutenant Wood, and he couldn't find the items. He claimed that he had just gotten there and he was trying to clean up the office. He promised me a call on July 29th when I made that visit. I have not gotten a call; not anything, a response from that office. I am very concerned because while I was there on that Monday, July 29th, a mother with her daughter who had been arrested that weekend came to get her daughter's purse and they couldn't find that daughter's purse; and they started looking for the arresting officer. So my question is, are these items being stolen by the police, when they are taken from the property? Are they being stolen during transport? Or what's really going on? Are they just that incompetent that they can't keep up with items when they take them out of a person's home?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

SHELIA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I'd like to get a response from this Board. You got Ms. Jo over there as your attorney, you got Mr. Arrington as an attorney, and I've contacted an attorney, and I want some answers. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have the floor."

ROBBIE CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I'm here because I sent an e-mail to you, multiple e-mails, and many whistleblowers have come forward about the animal services contracts, county vendors, Lifeline Animal Project. None of you have responded. Multiple whistleblowers employees, volunteers have come forward with documentation year after year citing the lack of adherence to our taxpayer-funded contract, which is nine million dollars a year. It's known that Lifeline, the county provider, gives kickbacks. None you have investigated. You haven't even responded. And in the last week, my animal (inaudible) of 16 years, an elder cat, was taken from my property and euthanized without my consent. She belonged to me. That happened because Lifeline Animal Project, your county vendor that you refuse to investigate and correct, mismanages, fires whistleblowers, hires people who are unqualified; and you continue to allow it to continue despite taxpayer-funding for that contract. Despite people coming forward with evidence telling you of what's happening in our county shelter and your streets, and this impacts lower income communities more than most. My cat came to me frozen in a box, and I had to bury her in my backyard. That cat belonged to me; she was family. And I'm going to show you exactly what happens when you allow a county vendor that I fund, via taxpayers, to take family from me; without my consent. There are property rights here, and I stand with all these people regarding public safety and your lack of accountability. What are y'all doing? Look at the jail. Look at the public safety. Look at the housing. What's going right in Fulton County and this isn't just about an animal. This is about a breach of contract, Fulton County taxpayers, Public Safety. We have rabies bites. We have more cases coming. What are you doing? Public health. Where are the tax dollars going? You will be hearing from my attorney.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

ROBBIE CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All of you. Due to your failure to act."

CHARLES RAMBO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning to the Board of Commissioners. My name is Charles Rambo. I am here this morning to support and object to this third-party security firm that you have concurrently taking part in bringing to the Fulton County Jail. Number one, you all approve that particular funding and I suggest that you pay the security contractor so that you can get him the hell up out of Fulton County Sheriffs Office. And here's the reason why. I'm sitting in a very adamant form and fashion as a former union president. I had to make sure that we had sound people there at the Fulton County Jail as a senior instructor making sure that we had qualified constitutional officers, not third-party security companies, working in the jail. That would be equivalent to putting a school board -- excuse me, a student counsel here up on the Board when you all are absent. That would be equivalent to sending a third-party security company to work for these particular guys and not their place. The next thing is, is that at the end of the day this is illegal and manifestly against the law. You have to have people who are certified by Georgia Post by law. Come on, County Attorneys, let's do some research and find that people have to be certified as basic jailers with inside of six months of being hired. So whether the sheriff is listening to this

or not, this has nothing to do with a campaign speech or debate. This has everything to do with the trend of violence that we're seeing there at the jail. So whoever is visiting grand juries, Commissioners, or what have you, the time for action is now because I promise you, I promise you, having served as an expert witness here recently helping an inmate get a \$250,000 lawsuit settled, I promise you --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

CHARLES RAMBO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- the liability is going to fall upon you for allowing this kind of a negligence of hiring, this type of negligence of assignment for coming into our Sheriff's office. Thank you very much, and please act on it very seriously the same way you did the last session when you brought this up at the end of counseling -- excuse me, commission meeting. Thank you."

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

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

MATT ROWENCZAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. I did not have any intention of speaking this morning, but as I've heard now multiple examples from others, guess what; we have more examples of waste and abuse in our county. And many of you voted to raise our taxes recently thinking that that was going to help keep services in place. So now we're going to outsource, just like we do in our election's department, we're going outsource things for our security. We're going to outsource things for animal services, which also have a margin built into it, right? Which we pay for. And if lawsuits are going to be coming down the pike, guess what? I love what Mr. Rambo said, but you all aren't going to be on the hook because of its financial impact, it's us, the taxpayers that are on the hook. We're getting really sick and tired of this behavior. And now we're seeing Chairman Pitts, the Chair of the Board of Elections, it doesn't seem like they're holding their department accountable. It doesn't seem like there's a planning process in place. We're seeing motions for last-minute changes. Where's the data and the supporting evidence? I guess there doesn't need to be one when you've built in a 40 million-dollar budget, right? Again, on the back of the taxpayers, okay. I don't think many of us are going to forget when we go to the polls this November. We're sick and tired of it, and we're not going away. Thank you."

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

BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings, Commissioners and staff; and a special greeting, fellow citizens. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate and Public Policy Analyst. The Commission on Elder Affairs will hold the September meeting in hybrid format. The live portion of the meeting is to be held at the Helene S. Mill's Senior

Multipurpose Facility, 515 John Wesley Dobbs Avenue in Atlanta. For the link to the virtual portion of the meeting and for other information related to senior citizens, one may call the senior citizen Star Line at 404 613-6000. During Section Five of the Commission on Elder Affairs Agenda, labeled Senior Services Update, we may be privy to information about the staffing changes that prompted a senior citizen to come to the county seat two weeks ago to complain about a staffing change that has apparently negatively impacted senior programming. Stay tuned."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Rachel Frawley. Rachel Frawley. Okay, the next person to speak is Theresa Newsome. Theresa Newsome. And with that said that concludes the Zoom public comments."

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No further speakers? All right. Continue Vice Chair, why do you seek recognition?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, I want to move for reconsideration and a vote in ZIP Code 30314. I don't know if we understand the gravity of this situation. There is no early voting precinct in that district, and I think out of abundance of fairness, I will move for a reconsideration for a vote on taking that up. It is not going to cost --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- second."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- the taxpaying citizens' additional money. I'm sorry, Commissioner Hall, I just want to make sure that we know the gravity of that voting precinct being in place."

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

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So I would move for a reconsideration vote."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And I seconded it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to reconsider; seconded by Commissioner Natalie Hall. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I had to step out. Is this just the one -- what precinct is it?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "It's the one in 30314. I believe it was at Central, Commissioner Hall?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Center United Methodist."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Central United Methodist --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- and the Government Center."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And the Government Center. And the actual pastor did bring it to my attention as well as other individuals that there is actually no early voting precinct. And so, my understanding, it will not be an additional cost, but the situation is that you do have seniors, you do have individuals over there that are disabled, and you do have what I call sometimes our lesser of these, the individuals that the people have a tendency to overlook because they don't have several zeroes behind their name. And so, I ask and I'm really short of begging that we do what's right and just put this additional precinct in place to no additional cost to the taxpaying citizens."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just one correction. There will be an additional cost, but it's covered in the approved budget."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly. The cost is already there. It's not an additional cost that we have to vote on today."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So are we adding it as an agenda item now?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So like we're not really discussing it right now? And like you said, it is an additional cost of about \$200,000 to the taxpayer citizens."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct. Correct"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Wait a minute. Let me correct that."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "That's what they said at their meeting, the Board of Registration and Elections meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners, Commissioners, please. What's before us now is whether to add this. We're asked to reconsider right now. If it passes, we can discuss the merits."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "But I just wanted to make sure it is a real reallocation --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Reallocation."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Reallocation of a cost. It's not an additional --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- that's correct."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's why I just wanted to make that clear. It is a cause, but it's being reallocated."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We got it. We got it. Okay. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Whatever the cost, it should be added. The pastor, Vance P. Ross, who retired before this current pastor came onboard, made me aware of the fact that that entire area was missed, and that is why he contacted the Chair, the new pastor that is. So whatever the cost, it needs to be added: 30314, 30318. Those are always the area codes that -- I'm sorry, the ZIP codes that are overlooked. And so, this is a pleasant surprise to see this added."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, basically, this is a motion to reconsider adding this to the agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis. I'm sorry, yeah. Commissioner Ellis."

(Whereupon, Commissioner Ellis, defers to Commissioner Thorn.)

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Why wasn't -- I'm sorry, maybe you went over this earlier. But why wasn't it properly put on the agenda since their meeting was on Thursday? Why was this not submitted on time, by Friday?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I can't answer that. Mr. Manager, can you respond to that?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We did not get an agenda item, so I don't know."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Because if it was added properly, maybe there would be time for people to public comment and speak knowing that it was on the agenda. By avoiding, properly, adding it to the agenda that kind of leads the public out of being able to comment."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah, I'm just sort of at a lost in terms of we supplied a significant amount of funding, we've known we had a major election coming up; why all this sort of workplan has not been done and laid out, and why we're even discussing anything related to early voting locations this late? I haven't had a chance to really even look at this and understand it. I don't even understand if there's no additional cost of why it's even -- why is it even coming before us? Why isn't that in the scope of their management plan and decisional authority? You know, I don't like us getting engaged in the operational components of running elections; and that's my view, and I've stated that from day one since I've been on this Board. So the notion that we're somehow interjecting in and advocating for or advocating against a particular early voting location, I just don't think that's our role. We fund them well. They should be able to have this workplan put in place. I don't even understand -- I guess we'll come back and we'll discuss more in terms of why it's even necessary to come before us when this supposedly has no additional cost to it. So, I'm just -- I'm confused by what's going on here and why this suddenly just finds its way to us at the last minute. I'm just -- anyway."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "For the listening public, I just want to be crystal clear of why I am being adamant about this. I'm being adamant about it because it was brought to my attention. It was brought to my attention by the pastor. It was brought to my attention by seniors. It was brought to my attention by the disabled. It was brought to my attention by single-headed households. It was brought to my attention that it may cause a hardship that they don't have it. Now, with all due respect, maybe Elections could have done a better job in making sure that their early voting precinct was put out there first. I don't disagree with that; but I adamantly say it came as an emergency. It was an emergency add-on, and I don't want to get into the politics of disenfranchising anyone because they have a problem with our elections. And so, what I'm going to say openly is; yes, we need to do a better job, because I raised my hand and I'm one of the Commissioners here, so we all got to take responsibility when the ball has been dropped somewhere. Now does that mean we remain silent? No. Is there a need? Yes. Has the need been asked for, yes. Is it adamant? From my office and my perspective, I'm asking that we reconsider, and I'm asking for a favorable vote because somebody is disabled because they're a senior, and because they don't have multiple zeros behind their name, we should be able to advocate for them just like we advocate for corporations and other folks, too. So I'm asking here again, not pointing the finger, I'll take the blame, because I was voted in as far as everybody else was, too. But we need to make sure that we have that early voting precinct for seniors, for disabled, and people who may can't get to other ones. And so, that's why I'm asking and that's why I consider this an emergency, and it was put for Commissioner Thorne; unfortunately, you weren't in here, but it was put forth as an emergency, and that's why I'm asking for reconsideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis. Now the motion on the floor as to whether or not to --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- yeah. And we'll discuss this further. But again, our role is not to pick the early voting locations as a Body. This is the role of the elections group, and we've funded them, and they should have presented this to us, and I'm not going to take any blame for it because I vocalized the need for accountability from this Board, this Elections Board, in terms of, we've funded you to the highest degree that anywhere else in the state. We do early voting more than anybody else in the state, and this plan should have been laid out and clear and done well ahead of time. And then if you're telling me there was a meeting on Thursday where there was an adjustment to it, it should have been accelerated to us and on the agenda. It's just -- it just creates this -- there's just so much unnecessary noise that occurs on this subject because we got a group that apparently can't get their act together on stuff. And that's the frustrating thing, I mean. You know, I'll vote for this if we have the discussion to move it forward one way or the other; but it's just a repeat pattern that needs to end. There's an expectation that we should have had this thing well oiled up and running, and we should not be having these types of last-minute adjustments to stuff ever. I mean, this should be done with. So, Commissioner Thorne, so I mean what are we going to do if there's another group that comes forward? We missed this group? Did we miss something else? I mean, I would assume that we just sort of fully evaluated what the early voting needs are and would've had that plan addressed, would have been well vetted. All the members of the BRE would have had a chance to weigh on it and it would have been voted and approved some time ago."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioners, let's dispose of the motion as before us. If it passes, then we'll have ample opportunity --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- well, I just wanted --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- just a minute. Just a minute. We'll have ample opportunity to talk about it forever and a day. Go ahead if you want to be heard."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I am open to putting it on the agenda for discussion --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- but I just want to know, are we going to provide any data? Do we have anything, cost, the amount of staffing, because my understanding is that they're having to come to us because we have to reallocate more to staffing. Do we have any information? Are we going to be provided anything or are we just going to vote blindly? Do we have any of the GIS modeling that's showing? Because I have disadvantaged seniors on my side of 400 that don't have a precinct near them. I have people that are disadvantaged all over the county, in Roswell. There are people all -- and we can't serve everybody, but we need to serve everybody effectively and efficiently given the resources we have. So do we have any data? Are we just adding this on as an agenda item add-on with no supporting documentation?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We don't have data."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Don't have any data? So we're going to have a discussion item. We're not going to be prepared as Commissioners because we're getting it added on last minute, on Friday, and we're just going to pull the heartstrings of the people and, oh, if you don't vote for this, you don't care about seniors, which I fully care for everybody in this county, and I want our money to be spent effectively and wisely. So if we're adding this agenda item, I expect to have some data presented to all of us so that we can make an informed decision."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote, please. I would appreciate your favorable vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. And the agenda has been amended. Let's take it up now while we're on this topic, everybody's ready to speak. Just a minute. Just a minute. Just a minute. Go ahead. Go ahead, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I thought we would wait and put it at the end like we normally do, and then hopefully somebody can come down and speak to it, give us some data, or is it that, you know, when I watched the Election's Board meeting --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- so, let me try --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- they didn't even know the cost."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- just a minute. Just a minute. Let me try save us. You want to wait until the end?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes, so we can have the data in front everyone."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's fine. I'm going to speak to it at the end. We'll hold it until the end. But I will provide the data that's required."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Point of order, Mr. Chair. There was no vote by this Board to hold it to the end."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct. All right. Is there a motion to take up now or wait until then end?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Motion to take it up now."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's dispose of that motion."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "A point of order, Mr. Chair. Could I have a point of personal privileges?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I just want to note that we've had a lot of people that are well prepared for their agenda items and so forth and outside speakers are here before us that we're going to make them wait for somebody else that wasn't prepared. That's the reverse of the way it should be done. That's all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's compromise here. We do have two outside presentations, MARTA and the Fulton County DeKalb authority. Can we take it up after those two presentations, Commissioner? Is that okay? Rather than waiting until the end?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I think we have a motion, and it's already been seconded on the floor, Mr. Chair; and while that might be, okay, with me, I think that a vote of four Commissioners is required."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to deal with this issue right now as opposed to --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- it's not correct on the screen."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's not current on the screen?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "The motion was moved by Commissioner Khadijah and seconded it by me. Thank you for correcting that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You got it, Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "It's corrected."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right. Everybody understand what we're voting on, whether to take it up now or later. Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's take it up now. Sound it."

CLERK GRIER: "24-0618, Registration and Elections: Request approval to amend the county's statewide contract agreement with Dover Staffing to provide temporary staffing services at no additional cost to add to advance voting locations, to add 20 temporary staffing positions, and the reallocation of funding."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall; seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Vice Chair followed by Commissioner Thorne followed by Commissioner Arrington."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I just wanted to say thank you for the favorable vote and the people that can speak to it now are right in front of us. So thank you for being here and please explain to our fellow Commissioners as well as the listening audience as to one, why this was deemed as an emergency situation; and two, what is the need for it, and explain the reason for the reallocation of it. Thank you."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Good morning. To provide clarity: the locations -- we're not asking for location approval. We're asking for a modification to the temp contract. The funds are in the contract that's needed to be reallocated to fund the location. The locations are Flipper Temple and the Government Center. Flipper Temple's already approved by our board to be a voting site for two days. We're changing out the funding that will allow us to leave it open for three weeks. Usually, we do -- so we had representation 30314. We're just asking to extend the time that's there. Usually, private locations do not allow us to stay for three weeks, but this church did expand the availability, so we're asking to go ahead and open that up for three weeks, and that's why we need the temp contract modified. We're not asking for approval for the location those are already allocated"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. I may have mis-spoke, but I wanted you to clear that up that it was not an additional cost. It was a modification. Thank you."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Exactly."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So why wasn't this properly put on our agenda on Friday morning and coming to us just now?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "It was proposed to us --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- point of order, Mr. Chair. This item was just properly put on the agenda by this Board."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Initially. Not put on our agenda so that people would know that it's on our agenda. Obviously, you guys knew it would be added and you're

down here. So why wasn't it -- you had your meeting on Thursday. It gave you plenty of time to put it on a Friday. What's the reason?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "It is an add-on, which we properly submitted. The deadline for the regular agenda items, that already passed by the time our Board met, if I'm not mistaken, the deadline to add things to the BOC agenda."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Our deadline is Friday morning at 10, and you add things all the time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Not for -- not for -- department head is Tuesday. Isn't it Tuesday? Yeah?"

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So do you have documentation or information for us to evaluate?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "We submitted it in Ledger Star. It was sent up with the reallocation in the temp contract would be; so all of that was submitted."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But for us to make a decision here today, whether it's a proper allocation or --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "-- I believe it was submitted to the BOC. It's in the -- thank you, sir."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So how many voting locations do you have now?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "We have a total of 35 that are open for three weeks. It would be open -- if we add these two, it would be 37. That will be 37 open for the three weeks. We also have four senior center outreach locations that we are allocating for this election: those are four there. There's also three -- I mean, I'm sorry, college locations as well. So I think it's a total of 42, by the time we add up -- if this gets approved today -- to modify the contract."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So do we -- approximately how many -- do you have approximately 740,000 people, active voters on our voter list?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Yes. We have over 700,000 active voters."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "740,000. So, just running some numbers here. With 35 locations, that means that serves 21,143 people roughly; with 37 locations, it goes down and we served 20,000 people per location. On a quick check with our neighboring

county, Gwinnett, they have 12 early voting locations. They serve -- each early voting location serves roughly 47,459 people. Cobb County, they also only -- they have 12 early voting locations, and that serves 40,833 people. So we're wanting to serve double -- we cut down -- I mean, I kind of feel like this is where our cost is a runaway cost. Sure, you're allocating money, reallocating. I have no problem with reallocating if there is a severe need, if we really have a shortage. We have a very large county. There's people that complain that they have to go far from where I live, up in my areas, on the east side of 400. I appreciate you. We had the longest wait times in 2022. People actually came to the government center to vote because there was no -- there was no wait time down here, but a lot of people won't drive downtown, and I think you initially didn't do the government center again because parking was an issue, and that it was one of your precincts that was lower attendance; is that correct?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "So we are anticipating higher voter turnout for this election. I believe -- I can't speak for other counties. I know that there was a long wait time in all of the counties, because we look at their wait time boards. We're trying to avoid that. Fulton County, of course, is a bigger county by square miles than other counties, so we try to evenly distribute them, and that's where we get to the point of having 30 plus sites to make sure that every corner of the county is well represented."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah. So if I have a bunch of seniors that come down and say, okay, we don't have one in my ZIP Code, because we don't have an early voting location in neighboring ZIP Codes to me, then we'll just add an early voting precinct. Is that how it works?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Well, we added a senior center in North Fulton at the Madison Senior Center, there is an outreach at that location. If we see a need regardless of what side of the county it is on, we will address that. So if you have seniors that want to reach out to our office, we will look into -- if we have to possibly ask the side -- we will ask our Board to do so, if possible."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah. I just -- do you have the facts and figures for the cost of -- this is just for staffing, right? This is just for staffing of the facility. Is there additional costs besides staffing relative to a precinct?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "No. We forwarded that information to the Board to get this modification approved, and it's the staff, that's where the costs lie, with the staffing."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Well, I just -- you know, for me I haven't really too much time to really evaluate everything here and read over it. In the future, I hope that you will bring this forward to us in a timely manner. It would be great, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Arrington. All right. The motion on the floor is to approve this amendment to the contract. All right. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 5, Presentations to the Board, **24-0591**: MARTA, Quarterly Update."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Mr. Greenwood, come on down.

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Thank you. Good morning, Chairman Pitts, Board Members, Commissioners. Thank you for having MARTA here with you. I'm Collie Greenwood, General Manager and CEO of MARTA. And I'm monitoring online, we also have our board members, Stacey Blakely, Freda Hardage, and Al Pond; and I'm pleased to be joined by Jennifer LaRosa, who is seated in the audience, and we're just happy to come through here with our Q3 briefing."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Where are your Board members?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "They're online."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, okay. Online."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Pictured here is the newest addition of our Civil Rights bus rollout and Civil Rights Heroes Special Bus Route Collection. This one commemorates Congressman John Lewis. The buses in this photo is located behind a number of our board members, Ms. Sigura Jones, Chair Katie Powers, and Jim Jurrett, and folks from the John Lewis Foundation, Senator Sonia Halpern, our new AGM in the back there, which is of executive affairs, Mr. Steven Parker, myself, and Commissioner Hall. So I just wanted to put that up front, and I'll talk more about this event later in the presentation. Next slide, please. And this is our typical agenda -- next slide, beginning with operations update. Next slide, where we start with our ridership. This is our monthly MARTA Monthly Ridership onboard since July 2019. Good news here, we can start by recognizing that streetcar and mobility are back to pre-pandemic levels. I can also account for the fact that bus is at its highest point now since the pandemic took hold in May of 2020. And subway is still, you know, working towards a year-over-year improvement, but still sits between 50 and 60 percent at times, of the pre-pandemic levels. We're hoping for a more aggressive slope as time goes on. It has been consistent year-over-year, but there are some solid indicators that we are experiencing during off peaks,

during weekends, and during special events; there's a real surge in ridership, and MARTA has been pleased to see that, and to handle it very, very well. Next slide, please. The five-year bus amenity program is helpful in this regard, and this is -- we've come to a close five years ago. We said it would take five years; we'd install a thousand amenities, and 250 of those would be in Fulton, and we have done just that. Fulton County has 1,470 bus stops in total, so that we have installed 250 amenities at the most highly used bus stops, means that bus customers, 77 percent of bus customers that are waiting for a vehicle, are now being served by an amenity. So we're very, very pleased with that. Next slide is a picture of what that means, you know, probably the last time I'll get to share this with you. But it's the difference between having nothing and having a managed space with information, protection from the elements, and a place to sit. Next slide, please. Safe Routes to Transit is a natural complement to the bus amenities program, so shelters alone can't improve the experience completely of our passengers, so MARTA is rolling out Safe Routes to Transit program at our high ridership stops, thanks to a lot of help and support from our congressional delegation. We're delivering pedestrian safety improvements at these high ridership locations. And we'll be actively collaborating with GDOT and the Fulton County cities to deliver this project, and you can see on the slide what that means in terms of crosswalks, curb extensions, medians and refuge islands, rapid flash, and pedestrian beacons; again, making the journey about something -- caring about people that are traveling before they get on the bus and after they get off the bus, making sure that those routes are conducive. Next slide, please. Also on the bus side, bus network redesign is moving along very, very well. The draft network has now been finalized. We've conducted extensive analyses. The technical analysis has also been completed, and the final report was completed -- the final draft was completed just in August. So a couple of points, in terms of what we're looking forward to here, but first let me say that we're about to engage in an external engagement, which will refine the draft network based on feedback that we receive from stakeholders and the public. But what we're really excited about bringing to them, are these two Chevrons on the slide that talks about the fact that there's a 245 percent increase in the amount of residents that will be served by frequent service, which is 15 minutes or better, and also an 18 percent increase in the amount of residents that can get to a job within an hour. So those are just two speaking parts on several that this network has been able to achieve with the existing resources of our bus network, which just made it more efficient, made it more useful to more people, and in so doing, we intend to increase the ridership substantially. Next slide, please. Capital program is next. So next slide, we'll start with airport station rehab. We didn't get a chance to summarize with you after we had done this, so we completed the six-week closure of airport station to conduct rehabilitation work from April 8th to May 19th. We completed the demolition and the reconstruction of the platform; we put the terrazzo flooring in. We put in -- replaced the tactile warning strips on the platform edges, replaced joint ceilings, we painted the walls. We rehabilitated one of the escalators, and we've started construction of one of the new elevators as well; all of this inside of the six weeks. We're finalizing the design and construction details for the new canopy that will be placed, and it'll match the two existing canopies at the airport over North and South terminal roadways. This September 24th, we're going to have a mosaic tile viewing in the main concourse as you come down the escalator at MARTA, so we have just behind,

in the center photograph there, behind the gray wall, there's going to be a reveal for the Mosaic that will be reviewed on the 24th of September. I will point out that during the closure, MARTA did provide a shuttle service to the airport 22 hours a day from the airport to College Park Station. And we served about 320,000 riders over the 42-day period. And we're pleased with the progress today. The center photograph tells you what the station looks like, a lot more similar to the actual airport itself and, on the lower right, you can also see what the subway platform level is looking like; a lot better. Next slide, please. College Park is also undergoing some rehabilitation work, so we finished the parking lot work just recently. That included landscaping at the concrete islands, light pole improvements, bases and curbs, asphalt binder, and top layer placement, and parking striping of parking spaces. This is more than aesthetics. We also included improvement of the ADA elements at this station. We previously had six ADA parking spaces. We've added three more for a total of nine. We've also added a new ADA ramp and a new sidewalk on Main Street. Next slide, please. A few pictures of College Park before and after, so you can see on the right, you know the larger, more maintenance-friendly paving stones. Gone are the experiences where these aggregate tiles are popping up and creating tripping hazards and aesthetically displeasing. You'll also see new lighting, benches, a new fencing, and if we were to zoom, you'll see more signage improvements on the station canopy itself. Next slide, please. Five Points is also being worked on. You can see there some of the things that have been done. We're replacing the platform pavers; we're putting in new lighting and ceiling framing as well. So this is part of a 50 million-dollar investment in Five Points at the train level and mezzanine level, and we anticipate that that will be ready very, very soon: long before World Cup. So, you know, there's been some conversation about will the upstairs of Five Points be ready before World Cup. We can say that's not the case, but the majority of people traveling through Five Points are now going to see this improved investment, this 50 million-dollar investment, and which will be a marked improvement over what you were seeing yesterday in Five Points. One more slide change, please. Another element of Five Points is the Advent Façade, and you can see the clear difference that the effort has been -- the restoration experts have made. The scaffolding is down, and we're now looking at the finished product of restoring it to its formal grandeur, and you can also see down there some of the new flooring and tiling also being placed in the station and even the affect of the upgraded lighting, so again, lots of work being done at Five Points. Next slide, please. Some progress on Cleveland Metropolitan. We're in the final design here, the expected construction is to start in Q1 of 2025; that's next year. With construction duration of about 15 months for the ART portion of the project. We're currently in a collaborative posture with the ATL DOT in an innovative delivery effort to put more requirements into the bid so that we generate more interest and, therefore, more bidders. I'm expecting a better competitive process for doing that. So we would be bringing several ATL DOT projects into the bid for Cleveland, and we expect that to very positive results. Next slide. The I-285 express lane transit study is moving along well. This continue -- we're continuing to work alongside GDOT on this express lane's program. Our team attended the GDOT open houses to receive feedback from local residents and as well as a number of local events along the corridor to hear public opinion on the matter. We'll begin a more robust external outreach later in Q4 with cost and timing analyses. Special thanks here to Mr.

Bob Ellis for his contributions and partnership in this endeavor. Next slide, please. More work being done. The automated transit network pilot is moving. We're working with the ATL Airport CID to test a new transit mode in Metro Atlanta. It's a form of a personal rapid transit through an automated transit network, otherwise known as ATN. These ATN systems consist of small automated vehicles operating on demand between stops. We're supporting a pilot project of the Georgia International Convention Center to build a short segment to better understand the capabilities and operations of this new mode. So MARTA is contributing up to \$10 million of funding, while the private sector contractor is bringing their own funding to the table to complete the project. The Atlanta Personal Rapid Transit Solutions is the group that's been selected as a preferred vendor and chief in that group, is the leading technology provider, Glide Ways, so once they're under contract, design is expected to occur throughout 2025. Next slide, please. This is the Automated Transit Network Feasibility Study, not to be confused with the pilot itself or the demonstration project. This really is a larger look at what can be done with this mode should the pilot prove successful. So we're very interested as a transit agency to see if the pilot is going to be successful, and if it is, then we're very interested then in investigating the feasibility of several corridors in the airport area alone, in Fulton County, and in Clayton County. So watch this space, but we expect this feasibility study to start later this fall and last for about a year; and then we'll plan an update to the feasibility study following the conclusion of the demonstration project for lessons learned. Next slide, please. Speaking of partially funded projects, the next slide is the Georgia 400 bus rapid transit. That's for those that may not recall it's about a 13-mile corridor one way after our North Spring Stations, and we've applied for the MEGA Grant in partnership with GDOT for this project, so we're expecting good results on September 3rd. The (inaudible) CID Board adopted the Station Area Planning Study truly showing there's local support for this project, for this effort. It's a great national example really of MARTA working hand-in-hand with GDOT working together to build something that works for everyone. It's not just a road project, its access for everyone whether they're using a car or using transit. The success of the transit portion better improves the success of the core project because we'll have fewer vehicles on the roadways, so that you're managed lane metrics will be met because they'll be fewer cars in the corridor. So again, we're anxiously awaiting the grant award announcement that's due to come in October, and we're expecting good news also on that. Next slide, please. Some unfunded projects -- next slide. We'll start with the South Fulton Parkway Transit Initiative, not funded but still very much something that we're working on. We're continuing to advance two initiatives in the South Fulton area. That includes preliminary planning for high-capacity transit along South Fulton Parkway and along Roosevelt Highway. Both of these projects were envisioned in the 2018, 2019 Fulton Transit Master Plan. So along with the South Fulton Parkway, we look at several different modes. You can see that listed on the screen in Tier One that included bus loads and rail modes. We also looked at different links including going into the Douglas County line after receiving stakeholder feedback. The results of the analysis recommended advancing ART and BRT alternatives along South Fulton Parkway to State Route 92. Right now, we're finalizing the results of the Tier Two screen, which we'll recommend a mode and solidify the route and, as a part of our upcoming engagement, is to gather feedback on those results; so engagement is also resuming this fall -- fall

2024 with some focus group, briefings with elected officials, and pop-up events for the public. Next slide, please. The Roosevelt Highway ART, preliminary planning for the transit along Roosevelt Parkway continues as well. That was also identified in the Fulton Transit Master Plan. The most recent update was 2019 to the Master Plan, shifted the mold from BRT to ART. So the project's technical advisory committee convened at Roosevelt Highway tour, corridor tour, on Friday, June 21st. Presently, we are finalizing the route. East Point Station is the northern terminus, and we're looking at finalizing the seven terminus. Engagement for this project is being done in conjunction with the South Fulton Parkway Transit Initiative as the corridors are contiguous. Next slide, please. In other MARTA news -- next slide. Just last week we were proud to reveal the John Lewis Bus Wrap -- I spoke about on the opening slide. This is really to celebrate Atlanta's essential role in the Civil Rights Movement and to highlight the intersection of transportation and equity. We've been rolling out specially designed wrap busses over the year. You may remember that we did one for Dr. King and Coretta Scott-King. We also did one for Juanita Jones Abernathy. And then on Thursday, September 12th, we just unveiled this one for Congressman John Lewis. The event was held in conjunction with a voter registration drive at our College Park MARTA Station. The county agencies engage with over a 122 people who either registered to vote or checked their status and ask questions and be in attendance. Thank you, Commissioner Hall, for joining us and making remarks at that event. And finally next slide, please. Just wanted to bring to your attention, you know, I'm very proud of the agency. MARTA was recognized by the American Public Transit Association just recently as being the top agency in North America. And so, this was based on a lot of assessments of what we're doing, what our plans are, the progress we've made, and the passion we've demonstrated for our customers and voted on by a panel of peers across the country. So it means a lot of things, but what I've noticed more than anything is it's energized, the MARTA employees actually doubled down and do more. So as proud as I am of this, I'm really proud of what's to come. So I wanted to thank APTA and to thank the folks at MARTA for making us the top agency in the country."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Greenwood, repeat that last statement slowly."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "I'm really proud of the folks at MARTA --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- no, no, no. What happened? You are recognizing MARTA?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Oh, yeah. MARTA was recognized by the American Public Transportation Association as a top agency in North America."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The top agency in North America."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Not the United States?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "North America. In spite of all of the criticism."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Yes, that's true."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just for the record. Okay. Commissioner -- are you done?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington followed by Commissioner Thorne followed by Commissioner Natalie Hall. That's a major achievement."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "First and foremost, congratulations. That is a -- as Chairman Pitts said, a great achievement and testament to the good work and, frankly, the leadership, so congratulations again on that. All of that looks good. I got a little confused on the Five Points thing. I think you said maybe the top level won't be ready by 2026, but the main area will be ready?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Correct. Yeah. Everything -- if you're on a train, everything you see will be done."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. And the only other thing I want to say is if y'all can do BRT and MEGA Grants in North Fulton, we want BRT and MEGA Grants in South Fulton."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Well, that is a continued discussion that we're having right from the beginning, so we're not losing sight of South Fulton."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. My office did get an update, so thank you for that update and hopefully we can circle back and just go through it. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah, I just wanted to congratulate you on your award. I didn't know that. That's very impressive, and I'm glad you're here in Fulton County and the other counties, surrounding counties. Is there anything in particular, you know. You had these two projects that are kind of outstanding. Do we need to kind of advocate for those in this next legislative season, or is that more federal type funding, or both?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Yes. When it comes to funding, MARTA is always in a position to apply for federal funding provided we have local funds to match."

So, you know, whenever an official in the local county offers to assist, we're all in for that. We'll contact you through the MARTA office and talk more about, you know, what you're able to do and what you may be able to do to advocate for local funds."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. And is there any other projects besides these two that you can think of? Are there any smaller ones or?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "No."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Thank you."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I do want to say congratulations, but I also want to say thank you because you have done a lot in a very short period of time. And you came in during a very difficult time following the loss of the previous CEO. And so, I want to thank you because there's a lot of work that you've done, not only in my old district, but within the new district, and we see a lot of that in this presentation today. Thank you so much."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, CEO, MARTA: "Thank you, Commissioner. I appreciate that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Other comments?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Thank you, Mr. Greenwood. We'll see you next quarter."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "24-0592, Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority Quarterly Update."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts, distinguished Commissioners. My name is Jevon Gibson and I'm the CEO of the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority, and I'm here to give you an update. I'm also joined by Pastor Eric Thomas who's the secretary of our Board of Trustees, my VP of Community Health Systems, who is Ms. Christine Wiggins, and our finance manager

Ms. Beverly Register. Next slide, please. I'd like the level set beginning by reminding you of our mission, which is through collaborations of Grady Health Systems, we want to improve strategies, and we're going to create innovative strategies; and we want to improve health outcomes in Fulton and DeKalb. Our vision is really to be a resource for creative solutions that support the delivery of quality and innovative healthcare, preventative services, to ensure health equity for the residents of Fulton and DeKalb. Now -- next slide, please -- this term health equity is used frequently, and I want to sort of add some value by giving some clarification on how we define health equity. It is the fair and just opportunity for individuals to obtain their full health potential regardless of their social economic status. And for us, it's really -- it means the absence of disparities in health outcomes so that no group is disproportionately impacted. This means a level of intentionality, focus, data driven resource allocation to insure that the work that we do is properly assigned. Next slide, please. Again, really quickly, I want to remind you of our organizational pillars and our core values. You will notice that much of the work, all of the work that we do, directly aligns with our organizational pillars, and everything we do is threaded with our core values of stewardship, transparency, accountability, and professionalism. Next slide, please. These are our current strategic priorities. And I say current because one of the things that we do is we implore our continuous quality improvement plan. We are now about to finish year two of our strategic plan. And so, a part of that plan is taking a look at the metrics and making a determination as to what is working and what is not working, and ensuring that whatever resources we have, whatever resources and supporting agencies, particular Grady, and many of our partners across sectors, it's reaching the areas that it needs to reach and it's impacting the populations that need to be impacted. So our focus in our current strategic plan is access to care, social determinants of health, which are the contributing factors that inform health outcomes, things like employment, housing, access to food, food insecurity, et cetera; and then mental health, which seems to be a recurring theme in many of the needs assessments that we see. In preparation for our strategic planning process, we looked at needs assessment for DeKalb. We looked at needs assessments for Fulton, and we looked at a host of individual agency's needs assessments to make sure that there was an alignment. But most specifically, we aligned our efforts with that of Grady. Next slide. When I come, I like to talk about the outcomes: this work falls under VP Christine's area of community innovation projects that I'm very proud of the work that's being done today. 11,941 individuals in Fulton and DeKalb have been served through our efforts. Of that population, 1,505 individuals were directly connected to medical services with a 63 percent completion rate. I want to characterize that by saying we made the referrals. We then worked through our partners and different agencies to follow up to make sure that they were connected. So the referral is here's an opportunity for services, the linkages, here's the handholding, and the pass off. 63,387 individuals were referred for social determinants of health services; these are housing, food, et cetera. Of that group, 1,721 were linked to housing resources. Quickly pause then and say, in this current environment, we know what the housing challenges are in and around Atlanta and beyond. We recognize that affordable housing continues to be a challenge for many individuals. And housing is a precursor or an indication of one's overall health is huge. And so, this particular

opportunity is extremely important to us and vital to the citizens. Of that group, 77 percent of them were actually linked to housing resources. Not referred, but linked. Now, in the first two quarters, we had a 96 percent linkage rate. We are currently trying to use our CQI process and talk to our partners to figure out why it is that the linkages have dropped down to 77 percent. Is it an absence of resources? Are there fewer houses available, and the like; we're just not sure. Next slide, please. When I came last, I mentioned to you that we had started a community health worker program. I distinctly remember Commissioner Thorne mentioning it would be great if we can expand that to youth. I took that into consideration, and we've adapted the model a little bit that may respond to that for you. Our community health workers have an individually impacted 866 residents. Of those 866 residents, 2,494 referrals were made for health or social services; so 866 individuals getting multiple referrals and then multiple connections and multiple linkages. Of the 1,040 individuals who were referred to receive direct health education services, this is more consistent with some of the work that you have seen in the past when we talk to individuals and community, elderly folks, about things like cardiovascular health, smoking cessation, blood pressure readings, and the like. I want to briefly just mention, with our CHW program, we have sort of changed that model slightly to community health advocates. Our team is a small internal team, but the thought processes is if we can replicate this model in community with youth, with other individuals in community, stakeholders that actually reside in the neighborhoods, if we can provide them the same level of training that our CHWs have and then support them throughout the process, then we can be -- we can better serve. The premise is very simple. One can chase a thousand, two can chase 10,000. So it's a replication model. Next slide, please. Now, I mentioned that one of the things that we were trying to do was to strengthen the overall healthcare workforce, and we do that through -- we developed a whole recruitment strategy for EMS services recognizing that there were -- there was a shortage in term of EMS workers, and we're very proud of this. We developed a video, we developed a marketing strategy, actually shared which Chairman Pitts early on in the initial stages of the development, that we would target schools and universities and individuals who would typically not enter this field of work. We are proud -- in this particular recent quarter we have seven graduates from Grady's EMS program. Since the inception of this program, which has only been two quarters, we now 12 graduates, so I'm extremely proud of that. I wanted to quickly move through -- I did not include all the work that's happening with Grady in partnership, because I had attended to give a more data-driven report the next time I come here, but I kind of did want to allude to a couple things. First, I wanted to thank Chairman Pitts, Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Barrett, and in specific, County Manager Dick Anderson for coming out yesterday to the opening of the 1000 White Street Clinic, Grady Clinic. It was phenomenal, and -- I'm sorry, I've talked the whole time. Okay. Dr. Roshell was with me and sat next to me and gave some amazing opening remarks. For you, for those of you who know me and then have a conversation with me, realize I am very passionate about this work. And there are times like you, that you know that this is extremely difficult, right? You know, you have more challenges than you do opportunities, it feels like. And there's more need than you have resources. With that being said, there are times when there's a little bit of a light and that Grady Clinic that

opened up, is what I would characterize as a light. Myself and everyone that participated, I think, were extremely impressed with this clinic down on White Street. It will -- I just want to read quickly the services, primary care, rotating specialties, pharmacy, labs, mammo, x-rays -- mammography, x-rays, and all a state-of-the-art facility placed near the Beltline, placed in the West End, west side. I think -- I was extremely encouraged. I was extremely encouraged by that. I also want to make you aware that the renovations taking place in Cascade and Grady, our office in Cascade renovation is underway. It is on track, and they will be adding and expanding its capacity to make sure that again our health system is responsive to the needs of the constituents. Lastly, I want to make you aware of a couple of additional investments we made in Grady. We heard earlier a sad story about community violence. We recognize that violence continues to be an issue in many cities around the country and, of course, Fulton County is not -- is not -- is definitely vulnerable in that area. One of the things that we invested in with Grady is their interrupting violence project. It's Interrupting Violence for Youth and Young Adults. It's called IVY. This particular program is actually a clinically effective problem and a cost-effective program, and it takes people -- young adults and young people, and I think it goes up to like in the 30's, who've experienced gun violence. Who present at Grady ER, and it dispatches what they call violence interrupters. These are people from the community to help de-escalate the situation. They also provide counseling and therapy and trauma-responsive care to the individuals who have experienced gun violence. They support the families, and it has been my experience in talking to these people, they're extremely passionate folks. They're extremely caring. One situation in particular that comes to mind is you've all seen the Grady posters; I wouldn't be here without Grady. Well, one the violence interrupters was actually an individual who was shot and was saved by the doctor who now runs this program, and he is now a violence interrupter. So we saw an opportunity to make an investment to support yet again, support Grady, and what we characterize as programming beyond the walls. There is one more program initiative I want to make you aware of, and that is the Flowing with Blessings. You may have seen it on the news. This agency -- yes, this agency is providing showers as well as laundry service to unhouse individuals on Grady Campus. And the beautiful part about this is it started out early. I remember the first day of Flowing the Blessings presented and I watched it, and I watched it grow incrementally over time. And the premise is a very simple one: We just want to make sure that everyone is treated with decency and have an opportunity to be clean. Embedded in that is the opportunity to provide testing, screening, and other services. So what we're trying to do is watch this incrementally sort of expand and then overlay with additional services. That's all I have, Chairman. Any questions?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes. Several questions. Commissioner Barrett followed by Commissioner Thorne, followed by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I agree with you. The new clinic on White Street is amazing and definitely a ray of life, the services. Walking through there, I was reminded of all of the appointments I have yet to make for

myself this year. But seeing mammography there, I'm so glad some of that is being brought closer into the community, so it looks fantastic. The mural is gorgeous. It's wonderful, so props to everybody who had a hand in that. But I do have a question just about some of the programs you were talking about. I was noticing in some of the pictures and the graphics here that you have kind of the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority as a brand with very, you know small brands with the owner of Grady Healthcare System. And I'm just wondering it feels to me like that is little bit confusing for citizens potentially, in that they are familiar and comfortable with the Grady brand and maybe don't really know the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority brand. And I'm not sure that they need to, so I'm just kind of wondering what the logic behind that is?"

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Well, to be quite honest with you, I inherited the FDHA logo and branding. Past trustees branded it that way. I think they thought it was important to make sure that there was a distinct separation, recognizing that we are conjoined twins with Grady in and of itself. It is a healthcare system, and the FDHA is an authority that is charged with monitoring working closely with Grady and ensuring that they have proper assets and resources."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well that part I understand. But I guess what I'm saying is there are, you know, literal programs where people are getting their blood pressure taken and getting health training with that logo. So I understand the distinction for sure and the necessity for that from a business standpoint, but it looks like they're blending a little bit, I guess. My personal opinion is just my opinion, that maybe we want to be careful of that, because I do think the Grady brand name is very trusted, and, you know, I wouldn't want to see that diminished at all, or you guys maybe get less people coming or something because they don't understand that it's Grady."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Understood. Commissioner Barrett, can I ask you a question? So what would be a recommendation so I could be clear and I wanted to --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- no, I just think, you know, that those services should be at Grady, you know, offered by Grady, not necessarily offered by Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority, if that make sense."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Well, and I'm glad you said it, because some of them are offered by Grady, and some of them are offered through community partners that we fund: Aid Atlanta, Jerusalem House, and in any number of different organizations that we fund."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I do not have the answers to that question."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "But thank you for raising the question."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But without further study, I just have that concern that, you know, we don't take away from those brands either, by the way, so."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. That Grady Clinic on Lee and White is so impressive and such a beautiful day yesterday down there. They have this beautiful mural painted on the outside. It just welcomes you to want to come in and the facility is top-notch down to floor, lighting, finishing touches, everything. It looks beautiful and it's right next to your Monday Night Brewery."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Drinking brewery. We drink on Monday nights."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Oh, you drink on Monday nights. Okay. Okay. So it's right next door, next door to the Beltline. It's just a really impressive location. I'm so happy for the people of South Fulton that are going to have that in their neighborhood. And really, I love the community health worker initiative. Thank you for trying to incorporate youth into that. Just keep that going. I love it. I love the fact to somehow be a part of it somewhere. I'm a big advocate for youth and making sure that they start out in a trajectory of being healthy. You mentioned the blessings --"

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Yeah. Flowing With Blessings."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Flowing With Blessings. Okay. And they have showers and laundry services. I follow Georgia Tech on Instagram, and I noticed that their students were going around. They developed a mobile laundry unit for homeless in the area. I haven't had time, because I literally just saw it last week to follow up on what they're doing, but that might be a great partnership to get our local students involved in that care. I send it to my appointee on the Continuum of Care Board trying to get them to maybe work together, maybe to help them. He mentioned his church was looking at doing a laundry facility as well, but it would be great if we could get everybody collaborating together instead of working in silos. And the Georgia Tech students, you know, they might graduate in a year, so it would be great if we had someone that says, okay, let's keep this going or this works or this doesn't work, or we can do this better. But I can try to find out and send you some -- the little information that I know to maybe offer some collaboration with them."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "I would greatly appreciate that. I'm sure we'll be able to track them down."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And I just want to give a plug to Vice Chair Khadija Abur-Rahman right here. She has a walk/run coming up at our airport, so maybe we can get some people to come down."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "I didn't get an invitation. Commissioner Thorne (inaudible). Maybe it's coming in right now."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll make sure you get on that. But thank you for all the work you do. It's pretty impressive."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Listen, first of all, kudos to you. I remember when you first came here Jevon. And the same passion you walked in to this role, you still have it. I am so, so proud of you. I would be remiss if I didn't say that Reverend Eric Thomas, and myself, and Commissioner Hall were all at the Pinton Trustee School in Columbus, Georgia yesterday. Otherwise, we would have been there. I'm a Grady baby. It's plenty of Grady babies in here, so anytime I can sing the praises of Grady -- I know people get tired of me talking about Grady. I don't care. Grady saved my life. It saved my mom's life. It saved my daughter's life. So the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority, you all have done a lot. Sometimes people have been critical unnecessarily, and I want to go on record saying I am pleased with what you all are doing. I'm pleased with your leadership and the vision of the Board. I look for more great things coming. I am so proud of the work you are doing. You have not allowed any of that passion, when I first met you, to be diminished. And I love you for that. So continue to do the work and the invitation is coming."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "All right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Other comments or questions?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "None. Thank you. See you next quarter."

JEVON GIBSON, CEO, FULTON/DEKALB HOUSING AUTH: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager, you have two hours."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 5, County Manager items Under Open and Responsible Government, **24-0593**: Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. We do have a lengthy report, and we'll try to step spryly through that. As you know, and it has already been discussed, we did lose a public works staff member, William Wilson. Several of us attended his service, a celebration of life, yesterday. Very meaningful. Will will be missed as not only a teammate, but a very positive force in public works. We also provided EAP services to our public works team and, again, I ask everyone to keep them in their thoughts and prayers. As I said, we have a lengthy report today principally driven by a couple things in addition to our standard. You know, one is the West Nile virus coming on and the steps to mitigate that. Dr. Paxton will join us during this presentation; and then also, we have, at the animal shelter, an extraordinary number of animals in our care. So I want you to know both the drivers of that and what needs to be done to correct that. As you can see, Judge Glanville is here and also David Summerlin, so we're going to go to the ORCA progress report. I just want to make a couple of notes. A great progress continues with that. We're down to less than 10 percent of the cases that we started with; about 12,500. We're going along at a glib of about 1,500 a month being totally cleared. That will mean about nine to 10 more months, and Judge Glanville again is gracious enough to help give us the outlook from Superior Court. The average length of stay is down 33 percent from when we started tracking this, so that's very good news, 71 now to 47 days. And that does lower the jail population, which is at 2,620. It's up slightly over the last month 30 or so. But at Rice Street 1,628 is a relatively low number since we've been again tracking this. As I mentioned, Dr. Paxton will be here. I also want to, not only thank her for the -- in advance, the overview that she'll give, but also remind you that we have taken action at Royal Drive. That public health office has now been updated, so thank you for intervening with that. Prior to the move to 4700 North Point, we've also gone and taken a walk-through, myself personally, at 10 Park Place, asking the landlord there to make improvements and that's, of course, our largest public health office and where we are headquartered; and, again, thank you, Mr. Chairman, for bringing up a number of the issues, particularly in the lobby, and with the elevator service. We're now, I think, on a good path forward with that. You're also going to hear today, and it is on your agenda, the approval of a South Fulton Disability, developmental disability center. If you recall in the last meeting, that was brought up. We've been working for some period of time to get that contractor selected and that contract before you, so that will briefly discuss today of 475 Fairburn; and I think it will be very, very well received by those families, and Dr. Roshell will report out on that. As we go through all of this, one of the things that I want to make sure that we do talk to you about, of course, is the animal shelter. So I'll save comments on that until we get to that, but I also want you to know a couple of other things. One is all of the PMT responses for the jail rehabilitation project have now been received, so we have three highly qualified firms to begin to review. Number two; we have also begun the process of updating 141 Pryor and the movement of employees from 137 Pryor to the library, so that will be an

enormous project as we undertake that. And then lastly, of course, the successful delivery of the tax bills by Dr. Ferdinand's team that began last week. And lastly, the 2025 budget submissions were due last Friday, so much, much going on. I want to turn it over to Steve to tee up the issues in the first part of this and then, of course, again with Judge Glanville and David Summerlin, so Steve."

STEVE NAWROCKI, FC STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Great. Thank you Mr. County Manager. Good afternoon, Commissioners. Steve Nawrocki, Strategy Office. Thank you to Chief Judge Glanville as well as court administrator, David Summerlin, for joining us this afternoon. I'm going to start by taking us through kind of the high level updates of the program, and then we're going to turn it over to Superior Court who's going to present on the remaining cases, the remaining ORCA cases in Superior Court, as well as an update on our county funded ankle monitor project. So if we can go to the next slide. We do continue to make progress, as the County Manager mentioned, system wide for Project ORCA. We have disposed of 135,000 -- over 135,000 cases of the original 148,000 cases leaving us with 12,525 remaining. This has us tracking at about 92 percent complete. Next slide. Looking at it remained in cases by department; we did dispose of for the 92 percent complete. Next slide. Looking at our remaining cases by department, we did dispose of 1,474 for the month of August. We will get a detailed breakdown of those 3600 or so remaining superior court cases later in the presentation by Superior Court. We can go to the next slide. And here we have our dispositions by department for both the month of August and project to date. Superior and State Court continue to track around their average per month number with 168 dispositions and 231 respectively. The DA's office has completed all of their dispositions and are now prosecuting those cases, and so that's why you see zeros across the board there for the month of August. The solicitor general as well as magistrate court both saw a rather significant upticks for the month of August at -- excuse me, 624 and 451 dispositions respectively; and project to date, we do remain to the good with our variance of 5,194 cases. Next. Quickly, go through a snapshot here of our staffing ramp down by department for both the month of August as well as year-to-date. We did see the single largest decline in our ORCA staff losing 50 ORCA staff for the month of August, which leaves us with 95 active ORCA staff remaining. I do want to be very clear here on what active ORCA staff means and point out that this report was pulled as of September 1st. Active can mean either they are continuing to work or they have either separated or transferred and final paychecks are being made or vacation leave-out payments are being made. They are still active in the HR system, and that's why they are appearing here on the report. A good example of maybe some numbers that aren't quite aligning, both the Marshal's Department and Magistrate Court, they have no staff remaining working; however, because they're still working through the HR process, they are appearing in our counts here; but by the next report, would expect that those numbers go down to zero. And then worth calling out for all departments that still have staff remaining, workforces are down now below 50 percent of remaining ORCA staff for the rest of the program. Next slide, please. And here we have our justice system scorecard. First, the average length of stay in August was 47 days marking a small two-day increase when compared to July. Next, we have the

unindicted population which saw a three percent improvement dropping to 18 percent from 21 percent; and worth noting here that this marks the lowest percent unindicted since we began tracking this metric back in May of 2023. Felony cases disposed within 180 days saw a one percent increase for the month of August, going up to 29 percent while disposed within 365 days, saw a four percent decrease going to 60 percent. Next slide. And now, I'll turn it over to Chief Judge Glanville to provide, as mentioned earlier, detail around their remaining 3600 cases. I'd also ask the Board if Superior Court can take questions at the end of their presentation, and I will resume the regular report once they have concluded their portion, if that's all right with you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's fine."

STEVE NAWROCKI, FC STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "With that, I'll turn it over to Judge Glanville."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: All right. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, thank you for having us and to allow us to present to you today. I'd like to take a moment of personal privilege to thank you all, not only for the support you give us, but, in particular, for accountability court. It wasn't on this slide here, but yesterday from the statewide council of accountability courts judges, I went to that seminar in Athens, we have almost 1100 courts of people participating in those types of courts, so those are your drug courts, your DUI courts, veterans' courts, family treatment courts. We were selected as a model court for veterans' court, of all the courts in the state of Georgia and that's primarily due to the efforts that you all have poured into us, so I want to say thank you, to begin with, for all the resources that you have given us and continue to give us. Let me set the scene for this particular slide for you. Big picture. We started out with nearly 16,000 cases at the beginning of the -- at the beginning of the pandemic, and you can see from the numbers that have been presented, we have closed out nearly 17,000 cases exceeding the original target. However, the target has changed, to a little over 18,000, as the pandemic era of cases have been indicted by our district attorney, and assigned to Superior Court. So we have more work to do, and we acknowledge that. But what this number doesn't reflect is, that there for about 30 months, during the pandemic, we couldn't hold any jury trials. And then we came back in '23, at the beginning of the first quarter, we started holding trials in 1C, and we could probably peek out about one trial a week for the entirety of our 20 judges. And then went for certainly more and more as the end of the year progressed, we were able to get more trials back on track. So our successes in terms of what we started in May of '23, was a consolidating criminal jury calendar and that's resulted in a disposition of about 160 serious felony cases through July of this year. And those are handled primarily by our senior judges and staff, so that's Judge Amberson, Judge Dempsey, Judge Altman, Judge Grubbs, Judge Goger, and Judge Newkirk. The way that those cases get on the calendar is that Judge McBurney and the case management team and the ORCA team have gone ahead and they put together, and we solicited from our judges those cases that are trial ready. So those cases that motions have already been done and they are ready and proceed to go to trial, so our senior judges

allow us to handle those cases, and so we can also handle cases on our criminal and civil calendars. We've also -- what this reflects is we've held night courts several days a week to address bond hearings, so we've had over 11 bond hearings from March of 2022 through July of this year. And we've brought in judges pro tem to reduce the backlog hearing calendar from nine, ten months' wait for hearings to a standard three weeks from the date of arrest, just like we did prior to the -- pre-pandemic. So both the preliminary hearing work and the bond hearing work have had significant impacts on reducing the jail population. So in addition to these efforts, we've operated a weekly nonjury criminal calendar primarily to handle pending criminal motions, and this is important as these motions are often dispositive and they close out cases and put cases in the ready posture for trial. So the few examples I've given you have been very effective and I know we've submitted our budget. We've asked for a very small enhancement to continue our use of our senior judges and the resources to continue to reduce our numbers. What the slide specifically -- I'll walk down the slide for you now, is starting at civil. There's 221 open cases and 98 active or state cases. And what state cases mean are those are cases that for some reason such as the part one parties filed bankruptcy, and I can't do anything with it until that case clears or I've been given proof -- given permission by the bankruptcy trustee to try that case. Also, these reflects some of our business court cases who traditionally take longer because there's more discovery, more involvement, and those cases are what we consider to be complex, and they're extended for extended periods, usually at the request of the parties. The third category of family and domestic represents more than half of the remaining domestic cases are open child support cases. Now in 2019, we had a change in the statute of OCGA 9-1-41 Echo, which basically does two things. One, cases that are over five years old, and these are child support or other cases, they have to be dismissed. And for those cases that are under five years old, we're required to put those on the calendar and give all the parties due process. So we notice them, we give them opportunity to seek counsel, and we deal with those. So due to that change, we've had to work very closely with the State Department of Human Resources -- Human Services, to schedule and close child support cases. So in July, we closed nearly a thousand cases and we have three more calendars already this month, which will net out several hundred more of these cases being closed, and we're actively scheduling additional calendars to address the remaining cases to include vital records, those are name changes in other proceedings in October and November. So we expect to make significant progress by the end of -- by the end of this calendar year. In terms of the criminal cases of 875 open cases and 1,224 that are on judicial hold, if I could explain to you a little bit about what judicial hold means to begin with. Those are cases that ordinarily the defendant hasn't been located, meaning that they've absconded or they didn't show up for court. Or the defendant is not available. There's competency issues, or they've held in some other jurisdiction and that judge, by initiation on their own, or at the request of the parties, has put that case on judicial hold. The remaining 875 criminal cases are the more serious or complex cases. Those are your seven daily cases like murders, rapes, aggravated assaults, armed robberies, and the like. And they got to be ready for trial for judges to move them. So what I mean by that, so if you don't have for a sexual assault case, the serology or the DNA that is back from the crime lab, you can't use it to

proceed with that because you don't have a way to determine whether or not you can proceed. Ballistics is another area that we've had some issues with the crime lab and also is the availability of attorneys. As you all know, we have a lot of significant multicolored defendant exhibit cases in Fulton County, much different many other parts of the state, and when you have a number of lawyers being utilized in a particular case, like for example the case I was involved in, those lawyers are not available to do other cases that are the more complex cases. So that's what that 875 reflects. But we are working on those particular cases, and my colleagues are trying to, as much as they can, calendar those and get explanations as to why those particular cases are not trial ready at that point in time and to keep the onus on the parties too, so that we can go ahead and clear those cases. Of other note, just in our numbers each year, I know that Commissioner Ellis you asked me a little earlier, but ask me at another time, an event about the number of judges that we have in Fulton County. There are 20 Superior Court judges. While the administrative office of the courts conducts a yearly workload assessment, and that's how everybody in the state is evaluated to further consideration of new judges or new judgeships, and they're voted on rank to abide by the AOC. Well, as of December 2023, our three-year average, which is what the AOC uses, was per judge, average number of cases per judge was 1,374, which by state standards means that we should have 23.6 judges, so almost another four judges. We have 20, as you all know. And the criteria used for these studies is not considered all of the factors and complexities of the various case types that our court handles by far the most complex and civil cases in the state. So 23.6 is probably, as you all know this, specifically, Fulton County handles anything involving our constitutional offices, such as the Governor, or any of the other elected statewide officers. Any appeals from any state agencies are heard specifically in Fulton County; cases involving MARTA are heard in Fulton County, and the like, so those are cases that no other jurisdiction, but us handles. I've gotten my way through the slide. What questions can I answer for you at this time?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis followed by Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I didn't know if you wanted to complete the ankle monitoring stuff before we got to the questions."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "David Summerlin is going to handle that, but if you rather him to do that --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I mean, it doesn't matter. I mean, it might be -- you just got one other slide, right? Maybe let him finish and then take the questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Summerlin, come on up, please, sir."

DAVID SUMMERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. I'm going to be brief but able to answer any questions that you may have. This is a slide that's been represented for the last couple of meetings. We

currently, at least as of September the 1st, had a pool of over 1,100 folks under active monitoring, under the county funded monitoring program. I want to point out a couple of things. Number one, I want to let you know that we share the Board's focus on those folks that have been on the monitor for 12 months or more, and even between six months and 12 months. So those last three bars of 271, I think it's about 450 some odd folks that have been on for 12 months or more. We're eager and focused on those folks. We're actually meeting twice per month with the PD and DA to discuss those matters. We're going to be sharing information, triaging those cases. Finally to address those folks that have been compliant and have been on monitors for more than 12 months, but also those folks who may not be compliant and may need to be addressed in a different way. In August, we held a large calendar of over 70 positions. We had a calendar yesterday with a smaller, about 45 positions, and I think that calendar resulted in about 25 or so monitors being removed. So we are making slow progress, and I understand this Board's eagerness -- again, we share that focus on those folks that have been monitor for some time. You will start to see the fruits of our efforts over the next couple months. And I'm happy to take any questions on this as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Ellis again followed by Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yes, thanks, Mr. Chairman. And thank you both for the detail you provided. Just staying with you, Mr. Summerlin: just a quick question on the monitor stuff. So in the third bullet point down on the slide, on whichever side, the right side, so I guess my question was like, okay, what's -- why are we waiting until January 2025 to kind of get that rolling, but I guess with some your remarks there, you've sort of indicated that we are doing some steps. So what's the distinction between what you're referring to there versus what we're doing to try to take an active role -- more active, you know kind of disposal of this stuff?"

DAVID SUMMERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "I apologize. The distinction would be that we are sharing information and we're addressing these issues sort of ad hoc right now as opposed to -- as we get closer to January and our goal is to get it done before that is to have guidelines and processes in place that dictate that it would be a maximum of six months. But we are currently addressing those but they're on an ad hoc basis right now."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So this -- the motion on that third bullet point is that we will have a clear six-month, and at that six-month mark for everybody it's required?"

DAVID SUMMERLIIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "As opposed to right now, it's every episodic."

DAVID SUMMERLIIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. All right. Thank you. Just a couple questions for Judge Glanville and/or, you know, David, if you're -- Mr. Summerlin, if you're more appropriate to address it, that's fine too. But on the case stuff -- on the criminal cases specifically, you know, that 875 number, what's considered -- I mean this may be a dumb question, but what's considered a case? Like is the case which we shall not call by name is that one case or is that multiple cases?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "That's one case."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "One case. Okay. All right. I want to clarify that. And then on the 20 versus the 23.6, in terms of what you were notating on our three-year average and what that should generate out to, but you're saying that certain things aren't necessarily reflected in the formula, but are you suggesting that the formula suggests that we should have 24, or that the way that the formula is set up it doesn't allow for 24, you know, based upon the state formula? Do you understand my question on that?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "The AOC puts out the formula, so we count our numbers and, from looking at that, we should have 23 -- we should have 23.6 judges. However, we can submit our workload assessment numbers every year, and then they're ranked by the AOC. And that particular process determines how many judges are going to get -- judgeships are going to get funded per year. They usually, ordinarily, that is our legislature funds anywhere from two to four judgeships on any given year, so that's how they determine it in terms of the ranking and the workload assessment that's done. There may be other counties that have a higher need or higher workload assessment and, also, they look at several other factors like when's the last time they got a judgeship, and the like. And also speaking of judgeships, in terms of work, in our work, is during 2023, we had 19 judges. Our governor -- we have Judge Newkirk retired in, I think March or April of 2023, we didn't get another judge, Judge Alice Benton, until January of 2024, which impacts our workload as well. I hope that answers your question."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "No, it does. If I'm hearing you correctly then it could suggest we need 23.6, but there could be plenty of other jurisdictions that their formula suggest that they need -- they need more as well, and then it's a rank assessment based upon -- that the legislature goes through in terms of who gets what. Everybody's not always going to at, you know, kind of what their marker is, so to speak."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "That's correct, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "On the number of trials, and I know that we talked about trial data, and Mr. Summerlin provided me some data last year, I think the end of last year, for 2023, and I understand criminal trials are not necessarily the pure bench mark to look at in terms of like case disposal, that there's a lot of other stuff that goes on. But it's one of the measures particularly with some of these complex cases, I guess. So we have done 112 in 2019 and wind up doing, I think 106, if I get my numbers right from

that time, in 2023. So I was curious where were -- where we were on track for 2024, how many have we done to date?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "David, do you have those numbers?"

DAVID SUMMERLIIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "I don't have the updated numbers. I can provide those for you."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. Yeah, if you can do that in terms of the criminal and civil data again, so we can just kind of see what that looks like and what those trends have been. And of that 875 -- or the judicial whole numbers, I guess I had a question about that, of the 1224 competency. You said, competency -- they haven't responded to some other issue. How many of those would be, like haven't responded? Do we have a sense of that? We've got nonresponsive, you know, folks out there that are just --"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Yes, sir. I mean, if you don't respond, there's a bench warrant out there for you. So, yes, and I can't tell you the percentage of how many people that are bench warranted or, you know, are in particular status. So we put them -- we bench warrant you and we put you on judicial hold, so that we don't have to account for that particular case at that point in time, but it's still a case that has to be resolved."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I guess what I'm asking about, are those a majority of these cases or is that the minority of these cases or."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Without -- without kind of doing a little more research, I'm going to surmise and say they're probably the majority of those cases."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Probably, the majority?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So competency and others are probably not that high?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "No. Probably a smaller if I had to speculate that, yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. I would be interested to know in terms of like what's within the span of your control that's somebody picked up, not really within the span of your control. Some of these others were fully within the span your control, but they are controlled, more controllable, if you will."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "And due to this Board's assistance, we now have the competency docket with Judge Ingram. I mean, Shepherd's, and that's part of one judge -- a judge being able to kind of get all of the players together and follow those cases a lot more effectively, so."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And then the last question on that 875, do we have any sense of how many of those are jailed within our system?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "We'd have to get you a breakdown, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. All right. No further questions, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I apologize that you guys had to wait, but thank you for -- it means a lot that you're here and we can talk to you directly. It's very helpful for me. Back to the 23.6 judges, we have to wait for the legislature to approve whatever number, two to four; let's aim high and hopefully we'll get a higher number. How long does it take to actually get those judges in place?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Ordinarily, that depends again on the legislature and the funding available. So -- but it's customarily they can either -- of course, legislature meets in January, they can have that judgeship funded to start July the 1st, or they can have it funded for January the 1st of the following year. Customarily, they're usually at that -- it's usually January 1st of the following year."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And is our facility large enough to house more judges added to it?"

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. That's good to know; and congratulations on your accountability court being recognized as a model. I've attended some accountability courts, and it's an amazing thing that we do for people. One last question with ankle monitors. Last year we've limited it to 1,518 monitors as our max, and we're down to 1108 right now. But back then, we were kind of getting some pushback about limiting the number of ankle monitors, but it appears that we have ample room now with whatever you're doing; is that correct?"

DAVID SUMMERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "Yes, I think that is correct. We don't have any concerns at the moment. Currently, there's about 1100 folks that are under monitor. And that number is going to ebb and flow. It changes

literally every day. But we're taking 10 off, we're probably putting five or eight on. So, so far, the number's been trickling down, and we're going to continue to monitor that."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So that's a good job. Why would somebody be on an ankle monitor for more than 24 months? What would be a situation that might occur?"

DAVID SUMMERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "I think it's typically, it's going to be unusual. It could be based on the conditions of their bond, the severity of the charges. And I think in some instances, a lot of these folks may be unindicted for a period of time. And once they're indicted and the case is assigned to a Judge, the Judge may or may not know that that was a condition of the bond. They may see the defendant before them in court, and not really know that they're on a monitor. So I think that's something -- it's education and letting folks know that we need to look out for this, and we need to make sure that we're addressing the monitors."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And then, you know, I won't be specific, but there's some information out there that we -- we're locking people up because they can't post a \$20 bond. And can you speak to that? Is that --"

DAVID SUMMERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "I can't speak to it. I do know that it's certainly with these monitors specifically, I know that in the beginning, you know, we were, it was an effort to kind of reduce the jail population. And I do know that a lot of those folks at that time were not -- that was one of the issues. So I can't comment on current statistics or what the current status?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Well, great. Well, thank you for the work you're doing. Thank you for coming down here and presenting to us, both of you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other comments at this time? Questions? Thank you."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, FC SUPERIOR COURT: "All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager, who's next?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, FC STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Chairman, I'll --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Steve's got a few more pages to go through real quickly."

STEVE NAWROCKI, FC STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes. So we're going to move on to our jail population update. Can you go the next slide? Looking at the average month, average monthly population, we did see, as the County Manager mentioned, a small uptick in the average population between July and August. So we are -- we were at 2620. While we are no longer declining, it is still at a manageable

level, both overall and at Rice Street. And then, just for comparison sake, we added the date the report was submitted, the overall population was, 2,568. And most importantly, we continue to not have any individuals on the floor. Next slide. And here we have the chart representation, chart representation of the population data from the previous slide, just for your reference. Next slide. Our facility utilization across jail population is our next slide. I do want to call out, and just for consistency sake, with the Blitz update later in the presentation for Rice Street remain, the 588 that you see as beds available are -- or under repair, two things to call out, one, that's just a snapshot of 8/30, as of August 31st. The other thing, when Mr. Davis presents the Jail Blitz update, you'll see a lower number because his -- he's going to report a much more current number that reflects repairs, progress from repairs made. So that's why there's a bit of a difference there, but again, across all facilities, manageable numbers. Next slide. Here we have the inmate analysis of our jail population. Roughly, 69 percent of all inmates are ever indicted or accused, which is about 400. And then about 413 or 18 percent remain unindicted as of August 30th. And we can go to the next slide to get kind of a deeper look at that 413. So looking at the aging of the unindicted population by days in jail. About 82 percent or 338 have been incarcerated for 90 days or less, which is where you want that number to be the highest, the 90 days or less. We did add 58 inmates unindicted between 91 and 180 days, 15 individuals between 181 and 365 days. I'm glad to see we have reduced by a few more for the greater than one year, we're down to two. Next slide. And finally, we have our priorities. Our primary focus has been and continues to be, a smooth ramp down of project ORCA, as we are in the final months here. We are working individually with each department to provide as best as we can, real time information on the remaining budgets, as well as staffing information. Our HR department has been working tirelessly with departments moving resources over in a timely manner that are transferring from ORCA to general fund positions, so it's been a priority, and appreciate all the work from our HR department to make that a priority. And then, just generally, for ORCA and wrapping up as many dispositions as we can, we do continue to send remaining case, ORCA case information, to our prosecutors in the courts so they can specifically target those remaining cases. And with that, I will take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any questions, this segment? No? Thank you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Dr. Paxton, we'll welcome her back along with her staff, Sasha Smith and Brandon Leftwich. They'll be talking to us about uptick in West Nile, as well as reminding us about COVID and influenza and any other subjects. Welcome, Dr. Paxton."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Hi, thanks very much. Thanks everybody for having us. This is always an auspicious time for us to come, because we're about to enter into what used to be called the cold and flu season, but now there's so much running around that we now talked about is just respiratory illness season. And so it is my pleasure -- you know, part of my, you know, joys of working at the Board of Health is being able to nurture the next generation of public health leaders. And so what we're

going to do is we're going to present our update on -- it's not just West Nile virus, but also some of the other vector-borne mosquito-borne diseases. Some of you might have heard that up in Boston, they were advising people to stay in at night because of the Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus, which was going around, which, of course, has no vaccine, has no treatment, and has about a 30 percent fatality rate if you get it. So there are other things coming around. So we're going to have, Dr. Brandon Leftwich is going to give you a brief overview of that, and also the measures that we're taking here in Fulton County to control the mosquito population. And then we're going to move over to soon-to-be Doctor Sasha Smith, who's our Chief Epidemiologist, who's going to be talking about other issues, including the respiratory illness, illnesses coming on the pike, a little bit about measles, and we're going to touch on rabies, because we are an all-purpose Board of Health. So I'm going to pass over to Dr. Leftwich right now."

DR. BRANDON LEFTWICH, FC BOH: "All right. Next slide, please. Next slide, okay. So this chart in front of you all, I know there's been a lot of media attention in the past few weeks regarding West Nile virus cases, human cases here in Georgia. The CDC reported that we have currently nine human West Nile cases. Three are actually here in Fulton County. West Nile virus, it is rare because it affects a small amount of people. But however, about 20 percent of the people infected, they will experience symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle aches, vomiting, diarrhea and a rash. The ones who are most affected by this are our elderly population. And also individuals who are, we considered immune in compromised. Next slide, please. This chart here is some data we've pulled from the Georgia Department of Public Health's website. It shows a five-year trend of mosquito-borne diseases. As you can see, those numbers are relatively low, however, you may see the malaria number. Those cases are not malaria cases that were transmitted locally. These are all travel-related malaria cases. Next slide, please. So what are we doing here in Fulton County to mitigate the transmission of West Nile virus? Fulton County, at the Board of Health, we do have a mosquito control program. The objective of this is, of course, is to prevent the spread. We do this by surveillance, testing, treatments such as larva siding, basically killing the baby eggs before they're able to hatch, adultizing, which is, spraying is a form of that, and also public awareness. With the program, we have about 26 locations within Fulton County where we test for West Nile virus. We also trap mosquitoes, and they're tested weekly. This happens between what we consider mosquito season, which is from July to the end of October. When we test these mosquitoes, if any were to come back positive, what we do at the Fulton County Board of Health is what we initiate the positive virus response protocol. And what that is, is what we'll do is we'll literally put boots on the ground. So our staff will actually go out door to door to that surrounding area to notify the residents of a positive case and ways to prevent them from being bitten by mosquitoes. Whether -- we have a campaign called Tip and Toss, where we educate the public to make sure that they eliminate any kind of standing water in your yards. Make sure you have your gutters clean, tipping over birdbaths and things like that. We also will treat the effective area with spray through our mosquito control contractors. And we would do this by treating the area within a quarter-mile radius of the positive test. Again, what we do is we encourage people to just when they're out in these areas,

particularly during dusk and dawn times, to make sure that you wear protective clothing, long sleeves, and of course, using EPA certified spray, bugs -- bug repellent that is, to prevent the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes. Next slide. And this here, we'll be talking about the influenza update."

SASHA SMITH, FC BOH: "Hi, good afternoon, everybody. My name is Sasha Smith, I'm the Chief Epidemiologist for Fulton County Board of Health, and I'm going to give a quick update on some respiratory diseases. So during -- this is kind of respiratory illness season. And typically we use influenza-like illness as a measure to gage on the overall respiratory disease, what's circulating in the community. So the slide above is from the CDC website, and it measures the influenza-like activity for the level of Georgia, and that was towards the end of August, and it's still low. And I checked the numbers last week and it's still low. But it's just important to know that influenza, we are seeing some light activity. And towards September and October is where we'll see increased activity. Next slide, please. Yes. So COVID is also tricky, right? COVID is here to stay. We're five years in this COVID pandemic, I guess. Even though the public health emergency is over and individual COVID cases are no longer reportable, we have to use other surveillance tools to measure what's circulating in the community, and so wastewater surveillance is one of those. And CDC -- so this map was taken from the CDC. And it measures the wastewater levels for COVID, and it was extremely high. We have about seven wastewater sites in Fulton County, and all of them were positive. And there's about eight total in Georgia that's reporting to the CDC. And so it's important to know that we did have this summer wave. And typically, you know, historically, we've had the winter surge, and we've had summer surges, but nothing this high. So we really do have to stay vigilant, up to date on the immunizations, at-home testing, and also using some commonsense prevention like masking, distancing, hand washing, and staying at home while you're sick. Next slide, please. And so for the first time ever, we have vaccines available for all three major respiratory illnesses. I know previously, you guys have seen in the news about the triple-demic, where you have COVID and flu and RSV. Well, now, you can be -- now, they're all available this fall. And it's important that you talk to your local healthcare provider about your needs in regards to the vaccines. But Dr. Paxton wanted me to drive home that you can get all three with no waiting period. So you can get your COVID and your flu at the same time. Next slide. Thank you. Again, so for persons that want the flu vaccine, you can get as young as six months and older. Again, we do recommend that you get it every year. And again, the flu shot ideally should be given before the start of the season. But most people, you know, get it between September and October. Next slide. Yes, and as far as like RSV, so this is very new. So as of June 2024, persons age 60 to 64 can't get the -- a dose of RSV vaccine. And in addition, RSV is available for babies and pregnant women to protect the -- to pass on protection to their children. Next slide. And another vaccine-preventable respiratory illness that I want to talk about is measles. So we have seen an uptake -- uptick in measles cases in Georgia. It's highly contagious, but again, I want to stress the importance that it is vaccine preventable. We have not had a case in Georgia in four years. So when we had our first case in June of -- I mean, in January of 2024, it was very interesting. So what we're seeing across the United States -- next

slide, please. So what we're seeing across the United States is definitely a global resurgence of measles. Compared to last year in 2023, we had 59 cases in the United States. Now, we're still in 2024, we are seeing over 247 cases, and this is likely due to international travel. All the cases in Georgia have been international travel. And we're also talking to a lot of our state partners. Outbreaks like these just don't happen in the United States, because we do have population immunity. But again, with increased travel and traveling while either under vaccinated or not vaccinated, because it is a two-dose series, that causes this virus, this highly-contagious virus, to spread. Next slide, please. So again, the vaccination for the MMR is the routine vaccine. This vaccine has been around since the 60s. It's safe, it's effective. It's a two-dose series. Children can get it as soon as they turn one, they get the first dose and then they get the second dose at four to six years old. One dose of the MMR vaccine is about 93 percent effective, and two doses is 98 percent effective. One of the challenges is that recent CDC data is showing that MMR coverage for kindergartners in the state of Georgia is less than 90 percent. And again, to have a herd immunity, or that invisible shield, it needs to be 95 percent. So at the Board of Health, we're always encouraging people to get vaccinated for their routine vaccinations. And lastly, first of all, I'd like to thank Chairman Pitts for putting us in contact with LifeLine Animal Services. Yesterday, we were able to vaccinate about 20 or so LifeLine staff against rabies. As you know, rabies is another viral infection that's 100 percent fatal, and this is definitely -- and it's 100 percent preventable. And so thank you to Chairman Pitts, and please continue to keep us in those conversation in regards to animal bites and animal services. Thank you."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "So before we go to questions, I just want say, once again, thanks for allowing us to present to you. You know, I often get the question, people ask me, what keeps you up at night as a Health, District Health Director? And one of the things keeps me up at night is what we just started show is the falling vaccination rates. As you saw, it was even before COVID, it was really, really rising. I think it only -- I think the reason it dropped in 2020 is because of people staying away, just not getting infected. But now that we are no longer in lockdown and all that we're starting to see it go, go up. And I think for decades, we in the United States, have relied upon herd immunity because of vaccination. But now, we are seeing ever-increasing numbers of people who are not getting vaccinated. And we're starting to see the effects. Measles is a -- I'm just using, again, measles is so infectious. It is so infectious that if a person who has measles is in a room and leaves it, anybody going into that room for the next two hours is at risk of getting it. This is -- this is -- so it's a very infectious disease. And so this is the sort of thing that we really worry about that has lots of, lots of, lots of effects. So again, I just want to encourage everyone to be up to date on your vaccinations. Please visit our website, because we have lists of there, of where you can get COVID, you know, free COVID tests, where you can go to get COVID vaccinations, where you can go to get other vaccinations. We want to make sure that all that information is out there and available to everyone. So now, we're available for questions. So please ask --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Questions, Commissioner Thorne, followed by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Gosh. This is a lot. So my questions are kind of all over the place. Whoever can jump in. Last year, I haven't heard it this year, but last year, I had some residents that were concerned with the mosquito spraying. And is there a way of notifying the public when an area is going to be treated, so that if they are fearful of the spray going down their street, they can maybe stay in or relocate, that type of thing?"

DR. BRANDON LEFTWICH, FC BOH: "Right. So we'll notify the residents of a positive case. We can send that out. We notify the homeowners' association within that particular area. We notify the Commissioners and the Representatives around that district of a positive case. And if they have any questions, they can also visit our website. We notify them the time of day when we'll be doing the spraying. One thing that we do want to reiterate is that the spray is a hundred percent safe. It doesn't affect any pets or humans or anything like that."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "That's good to know. I think I, as a kid, I used to chase the mosquito trucks at the baseball field. So I'm not sure if it was safe back then. But, yeah, that's good to know that. Thank you. And so then the COVID testing, you said the CDC tested seven different sites around Fulton County?"

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Yes. We do have -- we have kiosks that are available. I'm not sure exactly --"

SASHA SMITH, FC BOH: "Oh, I think she meant the wastewater."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "The wastewater treatment -- testing --"

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Oh, the wastewater, I think you were talking about COVID --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- oh, yeah, yeah. I'm sorry, I'm sorry."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Excuse me. I thought you were talking about human testing, yes. So we have so we have wastewater surveillance sites."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Do we work at all with our Public Works department in going to our treatment facilities? Or is that too large of a pool in to --"

SASHA SMITH, FC BOH: "Yes. It's done through Emory. So the Public Health is not directly involved. But it was a partnership with Emory and Public Works. And I can't speak more than that, but I know that there is a partnership, and that's how the -- that's how they get the wastewater."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "But it is in our facilities."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Yeah, that's what I wanted to make sure that we do have it at our facility, especially since we're opening a new facility here. And then the falling 2020 school unvaccinated rate, in regards to that, I remember kind of being out west and seeing a fall in vaccination in measles in particular. Because I remember, why do they have all these things at Walgreens that measles is back? So I guess that's kind of hit here. I think a lot of it has to do with the distrust of the COVID vaccine. And a lot of people distrust, and so they distrust all vaccines. But I was wondering, when you're in school, do you have to be completely vaccinated? Or how does that work? Because I no longer have children in school."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Right, yes. There are still -- yes, it is still on the books that one must, in order to enroll in school, you have to present evidence of vaccination against certain illnesses. The issue though is that there are a number of people -- there are those -- are allowances for religious or objections and all that. And so there's been a move by certain groups of people to simply just, you know, use those. And then to -- and that's, that's, that's, you know, contributing to this. And private schools, actually, that's for many private schools are actually not under this, this legislation that they have to have people, you know, vaccinated in order to attend. And so we've been dealing with that with -- we've had to -- how many major, how many outbreaks? We've had about three or four measles outbreaks that we've had to work up. And because it is so contagious and it's so easy to be in contact, it has literally taken hundreds of hours of manpower, both for Fulton -- I'm also, also the head of the Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale District, and so also there, it's cost millions of dollars to follow the, you know, to follow all these up. And so anyway, that's -- it's been -- it's an issue. It's a true issue. People don't think about measles a lot, but it's something that we have to think about."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "As someone who got measles as a kid and still have a memory of it, yeah, I didn't realize it was so contagious. Is there a way to clean or disinfect an area that maybe somebody with measles --"

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: Yes. But the thing is, it is an airborne disease. And as I said, it's very -- it's almost impossible to run -- by the time that you know that somebody has -- is infected and is therefore at risk of infecting others, you're outside the window of being able to run in and, you know, clean things, you know, you know, rub things down. It's just that, that's just the way that these diseases work."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And a -- oh, is there something we left off here? Then you said that the travel, you thought it was due to travel -- people coming in, traveling in a lot of the cases."

SASHA SMITH, FC BOH: "Yes. So the cases that were reported in Georgia are -- and there's a press release from DP -- on the DPH website. They were -- they traveled to other countries where measles is endemic. It's not endemic here in the United States due to vaccination efforts."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So lately, we have a lot of immigration coming across the border. Is any -- or do you know if before people come across, are they treated with vaccinations?"

SASHA SMITH, FC BOH: "So I can't speak on that. But I will say, in our -- in dealing with the cases that we had in Georgia, these people had travel, like, leisure travel, travel for leisure --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Leisure travel, okay."

SASHA SMITH, FC BOH: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you. That's all. Oh, oh, one last thing. I just want to thank you for your help in the city of Roswell, Downtown Roswell with the grease trap issues that the residents are having. Thank you for your prompt response in that area, it's very helpful. It's helpful for the citizens who are having sewer backup in their yards. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, please."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Dr. Paxton, I want apologize for that interruption. I opened up the email from the Chairman, so it's really his fault. So I just won't go on record saying it's the Chairman's fault, so."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "No offense taken."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "But seriously though, Dr. Paxton, I consider you a healthcare leader, not only here in Georgia, but outside the state of Georgia. And I want to commend you for two great presentations. To see these two individuals, and they look to me to be healthcare leaders in the making. And I am so impressed with the presentation, and the subject knowledge and the way everything was done today. Not saying that you haven't done that like that before, but I'm big on mentoring. I'm big on looking down the road, because as much as I want you to be in place, Dr. Paxton, you've always got to put that great knowledge and that great leadership somewhere else for it to keep going. And so I just want to go on record thanking both of you all today for such a great presentation. We can clap for that. Also, Dr. Paxton, now, with everything good, I have to put a little something else with it."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Sure."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "If you can help me some kind of way, and my Deputy Chief of Staff, Sequoia Kirby, can speak more to it with you offline. Every now and then, my office gets emails that should be coming to you all. And I don't know if it's because they have mine embedded internally. But what we do, we forward it, because it's usually something having to do with immunization or something. But for some reason, they'll go on the website and they'll click or something, and it comes directly to our office. So we -- we haven't seen it as much as in the past, but it comes up every now and then. So if we can work together to get that straightened out."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address that. And also, Darryl Carver is here, and he's our Communications -- we'll put him on the thing. But I wanted to let people know, we did for a period of time, after we had -- we had to switch our telephone numbers and the other things that we had an issue. And so people are going to the old website, and they were getting, you know, things. And so, we have for the most part, corrected that."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "And so -- but if you do have any problems, do please let us know. But we're really -- we worked hard with IT. We worked with Communications to correct it. So now things should be coming right to us. But I'll have them specifically look and see why things are going -- maybe they just think --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Every blue moon --"

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "-- Board of Health --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Maybe that's what it is. Maybe they're going to an old website."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Yeah."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And they immediately send it. And we send it over, you know, we make sure there's no disruption in the communication. But maybe they're going to the old website. I can't figure -- every now and then, I'll get it."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "We'll follow up on that."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Thank you. Thank you for the presentation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Other questions or comments at this time? No."

DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH: "Thank you very much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, Sir. And I also want to thank Brandon for being so responsive. Brandon is the point person on restaurant inspections, pool inspections. So whenever you have a question, he's the man. And Sasha, thank you as well. Before we get into the animal shelter, we're going to give you a quick update on the Developmental Disability Center. So, Dr. Roshell."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. County Manager. Pamela Roshell, Chief Operating Officer. Commissioners, as you know, Fulton County has a very long history in providing developmental disabilities services to Fulton County residents 18 years or older living with developmental disabilities. And these services, historically have been delivered through our Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities at three locations, a center in North Fulton, a center in South Fulton, and a center in Central Fulton. However, due to safety and security concerns, inclusive of vandalism, break-ins, theft of equipment, the decision was made to close the South Training Center and look for a new location. And in the interim, those participants were transported and are being transported to our Central location. So today, I'm just providing a brief update on our plans to reestablish the South Training System Center. As the County Manager indicated, you did hear from a few of the families who are eagerly anticipating the reestablishment of this facility. Next slide, please. This is just a schematic of the facility. It is located at 475 Fairburn Road, which is a -- an existing Fulton County owned property, and ironically, was previously a Behavior Health Facility. When I spoke with the families last week, mid -- both of them previously received services years ago for their loved ones at this facility, and so are very pleased to see that this is the selected location. Next slide, please. Back -- go forward. Okay, backup. Okay. There appears to be a slide missing. So nevertheless - here it is. Thank you. We are renovating 12,600 square feet of 400 -- 475 Fairburn Road. And on today's agenda, today's agenda item 24-600, we are seeking approval for the contractor, Hogan, to rehab, reestablish this facility. We will replace all of the previous programming that was at the South Training Center, including all of the life-skills classes, the therapeutic and behavioral health services, as well as the health support. And again, this will be for our residents that are 18 years and older living with developmental disabilities. Next slide, please. Next, yes. So again, on today's agenda under Real Estate and Asset Management, we will be presenting the item for approval to approve the contractor that will be in charge of the construction for this facility. The contract value is 3.7 million. It does not include furniture, fixtures, and equipment or IT-related cost. The budget for this project is for 4.5 million. And the remaining costs will be covered with that budget. DREAM plans to move forward with the notice to proceed on October 18th. We have a kickoff meeting scheduled the week of October 28th. And we are planning a groundbreaking ceremony in October as well. The project duration is 275 days or being completed by July 2025. So I'll stop there and ask if there are any questions, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Are there questions? Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "How will we staff this facility?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Commissioner Arrington, the staff for this facility have been working at the Central location since that is the temporary location. We do have several vacancies that we continue to hold in the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. And we'll be staffing up once this facility is ready to roll."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, awesome. I'll just follow up with y'all. I love the -- so basically, we're going to take existing employees and put them there. We have enough, or we're going to have to hire additional? We can follow up on it later --"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Yes, sir. But we do have the base staff. All the staff that were previously at the South location, we retained those positions even if the staff left the organization. So we do have a base of staff."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And then what is the plan for the building that they're moving out of?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "So the South Training Center, I'll turn that to the County Manager. I know there have been some conversations about some potential reuse or repurpose of that old facility."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes. So there is some interest on the part of the city of Atlanta in that building. If there was some proper swap, which we are working on, we're going to bring that forward to the Board between what they would desire to do with that building, which I think is a police precinct, and some land that we need from them to be deeded to us. So I'm fairly hopeful that that can be brought forward and favorably considered."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: Yeah. I'm interested in that last part, County Manager. Dr. Roshell, if you I don't mind, I don't want to belabor a issue. But can you, for the record, just speak to the issue that we're trying to work out for the art classes out of the Darnell facility. I did receive a couple of calls. And I was under impression that the person did get the information, but maybe they didn't. But whatever, I wanted just to openly make sure that the listening public know that we are trying to work this situation out."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Thank you, Madam Vice Chair. So the bottom line is that any of the classes that may have been postponed, I

believe there may have been one at each of the other three facilities, have been fully restored. So any of the classes that are -- have historically been scheduled for the next block of training or class provision, which is October through December, all of those classes will be available."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So Dr. Roshell, there's no one that will not be able to take their art class on their date that they would like to take it?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you for letting the listening public know that. Thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah, just real quick. When we're -- I'm glad to see we're getting this moving within the -- the notice to proceed and so forth and to kick off. I mean, are we spelling out in the RFP that this time frame's got to be hit? I mean, is that part of kind of like the concept here that, you know, there -- there are some clear markers here that we want to get this thing up and moving and done fairly quickly?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: "It is. And I'll let Joe add anything else he would like to regarding that."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Joe Davis, D.R.E.A.M. Director. Commissioner Ellis, as in most -- or excuse me, all of our construction contracts, we place the time frame in the contract solicitation documents that becomes a part of the permanent record, and hold the contractor to that unless there are unforeseen change orders."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, all right. And we feel like the way that this facility is setup, it's fairly conducive to a fairly -- to be able to aggressively do this and get it teed up?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes. The selected vendor actually, out of all the proposers, did a very exhaustive review of the facility, particularly the existing infrastructure, so that they could feel reasonably confident that they'd be able to hit that target."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "All right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Other questions or comments? None? Thank you. Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. Just as Mike comes forward with LifeLine and our staff, let me say a couple of things. There, as you know, we have a world-class Animal Services Facility that we opened at the end of last year. It has a optimal capacity at the upper end of 375 dogs and 99 cats. Not sure we didn't make that 100, but for whatever reason, that's -- those are the numbers. What we have found is there are national trends operating against this. So the number of animals nationwide lingering in shelters based on information that we got some -- from some of the consultants that we work with is 1.2 million additional. We have about 100-plus additional dogs in our facility. So what we want to do today is, number one, make sure that you're aware of what these trends are, and then what the result on our center is. Number two, we want to -- we've asked Mike to kind of organize this effort with all of us being included in a weekly meeting. We want you to know what our plan is over the next 90 days or so by end of year to get down to a targeted level. And number three, perhaps most importantly is ask your assistant. Because the best way to solve this problem is doing everything we can think of to encourage adoptions and placements. And we're going -- that's why Jessica is up here as well. We're going to co-market with LifeLine to the extent, to every extent possible using all of our channels. But also ask you to help us with the -- with this effort, because again, more information, I think, to the public around responsible pet ownership and adoptions in the near term will be very helpful. But at some level, we've got to get to a manual -- manageable population. So again, Mike is going to step us through the charts. But again, Vern Sawyer, who is on our staff, and is really the Animal Services expert that we have on staff. Joe Barasoain, as you know it, reports to in Emergency Management. Rebecca Guinn is the CEO of LifeLine, and then, of course, Jessica, you know. So Mr. Chairman, with that, we're going to run through these. But this is really the most critical thing that we had on the agenda today is our Animal Services Shelters. Go ahead, Mike."

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. Mike Rowicki, Strategy Performance Management Office. So today, what I'm going to walk you through is actually some basics. A little bit of background that we're going to go through, some national trends. And then we're going to go through the stats on what the Shelter currently looks like. And then, as the County Manager mentioned, we'll actually go through what some of the steps are that we are looking at as a team in order to address those and get us back on target for some of our items. So this first slide, what I'd like to give to you is a little bit of background on the needs assessment that was done on the animal shelter. In that, there were certain assumptions that were made that would actually influence the population. Those assumptions that were done back in 2019, and now we have this great new shelter that is open, now we're actually seeing what those, what assumptions are actually coming true and what assumptions are not. The first one is that there would be a 10 percent growth in intake due to the new facility. Again, people would be more comfortable if they are thinking about dropping off their dogs as to a new facility care for that dog. So there may be an increase in that as they

looked at. The second one was the average length of stay for dogs would be reduced down to 10 days. That was the assumption. Currently, as we look through the stats later on in the presentation, you'll see that we have not met that assumption, and it is not correct at this point in time. It may be in the future, but at this point it is not. The third item as an assumption was is that overall adoptions would increase by 15 percent. That would be based on people wanting to come and see this new great facility, feeling what this is facility actually looks like, getting comfortable with seeing the dogs. But again, I don't believe that that has come to fruition for that assumption at this point in time. The fourth is actually an increase of transfers of dogs or cats or other animals out to other shelters across either the state or the country to help us reduce and control our pet population. The fifth assumption that they actually have as a group with the consultants and staff was that one of the critical programs that we were going to have to have in place was the spay and neutering program in order to achieve and maintain our animal population. Next slide, please. As part of that needs assessment, they actually did a projection back in 2019. This graph actually shows you what the population might look like if no changes were made. And that is the top line, which is that orange area. That actually had the population going up to about 625 dogs or more, if we did know changes, and those assumptions did not come true. Then there's also, as part of this graph, the area in blue is. As you can see from the bottom, if you did the increase in adoptions, if you did the increase in transfers, the increase in spay and neutering, and reduce the length of stay, then that population would actually reduce down to what we have actually as our target of 376, for those numbers. And then later on in the presentation, we'll show you how we've actually are meeting some of these numbers in our statistics. Next slide, please. So as the County Manager mentioned, currently, according to national records from the shelter animal count national database, there are about 1.2 million animals that are lingering in our shelters that have been building up over several years. This is actually having an impact on what it is that we can do as a county in dogs and length of stay that they're staying in our shelters. Again, we're looking at transfers out. Those transfers out may not take as readily or people may not be able to take those animals because they actually are running at full -- at full capacity or overcapacity in other parts of the country where we might -- or state where we might transfer dogs to, or cats. Next slide. Some of the other items that are here for the shelter count report are that the total number of dogs adopted in 2023 are still at about 108,000 fewer than there were back in 2019. So again, not as many adoptions are occurring, again, increasing the population overall across the country for shelters. Transfer rates have decreased. Again, if people are operating at capacity or above capacity, they're not as readily available to take additional dogs or cats that we could transfer them to. So that has actually decreased from 16 percent in 2019 to 12 percent in 2013 -- 2023, sorry. The return to ownership, these are dogs or cats or other animals that may have been picked up by field services or for some other reason, are found and turned in as strays. Once identified they're as having an owner, there has been a reduction in the rate from 18 to 16 percent in the people that are actually coming to pick up their animals that they had at that point in time. The fourth item is the 2023 dog trend. So in 2023, according to this national reporting database, 3 percent more dogs entered shelters than left. Again, that is -- overall, what that's going to do is increase

our population, and that has resulted in overall, 107,000 dogs that are still in the shelter at the end of the year for us overall. Next slide, please. So what we now want to talk to you about is what does our current population look like. And we want to start off with the total animal population. And this population actually includes the animals that are in the shelter, as well as animals that are in foster care. Our provider with LifeLine and for Animal Services, we do have responsibilities additionally for those dogs or cats that are in foster care. So we want to include that as a total population that we're dealing with, and that is, as of September 11th, was 1,162 dogs and cats. Of that, we have 610 that are currently in the shelter. We have a total target according to the needs assessment. And what our -- what the shelter was built upon was to get to 475 as the maximum that we'd be able to handle. Currently, that 610 is broken up into 478 dogs and 132 cats. And so -- and we have a target of 376 dogs, and you're at 478. Again, you're a little over a hundred over. And when you have a target of 99 cats, and you're at 132 -- 132, you're 28 percent over that population overall for the shelter in each of those animals. Of that animal population, those that are in foster, which are still being managed by our team, we have 552 animals that are in foster. So that means some family has taken them in, is working with them, and we are still providing some type of supportive services to that family. Average length of stay for our animals, for dogs, we currently are at 26.2 days, and the assumption was we would be down to a target of 10 days. So dogs are staying longer. That projection on how we get dogs in and out is not actually working at this point in time. And some of those influences are those national trends. For the length of stay for cats, we're at 8.4 days. We have a target of 10, so we're doing good on the cats at this point in time. Total intakes for the year at the shelter are 6,038 as of this date. That is a lot of animals coming in and out. 4,244 of those are dogs, 1,692 are cats. One of the good things in stats that we do have is that live outcomes of those animals that are coming in for our intake, we're at 5,010. And we have a save rate of 89 percent. And from a national level, that 90 percent goal, which is right where we're at, is actually where we want to shoot for is that 90 percent or greater. Non-live outcomes, which could be euthanasia, it could be that something was wrong with the health of the dog, those are at 668, as of total for this year. Okay, next slide. What we also wanted to do is take some of those national standards or outcome measures that people are looking at and see how we compare. So what this chart actually shows is how we're doing on our dog intakes, and this is specifically dogs, no other animal at this point. So as we intake those dogs, they're classified, or how they're taken in. This compares the national standard, what we look like as to shelters that are in the South Atlanta region of the country, and what Fulton County looks like in orange. So for strays, those people that are coming in and intake and reporting them as strays, we're at 78.2 percent as compared to the national and the southern region of the states. That may be due to several reasons. People may just -- we take it as, people are reporting these as strays that may be their own animals, but they're embarrassed by that, or it could be other reasons why they're not reporting that correctly. But we're at a higher level than that nationally. For surrenders, where people are actually admitting and surrendering their own animals, we're at 8.4 percent, where nationally, it is 21.4 or 24 percent for the south. Again, we're lower there, so that's why we kind of think that there's some give and take as to strays and surrenders. For transfers and which are --

we're taking animals from other shelters, 5.1 percent nationally, 4 percent for the South, and 0.5 percent for us. So we're only taking in a very small amount, because, again, our population is above where we need to be at, which limits our resources to provide to others. Seized animals, which are animals that are through field services, are seized for some purpose or reason. We -- nationally, there's 12 percent, for the South it's 15 percent. And we're right there in the middle at 12.9, so we're about to average for the seizures. Next slide, please. For those intakes for the dogs, what we actually do is classify those into adoptions, whether we transfer them out to another facility, we reclaim, or that means the owners come back and reclaim their animal, or there is euthanasia. So for adoptions, we're at 46.4 percent overall, according to this as of July 2024. Again, we're kind of right in line with the national and southern regions. Transfers out, we are at 22.9, and we are a little higher, so we are transferring more dogs out than we would be transferring in, which again, that helps us if we have the ability to work with our partners to get those animals to other locations that can take them. Reclaims with people actually taking their animals back nationally, that's at 21.7 percent. We're at 16.9 percent, which really means that less people are coming in without -- with our animals to actually reclaim them has their own. So there may be reasons for that, we don't always know the reason, but there is a trend on that. Euthanasia, which is a good trend for us, we're at 11 percent at this point in time. National trend is 13.8 percent, so we're doing better with keeping our animal alive and hitting that save rate overall as an organization. Next slide. So one of the things the County Manager mentioned is that we have started setting up weekly meetings with LifeLine Animal Services and the Executive Team. And kind of one of the things that we're doing is we're trying to set out what are going to be all of our performance goals, where we've been at, what's the best case scenario we can look at, what's the worst case scenario. So what we did is actually provide you some current stats on where we're actually at in terms of what we performed at the top performance for 2024, here to date. And you can see, adoptions were at 15, transfers 22; reclaims, we're at 20 percent; euthanasia or died in care, 12 percent. And again, that foster care, which is a large part of our populations, has stayed about 41 percent. If we can get everything optimized and we think what the best case would be if we get a 90 percent save rate, we think that we would get to 57 percent adoptions, 25 percent transfers to other outside organizations, reclaims would be at 18, euthanasia or dying in care would be reduced down to 10. And then our foster care would still stay at that 41 percent. And again, when I look at the foster care, I'm amazed at what -- what that number is, and how people are committed to that. Worst case scenario would be that our save rate actually goes down to 80 percent. So that would still kind of keep our adoptions at 50 percent, at what we kind of have been doing at our best case. Transfers would stay at the 22, reclaims would go down to 18 percent, euthanasias or dying in care would actually increase to 20 percent. And again, our foster care would stay the same. So those are some of the scenarios that we're playing with. And then we're always looking at, okay, how do we get to that best case scenario? What are our options? And what can we compare to do that? So we're going to go through the next slide. So we have actually sat, as we talked about earlier, our target for dogs is 376. We don't know if we'll be able to get to this by November. But hopefully, we'll get to it by the end of the year.

But our November target is to get down to 400 dogs inside of the shelter. And how we're going to do that in steps that we're looking at as a team is again, look at all the intakes, the outcome statistics that we've kind of been looking, analyze those and each week, look and say, okay, what can we do? What is it that's trending? What did we see? Then that placement team from LifeLine in Animal Services is going to look at that net intake and determine which dogs are urgent, which dogs are in most need of getting out of the shelter that we can actually look at, market, push them to the public. And again, as the County Manager, with your help, actually help get those animals out to -- and get adopted from the shelter. Then we'll actually look at those updates daily. Those updates and numbers are going to be posted through either the website and through our dashboards that we're creating. Next slide, please. So again, the objective will be that each week, we're going to reduce that population of dogs by five to ten dogs. Off to the right-hand side is what our targets are set for each week as they go down to reach by the end of October, that 400 from the beginning of November. And then hopefully by the new year, we'll get down to that 375, as a number. And this all depends on the intake. So if there is a spike in intakes, there's a case that actually comes up where many dogs are either surrendered or there's a cruelty case that can influence us, so we'll have to adjust accordingly as we go through the data and the numbers. We also want to mention that we know that sense of urgency and placement for specific dogs is important to our marketing tools and how we look at that. But we also think about any dog that leaves that shelter, or any cat or animal is important to us, that actually helps us to reach our target. So any way that we can do and any assistance that you can provide to us help us reduce that population actually gets us to where we need to go. And I know that personally, just so you guys know, I actually have a dog. I have three dogs, a cat, three of those are actually rescues. So I know what it is like to take those, I've fostered before. So anything we can do to help that would actually help us and help the public when employees or citizens can give us in getting those placements is greatly appreciated. And then if the -- which you don't really want to talk about is that if the overall population, we can't reduce it by that five to ten per week through live outcomes, urgent dogs that remain in the shelter, there is a possibility of increased euthanasia. Again, that is a last resort for us. We try every effort to do anything else. But that may be the cases in some of the things that we look at and recommend as we go forward. Next slide. So next steps, again, we have established those weekly meetings. We have -- we will consistently do that until we hit our targets with our partners to ensure that, again, those are all met. We are looking at items each week as ideas. Yesterday, we met, and we are looking at what would it take for us to actually put a communication plans together. We have to -- might have to stop intakes except for critical or emergency situations in order to get the population down to the standards and the targets that we need to. That is an option that we are looking at, and the team is coming back to us next Tuesday with a plan on that and when we will implement that. Finalization of all of our dashboards from the shelter, Animal Services and LifeLine use PET Point as the system for us, and we're pulling that data. So therefore, we'll all be talking from where we're talking, this is a date and time that we're looking at these numbers. We're all going to talk from the same talking points, numbers to make sure we're all on the same page on that. We actually have also developed, and

we have a draft that we started to review yesterday on action plans, policies and procedures that in case that population is not met or is exceeded at any point in time, what would be the steps that we do. So some of those will include increased marketing, which Jessica will be here to talk to you about. In terms of adoptions and how we can push that, again with your help, the citizens or any other resources we have to do that. That would also trigger LifeLine, LifeLine and staff to hold weekly meetings any time that target is exceeded. We will also have the discussion on is there a need for increased euthanasia at that point in time depending on the circumstances. But again, that is a last resort for us. And then as we're being creative, anything else that we can do. If something has changed the market, there's something else that we see in terms of certain pets, we'll look at that and take any other actions needed. The other items that we're reviewing each week are, we review the facility, is there anything wrong with the facility, how it works, any related issues, and make sure that it is optimized for all the pets and animals that we have at that point in time. Next slide. So what I'm going to do now is I'm going to turn this over to Jessica Corbitt from External Affairs. And she's going to go through some of our communication plan ideas for how we address, again, increase some of those targets that we have."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Mike. Good afternoon, Commissioners. As we've heard these challenges about our animal population, our pathway to success is really about human behavior and about influencing some of that behavior. So I'm not going to go over every single word on the slide. But essentially, what we are looking at is a plan to first leverage every communication channel that we have available that's owned by the county or leveraged by one of our partners, such as the 15 cities within Fulton County, to raise awareness of the issue, to raise awareness of the opportunity to adopt a pet, and to make people aware of some of the challenges we're facing. The second-tier approach is really more data-informed strategic communication, looking at some of the drivers. One, pet adoption, are there any barriers to adoption today? So one thing that the LifeLine team has provided us, for example, is a list of the adoptions from the day the shelter opened through this week by ZIP code. So looking at are how do those rates vary by ZIP code, what assumptions and insights can we make from that data. For example, a very cursory review looked like the ZIP codes closest to the shelter, not surprisingly, have the highest adoption rates. How can we reach deeper into the county to increase and engage people further in the adoption process. The second part of that is about looking more closely at the drivers for intake. So, for example, with stray animals. Rebecca, I learned so much from Rebecca this week, that if we see a straight animal in our neighborhood, if we're able to provide shelter ourselves for that animal for a short period of time using neighborhood communication tools, there's a greater likelihood that we can reconnect that animal with their family. So -- so looking at those kinds of strategies to raise awareness and really try to look at that from both sides. One, to increase adoption rates, and two, to look at some of the drivers of intake. And other drivers could include economic barriers. Access to veterinary care, for example, is a barrier for many families to keeping their pets in their homes. Also, food security, other kinds of economic challenges that families that may be facing are other drivers that could cause

them to have to surrender a pet. So looking holistically at all of that, we were starting right now as of this week, started a Pet of the Week feature in our communication channels. We would invite all of you, if you'd like to include pets in some of your communication channels, LifeLine has been great to provide those to us and help us highlight those. A next step will also be working with our partners, the communication partners, with our 15 cities, to invite them to similarly share these messages with their audiences. And I think that's a very short summary. I know we have some more data to share with you."

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "Okay. Can you go two slides? So the next item we want to give to you, again, we don't -- we want to give you some good news. And I'm going to turn this over to Rebecca to actually provide an update on an actual proposal that we got from Home Depot to help out with the shelter."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Thanks, Mike. Good afternoon. Thank you for allowing us to share today. It's a really important issue to us, and it's very gratifying how important it is to the county. I want to take this opportunity to really thank the County Manager and the Fulton County team. Because it is -- the support has been tremendous, really, for the effort for the animals of Fulton County. You should all be proud of that. One of the things that the new shelter has afforded us is increased volunteer opportunities. We've had a long-time volunteer who has been -- is -- works for Home Depot. And the Home Depot Foundation has brought this proposal to us through that volunteer, and it's some improvements to the grounds of the shelter. It's a really beautiful place, and we've got these incredible outdoor yards. And beyond that, there's basically undeveloped land, right? So Home Depot has offered to create some walking paths, so some additional areas for the dogs to be walked. That's a very popular activity with our volunteers. So some walking paths beyond the current outdoor yards for the shelter and leading towards there's also a pasture that we hope to be able to utilize as well. They're going to plant lay walkway and plant trees, 30 crepe myrtle trees. So it's really going to enhance the area where people are meeting most of the dogs that they -- that they adopt. They go outside, they are in these individual play yards. There are, I think, 33 playgrounds. And this -- but right now they're just -- it's the fencing and the ground covering. But -- but this will really start to make it a really inviting area, a gazebo for shade, it's quite sunny there. The county actually has just added sage hills to -- I can't say this -- shade sales to -- to our outdoor yards, we're in the process of doing that; building benches for the outdoor yard. Because it, like I said, it is a place where people can come and meet pets and interact with them outside of the kennels in the shelter. And then that same volunteer group, and we do this almost, almost every Saturday, there's a corporate volunteer group in the new shelter doing inside activities, which is making enrichment and toys. Enrichment is actually a fancy way of saying peanut butter and toilet paper rolls. But they -- we give those to the dogs, they really love it. And the volunteers interact with the dogs. It's just, for us, quality of life for the animals in our care is also a lifesaving program. And the new shelter affords this, and the volunteers make it possible. So this is really exciting. These are -- pictures are conceptual. We're still working with DREAM to -- or Home Depot, so we

can put DREAM to work out all the details to make sure this goes off, but hopefully, within the next couple months."

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "Okay, with that, again, just want to end with, we want to thank you guys for listening to us today on this one. Again, if anybody has anybody that knows or wants to adopt a pet, please send them to the shelter. Any assistance you can provide to us to help get those pets out, would be greatly appreciated. With that, we'll turn it over for any questions."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just want to thank you for this very, very detailed report, that we're making informed decisions. We -- you guys are really studying and that's encouraging for me that -- to trust what you're telling us. And I'm encouraged that you guys are having weekly meetings. I was unaware of that. We did -- you did mention, despite the high national rate of shelters being overcrowded, where do we transfer to? Where are those places that we are transferring to?"

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "So I'm going to turn that question over to Joe. If you want to answer that question as to where we --"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMSI: "Joe Barasoain, Director of Emergency Management. Good afternoon, Commissioners. Rebecca got more to detail. But we have transferred to other shelters, or other shelters even around even the state. I think Thomas County was one that we transferred to, and others. There's also private partnerships with other rescue groups that we transfer to. And it's -- you see, the number has gone down just because everybody's facing the same issues. We did a comparison to five metro areas similar to ours, to include Orange County, Charlotte Mecklenburg and others. And everybody's experiencing the same trends right now all over the country. The consultant animal arts that came in, they did a six-month, we're going to come back and kind of see how y'all are doing. They echo the same thing at shelters that they're working with all over the country. So we're kind of all seeing the same issues."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you. Thank you for that. I'm all over the place because it was so long, but the foster care program, you know, a lot of people can't adopt, you know, maybe travel, they have something coming up that's prohibiting them from adopting. But you have a foster care program. If you're going to foster a dog, what's the commitment there? Is there a length of stay? Is it --"

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "Can we have Rebecca --"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMSI: "Yeah, let me have Rebecca answer that. I'll come back up."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Thank you, Commissioner. The previous question, the largest transfer partner is LifeLine itself. And that does account for some of the -- our comparison to the national average. We operate an overflow center, that's our -- LifeLine's, private shelter, our Community Animal Center. Foster there, we have foster opportunities for everybody, including all of you. You can go pick up a dog right now. We do, starting with Dog for the Day, where people can take out a dog just for the day, they wear adopt-me vest and take them to different places. We have a lot of recommendations, anywhere except a dog park. We don't really want our animals set free in a dog park. But other than that, there are lots of opportunities there. We have a program called Weekend Warrior, where people can foster just for the weekend. Every Thanksgiving, we do a, I think it's called Home for the Pawlids, where we ask people to foster a dog or a cat through the Thanksgiving holidays, to give them that taste of -- really to get them some time out of the shelter. The shelter is a stressful environment. So even an afternoon, and we've had programs where we worked with Georgia Tech students, even just to have a study buddy for an afternoon that there, we participate in studies that show that that decreased the cortisol level on the dogs, and again, quality of life is life saving for the dogs in our care. So we have programs, any length, there's no set commitment. We give our fosters tools to help get those animals adopted, because ultimately, you want to get them out of the program all together. We have tools for behavior issues. We do still provide the medical care if necessary and food, crates, we can provide everything or nothing depending on the foster. So there's multiple opportunities."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I know in our old facility we were directly across the street from the jail, now we're a little bit further. Do we have any programs with incarcerated individuals to really -- to really stress or anything like that?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "So there is a program through Canine Cellmates, and those dogs do come from Fulton County Animal Services. But I don't -- I don't know the status of that program. I know there were some issues of the partnership with that program and the jail, but that's a -- it's an independent organization. And they do take the dogs from Fulton County Animal Services."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Great. And when I was looking at the stats, it looks like our adoptions were doing well. We're above the national and state average. Transfers were above; euthanasia were low, but reclaims, that figure was we were below the national standard. What do you think that the reason that we're that's one thing we're off in?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "So that's exactly, I think, one of the things that you could target, right? As Jessica mentioned, most animals are -- that are lost, are found within a mile of their home. So if an animal is lost in your district, for example, and brought all the way down to Fulton County Animal Services immediately, the chance that that animal is going to get back to the home are diminished greatly, right? So we're -- we have a lot of different tools for the public to use if they'll just go to website

and look at them, to help get those animals back where they belong. So that's an issue. If we can help change some of that behavior, and it's also, I think, for years, we've encouraged people, if you see a stray animal, to call Animal Services and bring the animal to us. That behavior has been very counterproductive, right? Animals aren't getting home. And now, we're in a situation where the shelter is really getting hard pressed to be able to care for these healthy animals that really deserve and belong with their families. So we have a number programs like that. We have a partnership with Petco Love Lost, and I encourage all of you to check it out. Google Petco Love Lost, it is -- it's a national database. And they pull all the animals that are coming into our shelter, and they put it in that database. And if you list your pet as lost, it will try to make a match. People still have to come to the shelter, but it starts to -- and you can also register your pet with Petco Love Lost. So if your pet ends up in the shelter, you'll get an alert, that kind of thing. It's pulling data also from Next door and the Ring app, think it's called Neighbors. So we're starting to build a network of community to help get lost pets home. And that's something that you can really help us."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Great, great. And we received an email that an owner who said their cat was chipped, that for some reason -- and I know we're not perfect, so for some reason it wasn't detected at pickup. But then later detected by the vet. But the cat was so ill that it had to be euthanized. Could we clear up or kind of explain what happened there?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "It was a -- it was a -- what turned out to be a neighbor that called about the cat. The cat was lateral, very poor shape. They had the cat in a box on their front porch. Essentially, cat was near death when the officer picked the cat up. They did attempt to scan. They -- there are any number of reasons why they might not be able to have detected a chip on the initial scan. We, as is protocol, those animals are transported immediately to the emergency clinic. And then the veterinarian there, the cat was in such poor shape, the veterinarian called our team and -- and asked for the authority to go ahead and euthanize immediately. So it was, it's very unfortunate. I called the owner of the cat personally. I believe that we did everything correctly in that situation. It is just tragic. And, you know, I'm sorry. But essentially, the cat was not -- I don't really know what word to use -- the cat was near death when the cat came in to our care."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you. Thank you for that explanation. And speaking of the clinic, it's been a while since I've been there. But you guys have a beautiful clinic to treat the animals down there. At the time, you had one veterinarian. Have you expanded that program?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "All right. So we still have one full-time veterinarian. We have the full-time equivalent in contract vets. And I think it's up to about two and a half. We hope to get it to three. So y'all have -- maybe where there's a national veterinary shortage. So that's -- that's something else that we're -- we're

combating with that. But we do -- we do have two and a half. And we hope to have -- we're budgeted for three. So we're always looking for additional veterinarians."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "What is this cost to spay and neuter your pet?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "So it depends on where you go. At -- we do have our own spay and neuter clinics operated by LifeLine. We don't do spay and neuter for the public through Fulton County Animal Services in part because of just -- even though it is a wonderful clinic, we are working with the 1100 animals effectively in our care, right? So there are -- and that has to be our priority. So we're providing wellness services to the public through that clinic, but not surgery. I -- all in, the cost at LifeLine ranges from, we will do a community cat for \$50 up to, I think it's a \$150 for a large female dog. I believe the average, however, in Fulton County is between -- if you went to private veterinarian, it's between 500 and \$700."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you. And a final -- and I know Chairman Pitts is getting hungry over here or something. I have access to a lot of used tennis balls. If you guys ever need tennis balls, you know, give me a contact. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Arrington, followed by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you for the information. I guess, my question is, what -- do we know how much it cost us per day to house and care for an animal?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yes, sir. It's average about \$40 per day per animal."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "\$40 per day?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yeah. I would have to do the exact -- the exact calculation for you, because there's some fluctuations with veterinary costs going up and food going -- food costs going up. So last year it was around -- it was around \$40 a day per animal."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. And then what is the cost to euthanize an animal?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Well, there's not really an additional cost to euthanize. It's -- it just, then you're no longer caring for the animal."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. I guess I may need some further help. How do we use euthanize them then? I assume that there's like some medicine or something that --"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- has to be -- just is given to them --"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: -- so there has to be some type of cost associated with that. And I don't know if there is a doctor or someone that is -- has to administer it. So there has to be some cost associated with euthanization."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yes, sir. There's a -- there's trained individuals that are provided through our Animal Care Veterinary Care staff. It's a controlled substance that's used for euthanasia. So it's required -- veterinarians require it has tracking through DEA controlled substances. So there are some costs associated with it, and that is included in our overall clinic medical costs. I would have to get back to you on a breakout."

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "We'll look at that and come back to you with a cost, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The reason I'm asking those question, I wonder if we can offer people \$100 to come adopt an animal, right? If we're spending \$40 a day to keep them, and we're spending, I don't know what it is, to euthanize them, why not just offer somebody \$100 to come adopt them? I don't know. But I think we have to, we have to know what our costs are first, right? That's -- that's first and foremost. How much does it cost to house, feed, and provide for these animals on a daily basis? How much does it cost to euthanize them? And somewhere in between there is an opportunity to provide some type of additional incentive to people for the adoption."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Thank you. We'll get you that information. I think that's a -- it's really interesting idea. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, Chairman, I'll try to be quick. First of all, thank you for all the work that you all do. Yoshina Bradford Colbert, which is my appointee for the Animal Welfare Board, already brought this issue to me. And she actually -- we kind of came up with some ideas. And just so -- Jessica, if you can help us, especially towards the end of the year. Any events I'm having, I want to incorporate an adoption part of it, because I think we've got to help you all. We are at critical mass with this situation. What you don't know, Rebecca, and I've never shared this with you. My office, my entire office, but especially my Chair -- my Chief of Staff and my Deputy

Chief of Staff, we get calls for animals, okay, that never get to the shelter because we find somewhere to place them. We've had a -- an employee, a city employee that passed last week, had two, I think it was a chihuahua and some other type of dog. But they did not want to surrender the dog to you all. They wanted -- because the person just had a heart attack, but was a pet lover. And so through my staff, my Chief of Staff and Deputy, they got on the phone and they found someone to take the two dogs, two different households. So what I'm -- and I say this not to glorify them, what I'm saying is, I'm on the impression that we're at a critical mass right now. And we're going to have to get very creative in helping you all to do this. You all know I'm a dog lover. And if I could have five or six dogs, I would, but I just can't. But I've got to advocate and try to help you all. Euthanizing the dogs are always a last option, and it's always a last option when it's more humane. You know, as a dog lover, and I get misty every time I think about this. I took my dog and they wanted to euthanize him. I took him back home and let him die with me. Now, I think that was very selfish, but I couldn't -- I just didn't have the strength. I didn't have anybody with me to go through the process. And the doctor told me at that time that, you probably won't make it back home. Well, I made it back home, he passed away at home. But the point I'm trying to make is, as a pet owner myself, I understand when you have an ill dog, you have an aging dog, you have an aging pet, and you want to keep that pet. But if that pet gets out, and gets picked up and comes to you, Rebecca, we know at some point, a decision has to be made. So no, no one, let me go on record saying it, and I know it's redundant, no one's killing cats and dogs in Fulton County, just because. Nobody's doing that. But if we have to do something humane, because they're coming in front of us, then I would rather for you to be humane with that. Now, on the flip side of that, anything that my office -- and I'm going to challenge everybody, whether you're in office, running for office, or advocate or whatever, let's get on the phone, let's -- dog, I think it's Dog Moms. I work with them. I'm going to ask them if they could start doing some more collaboration with me. But you all cannot do this by yourself. You can't. And so Jessica, please work -- I think I've got three more major things going on this year. Rebecca, please, let's -- let's put an adoption on all of that. Let's try to work it out. Because we are going to have to help you all get this under control. When I got the report from my appointee, I felt bad. Because I said, in all that I do, it's still not enough. And so I just want to challenge those that are hearing my voice, please get on the phone. Please call your elected official, your pastors, your emails, anybody, and ask them, can you place a pet somewhere? And I don't mean just place them anywhere, place them with someone who has a love for animals. Because we don't want any animal mistreated. So I pledge today to do whatever I can to help you all. And please hold me accountable. I -- you know, the report that I got, you all are really trying to keep from euthanizing. But we have to do something differently. So thank you for all you do, and I'm going to try to help as much as I can."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thanks, Mr. Chair. I'll get to the point. First off, I think it's great that we have finally gotten our Animal Welfare Board much more engaged. I had pleaded with predecessor, Joe, about that. And there had been a lack of attention to that. And now it's started, please continue it. Please get them engaged. We all appointed these folks up there because they have a passion for this, and I do think they can make a difference in terms of a coordinated effort around that. So I want to applaud that, and I want to just please ask you to continue it. If I read a data right, the stray versus surrender, we feel like we generally have those categorized fairly accurately? Yes?"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMSI: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So it looks like, you know, we're running at a stray rate that's about 20 percent higher than, you know, regional averages, national averages, et cetera; is that correct?"

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. Is -- and I think in terms of where we're running these targeted efforts, and we're running these efforts for PSAs, I think all those things are great. But how do we target the message to the place -- I mean, is it -- are the stray rates concentrated in a pretty, you know, concentrated area of the county? Or they --"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMSI: "They are -- actually coming from -- they are somewhat concentrated to certain areas --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. To the extent we can target that and have a clear message around it. And so that's, if I do the math right, it's four -- about 4,720 strays, and those are -- when we say a stray, is it, we're going and picking them up?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "It's both. It's both. It's about half and half. It's the officers responding to calls --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "-- and then the public bringing the animals to the shelter."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "So, okay. So if it's not their dog, it's -- and they -- and somebody brings it in, it's considered a stray?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Any dog that comes in, dog or cat that comes in without identification."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "And that they're not -- that there's no owner --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So we may not necessarily be picking the dog up, a neighbor or somebody else may be bringing the dog in, in terms of that stray category? And that's, you think it's about half that we're doing?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yeah. It's about half, generally. And that's the behavior that the County Manager is very interested in targeting."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, all right. Well, I think we're focused on that, look forward to hearing more about that. And then certainly concur with the Vice Chair, that we'll, you know, we all need to figure out ways, different ways to support this. But targeted data it's certainly, I think, can help us all kind of target our efforts to."

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMSI: "Commissioner, we did meet with the -- with your appointees. We did have a emergency meeting, just basically bringing all this to their attention. We've given them carte blanche, we're here to support them. They're carrying their own meetings. The County Attorney's office is represented in those meetings. So we are empowering them as much as we can. We're just facilitators, but they are truly leading their own charge."

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE: "And just as a comment Commissioner Ellis, one of the items that is important for people that so they don't become strays is, we also recommend that all pet owners get their pet microchipped, so therefore they can be identified, and then they can be brought back together with their family."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I will be very quick. Because I know we want to move on. But I appreciate all of you for being here and all the effort, certainly. And one of my -- for -- I want to sort of jump on something Commissioner Arrington said about incentivizing people to adopt. And while I think cash is probably not the right way to go, because I can see people taking the cash and then abandoning the dog. But that said, can we incentivize people to adopt with, you know, a year of free food with, you know, a year of free veterinary services with some of those kinds of things that are specifically around the pet itself. Maybe that's helpful and maybe that's more attractive. I mean, one of the things I think you mentioned Jessica, the ZIP code issue, right? And I think about that for my district, and I -- the further north we go, the harder it gets to convince somebody to drive down to the Fulton County shelter to adopt a dog when they can go, you know, over to Cobb more easily or Gwinnett or what have you. So I think maybe if we had some of those incentives in place, we could get more Fulton County residents from north, the north part of the district interested in driving down to take advantage of some of those incentives, maybe, just a thought. But also, what else can we do to help

people on the north side in Fulton County be interested in adopting from our shelter versus going elsewhere?"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "If you're interested, as Commissioner Khadijah was saying about, if you have events that you would be willing to publicize that are in your district, we could bring animals to those events as well. So just more exposure for the shelter. And then we could come to your community if it's too far of a drive, so --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I think that the more that we can do of that, the better. Even if it's just standalone events for that, I'm happy to go out and be there on a Saturday with y'all to --"

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Right. It's having that extra -- it's having that extra push because we've got a limited audience. So we're asking you to help us expand that audience."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, absolutely. Well, thank you guys for this. I know it's a tough challenge, so I appreciate all the effort."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Commissioner Pitts, I'd to thank you as well for the raised vaccinations for our team. It was really very helpful, and very good. So, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah. Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a question, because we have a pet family -- well, we had a pet family member in District 4 office. And my Chief of Staff was trying to get her pet into the vet all of September, checking almost every day. And there was not one appointment. And so are you seeing a need for more veterinarians in the animal shelter?"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMSI: "National shortage."

REBECCA GUINN, CEO, LIFELINE: "Yeah, absolutely. It's hard to get an appointment with a private vet. And it's hard for us to keep vets on staff. We're using a lot of contract vets right now. But it is -- it's -- it's months out for appointments with your private veterinary."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Colleagues, it's two -- Mr. Manager, you went over an hour, that two hours I gave you, so. And we're still not finished. So we'll finish -- we'll take this up after Executive Session. I'll entertain a motion for lunch, Executive Session, considering issues of real estate, litigation and personnel. Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

(Recessed for Executive Session at 2:04 p.m.)

(Resumed Regular Session at 3:02 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Madam County Attorney, items from Executive Session."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. First, is there a motion to approve the request for representation in items 2 and 3 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Let's vote, please."

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is there a motion to approve the request for settlement authority in item 4 of the Executive Session agenda?"

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

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Okay. And finally, is there a motion to approve the settlement in item 5 of the Executive Session agenda in the matter of Maria Preston of -- in the amount of \$45,000?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Bridget Thorne, seconded Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Let's continue, please."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "All right. Finishing up the marathon --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I mean, I know we want to wrap this up, but we've also got some pretty important stuff ahead of us. And I know we've got outside guests here. And I don't know whether they were on a clock or not. And I'm just raising the question, should we just take up our healthcare stuff now, and then come and wrap this up?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We could do that. Any objection, take the healthcare now? All right."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

CLERK GRIER: "Item moved up on today's agenda on page 7, **24-0598**, Finance request approval of the 2025 premium rates for the medical and pharmacy, dental and vision plans."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Page?"

CLERK GRIER: "7."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There's six items that all relate to -- six, I believe, right -- all relate to health insurance for 2025. And there was a request to remove one of them off. But I would hope that we would each of them."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Good afternoon. Good afternoon Chairman Pitts --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "-- and Vice Chair and Commissioners. First, I want to thank all of you and your staff for providing us the time to review this health insurance proposals and the recommendations with you this past week. I think, you know, the meeting that we had, in our opinion, I believe you know, was fruitful and we were able to at least review the materials, you know, with everyone. I'm going to start the presentation by just talking about the two types of plans that we have. You know, we have the fully-insured plans and then self-insured plans. And the fully-insured plans, the types that we deduct premiums from our employees, and then forward that payment to the healthcare provider, along with the county match for the providers to, you know, use to process claims. And then you know, they also assume the full liability on all the payments or the claims that, you know, might be submitted on any of those plans. And then you know, the self-insured ones are the types that we manage internally. We deduct the premium from employees along with county matches. And those are deposited into a health stabilization fund. And the provider will manage the claims, submit the request for reimbursement to us. And then, you know, we'll reimburse, you know, the provider for the care. For 2025, the total cost of all of our

plans are going to be \$110.9 million. This is in comparison to what we have -- this is in comparison to what we have for 2024, which is a total of \$112.4 million. Out of the 110.9 that we're going to be -- I mean, we have as a total, \$89.2 million is county share of the cost. And then the \$21.7 million is going to be the retirees and employees' share of that cost. What we're asking you to look at today, and then we're requesting your approval of the following: Under our medical care and the pharmacy plan, we're recommending for us to have a one-year contract with Anthem, with the option to renew for four more years. This plan is one of our self-insured plans that we have. And in 2025, the rates will be going down by 3.6 percent for all active and pre-65 retiree rates. And what are the plans that we have, you know, within this one? You know, it includes the HSA, that the POS, and then the HMO plans. Also for over 65 retirees, there's also going to be a 3.6 percent decrease. For the Medicare HMO indemnity and then PPO Plus plans. To the PPO is a closed plan that, you know, we only offer to few of our retirees. And the numbers are actually going down on a yearly basis. The next one is Kaiser medical and pharmacy plans. This is one of our fully-insured plans. For 2025, it is going up by -- it is increasing by 8.9 percent. For all the HMO active and pre-65 retirees. And those pre-65, you know, we have some employees that retire early before they actually to get to the Medicare-eligible age. Those are the ones that we categorize as pre-65. And there's another 4.5 percent increase post-65 Senior Advantage plan. The next one is Aetna Medicare Advantage. This is another fully-insured plan for retirees. It's going up by 16.4 percent, the basic plan, and 19.4 increase to the enhanced plan. The difference is the county pays 16.4 for everybody, and then the difference between the 16.4 and 19.4 is the responsibility of the retirees. If they decide to do some kind of backup, you know, they want improved plan other than what the county is providing as part of the basic plan that we have. And then the next one is Aetna Dental. Aetna Dental, under this, the D-HMO is the fully-insured plan, there's not go to be any change in the rates. And then the D-PPO is a self-insured plan with a 3.1 percent increase that's proposed. If I may add something, just to go back to that Aetna Medicare Advantage, our plan is to do another RFP next year, because, you know, this increase that -- or these increases that have been proposed are not acceptable to us. But we didn't have enough time to be able to, you know, go out and do another RFP this year by the time that, you know, we receive proposals from them. So we are planning to, you know, give it another shot next year. And then, you know, hopefully, we'll be able to get even more vendors to participate in the bidding process. Because we only received one bid this time around from Aetna. And then the other one, Aetna Dental, we are also looking to going out for another RFP in 2025. And the reason for that also is, you know, the -- all the proposals that we received, you know, were really not acceptable to us. But we're able to negotiate with Aetna to extend the existing contract with the plan that, you know, we'll go out and do this bidding next year. And then the next one is MetLife Vision. This is a new vendor that is going to be managing our vision plan next year. For the current year, we have EyeMed. But through the RFP process, MetLife was categorized, and then also evaluated to be the, you know, the best -- the company that provided us, you know, the best offer. So for 2025, you know, there will not be any change in the vision rates. And this is another one of our self-insured plans. And just to add information to the -- what I've presented for you all. One other thing that

we are recommending to improve next year is the hearing aid benefit for retirees. Currently, the plans that we have allows each retiree to have up to \$2,000 each year for a period of three years. So -- and in most cases, the amount, the 2,000 amount is not sufficient for them to be able to buy, you know, the hearing aids for the two ears at the same time. So what we're doing is, you know, we're recommending, one time, within the three-year period for the retirees to have up to \$4,000, which will allow them to be able to buy the two hearing aids at the same time, rather than buying one in one ear, and then going out and buying the other one in the following year. And, you know, and they're not able to sync together and work, you know, the way they like for them to be working for them. So that is, you know, where we are. And we'll entertain any questions that, you know, you may have on this. Our plan is to have open enrollment beginning October 14th for employees. And then hopefully, we'll be able to get the files to provide us by December 1st or so, so they can prepare for their coverage in the new year of 2025, January. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir. Commissioner Barrett, followed by Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple comments, questions. While, you know, I think, the good news certainly is that we are spending less overall from last year to this year. I think, you know, it's pretty clear looking at these numbers that that is a function of the fact that more people are on the Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield plan -- plans, and that that -- those plans went down by 3.6 percent. But that savings is -- and the overall savings year over year, is sort of the masking these higher percentages that you went through with the Kaiser going up 8.9 percent for our HMO active and pre-65 retirees. And while, you know, again, great that it went down across the board. That doesn't change the fact that for a Fulton County employee on Kaiser at one of the levels, it's like 144 extra dollars that's coming out of their paycheck for the year. A fam -- a couple, someone who covers their spouse, that's -- it's \$276.12 coming out of their paycheck, more this year than last. And for the family, someone who insures their whole family, \$360 a year more. And that's a lot of money. And especially because the people that choose these -- this plan in particular, the Kaiser plans in particular, are often doing it because it is the lowest paid plan. So they're the ones that are going to bear the brunt of these percentages being higher than we would like see them. And while I'm not, certainly not opposed to a reasonable increase, 8.9 percent feels a bit too high. That said, 8.9 percent makes the Aetna Medicare Advantage plan, you know, look even worse. I mean, the 8.9 looks great compared to 16-point -- whatever it is, the increase, 16.4 and 19 --"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "16.9."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, and again, while the overall cost went down, the folks, the individuals who are on those plans who are retirees, are looking at a 16.4 percent increase in their contribution and a 19.4 percent increase. And so, you know, I understand that we're was sort of between a rock and hard place here in terms of

needing to go ahead and approve these things before, you know, before -- so we don't run out of time to make sure our employees get insurance coverage. But I do think it -- you know, going back out to bid, absolutely, on the Medicare Advantage plan is the right thing to do. And I think we just have to keep looking very -- every year with, you know, hawk eyes at the Kaiser plan. Because it is, to your -- the comments, the conversation we had, all of us, in the meeting, it's quickly becoming comparable to the Blue Cross Blue Shield HMO plan in terms of cost. And so at what point do we have to say, I know you might like Kaiser, but it's just more affordable for you, us, and the taxpayers to be, you know, to not use that system. So, you know, I know we're not there yet because it is still less expensive. But it's creeping ever higher. And so I just have -- I have real concerns about that. And I think, you know, it just needed to be said publicly. And the last thing I want to bring up is it does seem like this -- the process with you all, with Segal got overly complicated this year, especially as it related to that Medicare Advantage plan for whatever reason on with that intent to respond letter. And I -- you know, I met with Purchasing and went through the whole process with them and looked through all the documents. And it does seem like we have a lot more folks interested at the point of that initial letter. And then we had some drop off, but we still had a lot of people come, it sounded like, to the pre-proposal meeting and to learn more about bidding. And then we ended up with one bid, only our current provider. So I, you know, I'd love for you all to maybe take a moment and explain what went wrong there, because it really feels to me like we dropped the ball. Or, let me put it this way, the ball was dropped in terms of data getting released to people so that they could actually bid. And that's my concern. I understand we, you know, again, between a rock and a hard place here, and we will put it out to bid again. But it does feel like a ball was dropped here."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Thank you, Commissioner. The real issue -- the crux of the issue was the fact that Aetna would not provide the level of data that we typically receive for our clients. Now, we work with a lot of larger clients also. But they said they would not release the level of detail that we normally release with MAPD proposed RFPs for a group that had less than 5,000 enrollees in their plan --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- and they went round and round and round with them. And they would not change their policy --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, well --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- or release them."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm going to call on the County Attorney's office here then, because it feels very -- I don't know if it rises to the problem of a legal issue or if it's just an ethical issue. But it seems really inappropriate that the company that is our current provider will not provide the amount of data necessary for anybody else to bid

on this account. So what is that about? That -- I mean, that feels like a lawsuit waiting to happen. Because are we literally allowing our seniors to get charged 19.4 and 16.4 percent more because our current provider won't give out the data necessary for anyone else to bid the job? Like, that's insane."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So I have not been previously made aware that they were refusing to provide the information. But I think the first step in the assessment is to look at our contract with them. Typically, all of our contracts are going to include provisions for how much information they have to share with us. A lot of that information, while they house it and have custody of it, is our information, and they have obligations to retain it for open records act purposes, and also to provide it to us. So if you can give me that the date of the contract or, you know, just the name of the provider, we will pull the contract and see if they have an obligation to provide."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I mean, I would certainly say if we're going back to contract with them this year, which this is a new -- we need to make sure that next year we have access to that data. Because otherwise, we're just going to be in this endless loop of them forcing us to stay with them, and not even being able to get other bids. That's what you're telling me. So you're basically blaming this on Aetna?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "So I was prompted to introduce myself. I'm Gina Sander, with Segal --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "I didn't make that clear first. So let me get back to what I was saying. So yes, the data did not come from Aetna. When we asked them for the data, they would not provide it. But these large increases are increases that we are seeing nationwide. So CMS has had an internal reset, they've made changes to their coding, changes to their reimbursements --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Can you say the words instead of the analogies, please?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry to interrupt."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "To coding, the codes that they --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "You said CNS."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Oh, CMS, I'm sorry, Medicare, the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "So as a federal -- at a federal level, they have made adjustments internally the way that they code or want the providers to code for various services, the way that they are reimbursing some of the providers, the subsidies that they are providing to the carriers, and the scoring, risk scoring methodologies that they're using with the carriers also that are providing the Medicare Advantage services. So across the country, we are seeing these huge increases. And I pulled some of my internal colleagues, it was a quick pull, I needed it in, like, two hours. So I got about 12 responses that I can provide to you. I've sent it to them if you -- or I can read to you and tell you, like, the range of the increases that are being seen."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, it --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "It's -- I'm telling you that it is specific to the county. It is not specific to this region. It's not specific to the plan. It is a federal reset that's being phased in on for three years that started in '24 and should end in '26. And I can't guarantee that you won't see some increases again next year as the next phase is in. I hope it's not to this level. But --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- I don't know that having others bid, even though that was a very frustrating thing, now that we're seeing all of this that we're seeing, would have brought the rate down significantly."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, we really wouldn't --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "But we want to --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- know without a competitive bid."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- know. That's why we're going out next year."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: ""And so I think there's a real legal question here. And also I just want to point out that while I understand what you're saying about federal changes that are mandating this to happen. I need to read up more on that myself. I'm certainly not an expert and respect your expertise on that. But I have to just point, and this has nothing to do with you. Aetna made \$6 billion in profit last year. So they're not suffering here. And instead, the people that are suffering are our retirees. And that is -- if what you're telling me is true then, what is happening is retirees all across this country are suffering while they make 6 billion in profits."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Yeah, my questions are kind of similar to Commissioner Barrett. How many people are on the Anthem plan, and how many are on the Kaiser plan? How many employees on each plan?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "On the Kaiser plan, we have about 1,807 employees."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm sorry, what's the number?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "1807."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "1807?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. And how many on Aetna -- on Anthem?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Give me a minute. Commissioner, it looks -- it looks -- I'm so sorry. You have it?"

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: "Yeah, it's like -- it's about 1900."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "So small."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "About 1900?"

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: "Um-hmm."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So they're about equally split."

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: "Yeah. We're just -- we're talking just about active employees, that's the active employees."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But that doesn't include families and --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It would be good to have historical data along with these things. It would be good to know like, what was the increase last year. Because I see Kaiser is going up. But I think they stayed steady for a while. So the fact that they're going up now -- you have the historical data?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "I do have that."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "No. Kaiser has not been steady --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "They have not been staying steady, but they've -- you want me to --"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Yeah, go ahead."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Okay. I have five years here. So in 2021, it went up two and a half percent."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What's the it?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "The rates, the rates increased --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Kaiser --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Kaiser. Kaiser --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: Okay.

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- increased two and half percent."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "I thought that's what you were -- this is specifically for Kaiser."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "So in 2021, the increase was in 2.5 percent. In 2022, it was 7 percent. In '23, it was 5.4 percent. In '24, it was 6 percent. In '25, now, it's 8.9 percent."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. And then do you have that same historical data for Anthem?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "I don't have that for Anthem right this -- but I can get it quickly."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Any of the historical data for any of the other categories there?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "I have the historic increases for the Aetna MAPD."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "So the -- in 2021, there was no increase, it was zero. In '22, it was 5.3 percent. In '23, it was 3.7 percent on the base and 4.7 percent on the enhanced plan. In '24, last year, it was 2 percent on the base plan and 3.2 percent on the enhanced plan. And then this year, it is 16.4 on the base and 19.4 on the enhanced plan."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Yeah, if you could make sure that you share that information with us, that would be great. I'd like to see the historical data and what the changes are year-by-year. You know, Commissioner Barrett is absolutely right. And I know how much Anthem made, but it doesn't make sense that there's a 3 percent, almost 4 percent decrease from Anthem and a 16 to 20 percent increase on Aetna. And I understand the information that you just shared with us and the new system. But a \$6 billion company ought to be able to eat that. That's the cost of doing business. I mean, this is, you know, \$100 million, 40, \$50 million a year that they're getting from this county. I also would like, you got total medical and pharmacy, I would love to see the breakdown between how much is total Anthem and how much is total Kaiser and, you know, I -- it doesn't -- I need smaller bites to digest."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "We have that information. We can provide that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah. So if can share that with me, that would be great as well. All right. I guess I'll leave it there. I had some more questions, but I'm going to hold them."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you to my colleagues, Commissioner Barrett and Arrington on getting some of my questions answered and also addressing the issue with the retiree and the employee amounts, that was great. But I do want to make a point to -- of clarity that Kaiser has been really working with you guys. And you've done a great job on negotiations and handling all of our healthcare rates. And the original formula rate is stated at 10.99 percent for Kaiser; is that correct?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "It is. Their original formula --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And then they brought it down to 8.98 percent."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So that's really good. And these are all great healthcare plans. Just Kaiser is a plan that I was initially introduced to over 35 years ago with the birth of my first son. So it has been a great plan for a very long time. And I do want to thank you for responding. I did not know Commissioner Barrett also asked for the same information. But this information is very telling about the reasons why these costs are going up. And the things that kind of stood out to me were the number of admissions to hospitals were up. But the length of stay was down. And that says a lot, because I've received a lot of calls from my constituents saying that hospitals are releasing them very early. And a lot of them feel like they're not even ready to be released. So I wonder how that's impacting costs as well. And then top conditions, diagnosis of those admitted fall into the category of heart attacks. And on this new -- it says it's new to the list for this year. That's --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "The majority of them -- a lot of them were maternity --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Maternity?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "They were maternity claims, you know, people --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Oh, wow."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- being admitted, going into hospital. But not associated with a heart attack."

COMMISSIONER HALL: Oh, okay.

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "That was -- the heart attack was a separate category --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- that showed up this year."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "So a lot of them, the admits, were maternity admits."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And then prescription drugs are up significantly. The cost per script is up 20.9 percent, and the cost per year, member per month, is up 22.6 percent?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "That's significant. As well as the fact that drugs on the list indicate high instances of HIV, cancer and diabetes, which lets our Health Department know that these are some areas we probably need to do some public health awareness

on and information. But the other thing that stood out to me is this summary, total proposed/projected health costs from 2024 to 2025, it's showing that the county funds from 2024 went from total plan costs of 112.4 mils to the county splitting it 90.8 million. And the employee contribution, 21.6 million. And then in 2025 plan year, it's showing the total cost for the plan going down to 110.9 million. The county funds decreasing to 89.2 million, while the employee contribution increases to 21.7 million. And I really -- that really to me looks bad, because it looks like we're putting the cost on the back of the employees. And I really feel like they don't deserve that. We have very loyal and hard-working employees in the county. They have worked through COVID and so much. So it was -- I was shocked to see that increase to the employees for 2025. But thank you very much, because you worked so hard on this to try to get the best rates for us always. And your work is commended, is commendable."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I have a question about the information that you were not able to get. You said you went back and forth with that information. Is that -- is that from a metrics? Could you elaborate so I can ask the question that I want?"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "What we really wanted from Aetna was the MMRs and the MORs, which are, tell us the risk level and the illness burden of the group. So these are risk scores that are assigned to each member that's enrolled in the plan. And we could get an aggregate risk amount from that. So the vendors would like to see what the risk level of the group they're going to be taking on will be."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "So it's that level of detail. And these are risk scores, the MORs are provided by, actually, Medicare, by CMS, that could get that. I know that they get this information, and they would not give it to us."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. The only reason I'm asking, County Attorney, is in some cases, and this may not be the case, but I still want to put it out there. Companies will withhold that information if they see if releasing is going to maybe put them in a different light when it comes to rebidding it. And so if they know it may negatively affect them, they won't release it. And it's nothing that you can legally do about it to get them to release it. And so I just want to put that out there. I know it's unfair, it's very unfair. But if they think that, okay, if we give this out to them, then they'll be able to use it to shop for something that may be better. We're not going to have a hand in defeating our ability to try to keep this contract. Now, I'm not saying that that is the case with them. What I'm saying is, I'm showing how my training that I received yesterday is paying off. Because we had this exact, as a fiduciary, we had this exact question. And actually the attorney group spoke with us because somebody brought up

the exact same thing in a RFP, they asked for certain information, and they wouldn't give it to them. And the attorney was like, as much as you may not like the fact that they wouldn't give it to you, if they think that you can't get it on your own, and they think it's going to cause them come back with a lower rating or whatever, they may not give it to you. Now, ethically, do you think that's correct? I don't know. It depends on who you talk to. But legally, and I'm not an attorney, let me say that, it may not be anything that we can do about it. So I just wanted to kind of put that out there."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "I agree with that statement, but they -- I know that they give that level of detail out on larger clients."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Oh, and they just for some reason decided --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- the size of the policy --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You would think we're a large client, right? Okay, all right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, I was just going to say, I like that company. I like Aetna. But I don't to do any business with anybody that's not going to give me the information that I need. I don't -- I don't understand that. That's incomprehensible, and particularly what you're saying, it is standard that people give out this information, other companies and particularly, even more particularly, they themselves actually give it out to other people. But they won't give it to us? That's not right. Somebody from Aetna need to call me --"

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "All of these companies --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- get me on the phone."

GINA SANDER, VP, SEGAL: "-- have parameters and guidelines that they follow for various sized groups. But there are other companies that are more flexible than they have been."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I mean, that -- that just doesn't make any sense that they won't share the information that we need. And for our County Attorney and staff and department heads, it should be -- we should be adamant in any contract, in any contract that we're about to do, if we -- if we approve this, it has to be in the contract that we get the information that we need, not just for this year, but I need historical data, like I asked you for earlier, right? And so if they don't want to give us the data that we need to make informed decisions, then we need to go with somebody else, especially if they want to go up by 20 percent. Look, if it we were up to me, I'll approve all of them but those."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I'm just going to take Commissioner Arrington's statement and turn it into a question. Is it in the contract that we're about to sign with Aetna that we have -- we will have access to that data next year, and historical data?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHTAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "So we haven't prepared the contract because the Board has not authorized it. But I hear you all loud and clearly, and we will work with the County Attorney's office to make sure we can include some language about transitions."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

FELICIA STRONG-WHTAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Transitional and data information. As everyone knows, when it comes to data, it gets more and more complicated with these companies, especially cyber, HIPPA. So it little bit more complicated, so we'll -- we will work with the County Attorney's office to make sure their appropriate language is in the contracts."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So today, we're just authorizing you to move forward?"

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Got it, all right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any -- Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I would just say we need to work with IT as well."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Because it might be data that we're sending to them, that we might be able to keep a track of our self and get -- I mean, like, I don't know how it all works. But we might be able to run those same reports our self if we set up the IT on the back end. No? All right."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANACE: "Commissioner Arrington, I think part of the problem is no -- we don't have access to their claims, you know, there. And to me, that was one thing that I complained about. And I said that, we don't want a company that's going to be like a lifetime monopoly to us, you know. Because they don't share their data, there's no way we can, you know, change companies. You know, that means that, you know, we'll always deal with this company. At some point,

you know, we have to say, come on, you know, with the amount of money that we pay you, it's either we have access to this data or go find another company. You know, now, the first year with that new company might be slightly higher. But it's going to be with the condition that, you know, we're going to get data when we need it so we'll see what we're able to get next year."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Let's get it, let's get it right now, right now. And I think the County Attorney said she's going to review the existing contract to see what, if anything is in there, in addition to making sure that it's included in any contract going forward. I believe I heard the County Attorney say she's going to review the existing contract to see if we have the ability to get it now and why they didn't provide it when you requested it. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments? All right. I'd like to take, in the interest of time, all six of these together. Now, any changes or amendments that anybody wants to make to either of the six?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, if it were up to me, I'll make some changes right now. I don't think it's up to me. I can put a whole list of changes on there, make everything 3.6 percent decrease."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Would you sound the six of them, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Starting on page 6, **24-0594**, Finance. Request approval of a recommended proposal to provide medical and pharmacy coverage for eligible, active employees, retirees, beneficiaries, and covered dependents. **24-0595**, Request approval to renew an existing contract to provide voluntary works -- work-site benefits. **24-0596**, Request approval to extend an existing contract to provide Employee Health Care Benefit Plan, Dental. **24-0597**, Request approval to extend an existing contract provide medical and pharmacy benefits as a fully-insured option to Medicare eligible retirees, beneficiaries and dependents for an additional 12-month period. On page 7, **24-0599**, Request approval or recommended proposal to administer vision benefits."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Motion on the floor is to approve the six of them. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm going to hold my nose while I vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Thank you, Commissioners."

CLERK GRIER: "24-0600, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval of a recommended proposal in an amount not to exceed \$3,655,925 to provide Design/Build services for the construction and renovation at the South Training Center."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Have a motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0601, Request approval for statewide contract for Chassis, Truck Chassis and Truck Bodies for Fulton County Animal Services in a total amount not to exceed \$162,696.64."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Have a favorable motion by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0602, Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing in an amount not to a exceed \$733,946.65 for Phase I, to upgrade the existing fire alarm system."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Favorable motion by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, 23-0603, Request approval to increase the spending authority in the amount not to exceed \$100,000 to cover the cost for additional tree removal services."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0604, Request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 to provide on-site testing and repair for approximately 183 backflow preventative devices."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Under Health and Human Services, 24-0605, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. Request approval of a resolution creating the Fulton County Opioid Abatement Regional Advisory Council, defining membership of the Opioid Advisory Council, and for other purposes."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0606, Senior Services. Request approval to amend an existing with Common Courtesy to modify the contract scope to include programmatic trip and cost share changes from transportation ride-share services."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0607, Public Works. Request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$354,260 to provide water meter testing and repairs."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "24-0608, Request approval of an intergovernmental agreement between Fulton County and the city of Johns Creek for water main relocations in an estimated amount of \$175,000."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, under Justice and Safety, 24-0609, Police. Request approval to increase spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 to provide automobile repair services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a favorable motion by Commissioner Thorne. Is there a second? Seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioners' Action Items, 24-0611, Request approval of an ordinance amending Part 1, Subpart B, Chapter 102, Article I, Decorum --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'm going to hold this. My Deputy Chief of Staff has some questions. Several Commissioners have some questions. So we'll just hold it until such time as y'all come to me with additions and corrections. It could be one month, two months, three months, the next year."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 10, 24-0612, Hospital Authority of Fulton County. For spreading upon the minutes, the Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority of Fulton County reappointed the following appointees for term -- for terms ending April 1st, 2028: Anthony J. Salvatore, Dr. Kenneth Kupke, and Thomas Hills."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, second by Commissioner Barrett. This is this same group we have questions about, but the motion is to approve. Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's go back to the Operational Report. Where did we leave off? Finish up that."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Mr. Chairman, you want us to pick up on the last section, which is the Jail Blitz Plan?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes. Is that the --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Madam Clerk, if you could move to page 57. Where is Joe? I'm sorry, go ahead, Joe."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. Joseph Davis, Director, Real Estate Asset Management. For our first slide, you will see an overview of the overall maintenance operation, particularly focused on the Jail Blitz. As we reported, we have six housing units that are completed, or 55 percent of the total housing unit blitz work planned. That represents 726 out of 1122 non-medical sales that have been completed. We are currently working on Unit 5 South, which is our seventh blitz unit, which began on August the 22nd. And as of late last week, we were at 44 percent completion on that particular unit. As an overall plan, we're doing nine out of the 11 jail units will be completed by the end this year, with overall completion by January-February timeframe of next year. We may be able to expedite that based on some other factors. Next, you'll see an overview of non-blitz work orders for the month of August of 2024. There were 66.4 percent of all corrective maintenance work orders submitted or completed, and 63.1 percent of preventive maintenance work orders. I would like to add here, I actually reached out to our vendor. I can certainly understand the corrective maintenance work orders that are non-blitz related, because they have labor diverted to address the blitz project. But I was a little bit concerned about the low-completion rate on the preventive maintenance, as you know, that leads to more corrective maintenance. And the vendor that we have now, Johnson Controls, advised that one of the reasons why we have a low number in that particular area, they're down to, as a result of attrition, one HVAC technician for the site. And they are in the process of bringing more on board. I will be following up on that definitively. Next slide, please. As of the time of this report, we were expecting, I do want to make a caveat here, this 414 beds currently unavailable at Rice Street. That number is actually 630 as of the -- at this time. By this evening, we'll be at the 414 number. We had a small problem reoccupying 1-North two days ago, and that has been resolved with final cleanup occurring this afternoon and early evening. We're looking to turn that back over to the Sheriff's office. But with that 414 beds currently unavailable after we turn over 1-North, that will represent a 34 percent reduction in unavailable beds from our August report. We have six zones that are unoccupied, which represents 216 beds, due to the Jail Blitz that's currently ongoing on 5-South. We have six housing zones dispersed through the jail, representing 198 beds unoccupied due to fire restoration or awaiting repairs to other critical safety features. We also anticipate, as an additional note here, we are doing a final walk through on the third of three housing zones where there was fire restoration. We hope to be turning those over to the Sheriff's office, which will give him a substantial

number of beds back in the next week and a half to two weeks. System wide, we have 90 percent of the unused cells due to blitz project or other long-term repairs, as stated before. We always want to mention that there are a certain number of beds that are held vacant for the purposes of inmate classification and the Sheriff's office operation in that regard. Empty space in beds that are out of county are primarily due to the out-of-county agencies are not accepting the classification inmates that we're attempting to send over. And then we have some empty cells due -- at the Atlanta City Detention Center and the Jail South Annex in Union City that are the result of staffing availability. Next slide, please. As you know, at the August 21st Board meeting you approved \$3.2 million to address critical repairs and upgrades that were needed at the jail. We will be presenting various items to the Board beginning with today's item. Thank you for your vote for the upgrade of the jail's fire alarm system. This is Phase I. We will also be adding padded cells that currently do not exist at the Jail South Annex. We'll be coming forward to you with the contract amendments at the October the 16th Board agenda. We're also going to replacing several items of kitchen equipment. We're also looking at that October the 16th Board meeting to bring that before you as well, along with laundry equipment. We are currently working on terms with the elevator consultant to get the survey of the jail's elevators done. Once we finalize those contract -- that particular contract, we will be moving forward with the assessment, which should take about 90 days at the most. At which point, we'll have the information necessary to have a elevator modernization scope prepared and brought to you all for approval. That is all our information. And do you have any questions?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir. Commissioner Natalie Hall. No? All right, no questions. Next."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Thank you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Mr. Chairman, unless there are questions about the ARPA numbers, which have not changed, the monthly financials, or the emergency purchase orders, this concludes our report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Now, back to where were we at? Thank you, Mr. Manager. All right. Continue on page, what, 10?"

CLERK GRIER: "Page 10 under Commissioners' Presentation and Discussion Item, **24-0613**, Open Records Requests, sponsored by Commissioner Thorne."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. I'd like to hold my item, and work with the County Attorney some more on it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "24-0614, Sheriff's Office Outstanding Invoices, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. I received a letter from the -- please, strike that. My office received a letter yesterday, I guess, written by the Sheriff. I will -- and I -- some of you have received a similar letter, I understand. But in my letter, he states that, let's see where is it here? Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend tomorrow's BOC meeting personally. He's out of town, out of the country. However, my team and I will be in attendance October 2nd, 2024. So if that's accurate, I want to hold 0614 and 0615 until the October 2nd meeting."

CLERK GRIER: "So noted."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "24-061 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Excuse me, I'm sorry. Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "County Manager, if it's at all possible, if I can get some type priority listing of the invoices. I know that he said that he will be at the first meeting in October. But I will be making that same request there. So to give him an opportunity, the outstanding invoices, I need some type of priority information. If at all possible, if you can try to get that, I would appreciate it."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am. I sent each of you an email last night with those invoices. So if that's not sufficient, just let me know."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "24-06 --""

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm in the queue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I just wanted to remind us that the State Senate Subcommittee recommended that we meet with the Sheriff weekly, and we have not done that as of yet. And so at some point, we need to probably consider their recommendation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Well, just on that follow up, but I also like to note, we've had about three different meetings. We've got the opportunity for the Sheriff to appear before us, and he's chosen not to, so."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So I'm going to read the whole letter. Dear Chairman Pitts, great seeing you at Chops a few weeks ago. While we have not yet had an opportunity to meet, I have called you several times since. My hope is we can schedule time soon to meet in person. I was made aware of a discussion item you placed on the BOC's last meeting agenda at the last minute. I was just made aware of another agenda item you placed on tomorrow's meeting agenda. Unfortunately, I'll be unable to attend tomorrow's BOC meeting personally; however my team and I will be in attendance October 2nd, 2024. It is worth noting, some of the remaining outstanding issues were discussed months ago in the June Executive Session, to which my team and I have received no feedback, nor to my knowledge, was a vote taken as a result of those discussions. Further, on two separate occasions, my team and I placed items in Legistar for approval, to be placed on the BOC agenda for public discussion. And each time the items were removed by our county team. Not only were these items -- well, County CFO and or her team -- not only were these items removed, my team and I were only made aware once we made an inquiry after having seen the publicly published BOC agenda. Should you have any questions, concerns or wish to receive Fulton County Sheriff's Office updates, operationally and/or financially prior to either BOC meetings, I am available via text, email, telephone, and/or virtually at your convenience. Our teams have communicated well in the past regarding constituent needs, and have worked collaboratively to help resolve any issues reported. I hope we can continue to collaborate to find common ground and work together to advance the county's priorities. I look forward to meeting with you soon. So maybe you can -- you might bump into him at Chops again, and y'all can talk about it at Chops."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I won't go into any details about that, nor will I respond. I do see the Sheriff, for the public record, at Chops. We have a cigar there, we drink whiskey together, we meet at Al's and other places. But this is -- just a minute. Just minute. This is business. So he suggested that he will be here at that time, and I respectfully held those two items. Now, I think that there's some -- first of all, he's not called me. I return all of my calls. I have my phone with me at all times. So I don't want to get into that back and forth. I'm sick and tired of that on this particular issue. The CFO is not here today to respond to this Legistar, whatever that thing is, it's called. And I'm sure she'll want to respond at that meeting on the 2nd. So we've received a letter, I held those two items at his request. Commissioner Ellis, you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "When it comes to financial matters and public taxpayer money, we discuss them in the public. And that's where they need to be discussed, not via proxy, not via the letters, not via, I want to go have breakfast with you. We've all sat through and had the public had to sit through hours of time. But yet the root cause of the issue is yet to appear before us, to take accountability and get these matters addressed. That's what the problem is. So hopefully we will be here -- he'll be here on October 2nd, and we can take care of it like we take care of it on all of our other business with normal departments and other elected officials."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No. We do have that -- Commissioner Arrington has the floor. But that item from last should be on the agenda, that did not pass at the last meeting. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Discussing items at this meeting or in this public forum does not prevent us from having conversations prior to or after this meeting about those items. I -- you know, I can guarantee you that they are whole bunch of conversations that go on prior to these things being even added to this agenda. So conversations can be had with people over the phone, over email, I know the Sheriff has email us numerous times. I know he's told me that he has called certain people. So having a conversation with someone does not prevent us from still having the item on a public agenda and still discussing it in a public forum. The two are not mutually exclusive. They can occur, both those things can occur."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I just want to go on the record again saying, I need a priority list, okay? And I understand individuals want to speak on behalf of the Sheriff and everything. But I think it's in the best interest of the public for the Sheriff to be here. I appreciate him reaching out to me and letting me know that he wasn't going to be here today. That's the first time he's did that in a year. So there is an opportunity for us to move forward. So I'm openly asking for a priority list. I'm not saying it at Chops. I'm not saying it behind closed doors. I need an -- priority list. If we're going to take this up and we're talking about taxpayers dollars, I need a priority list and prefer to have it before his appearance here. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else? All right, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "24-0616, Discussion, September 5th Reparations Task Force Meeting, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Ms. Corbitt. We need to find that item that was -- that's next."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, last week, you asked me about some activities that occurred at the September 5th Reparations Task Force. And I provided you with an update, and I'm just going to review that update now. There was a scheduled task force meeting on Thursday, September 5th at 6:00 o'clock. The meeting first convened upstairs, but there was a large number of members of the public in attendance. And so the task force chose to relocate to this room. Several staff were in attendance. Initially, two members of our team were there. One person had to leave before the meeting concluded. An IT staff member was there and one Fulton County Police Officer. During the public comment period of that meeting occurred toward the end of the agenda. And there were 22 people who participated in public comment. One person who spoke during public comment was a teenager, who was the daughter of a task force member. That person, this young lady, when she returned to her seat, the folks up on the dais heard someone refer to her by her name. I did not hear the name that was called. It wasn't -- and this occurred in the audience. At the end of the meeting, and one of our staff members heard this and addressed it at the time, and reminded the audience to be respectful. At the conclusion of the meeting, the task force member whose daughter was -- we're discussing here, addressed the Body, and was clearly upset. The meeting adjourned, and the task force member had further interactions with members of the audience. She was very upset, and used some strong language as she exited the room. The following morning, that task force member resigned from the task force. There -- after reviewing that and after reviewing the interactions that occurred, we had an opportunity to talk with the Chairwoman of the task force about how we could better support her in ensuring that the meetings are safe and orderly for both the task force members and for the public. And we made a series of recommendations. Excuse me, losing my voice today. So some of the recommendations that we made, we also provided to the task force. They had a special-called meeting yesterday, and they adopted these recommendations as a Body. Those recommendations for any future in-person meetings included: Two staff members from External Affairs will be present for the duration of all meetings. Two Fulton County Police Officers will be present for the duration of all in-person meetings. All task force meetings will be held in this chamber rather than other rooms of the building. There are bylaws for public comment that we learned had not been fully enforced. They're similar to the bylaws for the Board -- for the public comment rules for the Board of Commissioners, which prioritize Fulton County residents and have some additional requirements. We also reminded them that we have provided secured parking for task force members for security. Not all members have been taking advantage of that opportunity, and we strongly encourage them to do that. They are scheduled -- I also want to mention that at yesterday's meeting, the task force members made a decision as a Body not to meet again until they have a draft of their report. They want -- they are nearing the time when their contract with the Atlanta University Center Consortium, that contract ends at the end of October. And that, they want to use the time remaining with that to make sure they complete the report. So they do not intend to meet again until they have a draft report to share with the public. And so Chairman, that is -- those are all the updates I have. And I can accept any questions, and I'll answer what I can."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. First and fore --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let me add one thing. I don't know whether -- the letter that was read was addressed to me. So I'm not sure how that everybody got a copy of it. But that's another story. But I received the letter from -- what's her name Dr -- on the Reparations Task force."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Dr. Sims-Alvarado, or?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "As -- she did? Okay. So what's the status of that? I mean, is that up to --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I'm not sure if what you mean, Mr. Chair. I don't --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You haven't seen it?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I'm not sure I'm familiar with the letter you're --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Well, I'll share it with you."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Okay. When was this letter received?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I -- my staff gave it to me this morning -- speak into the mic."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "It's showing that it was sent at 12:59 today --"

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- a.m. a.m. So -- (inaudible, simultaneous speakers) -- yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll make sure you get a copy."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you. I'll double -- I may have missed that, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. And Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I received quite a bit of calls and emails and even videos. But I think given the fact that the Chair of the task force reached out, I would -- that is Commissioner Hall's appointee. I would defer to her whether her appointee resignation was accepted or not. But if someone felt bullied, if they felt their child was disrespected, I am not, hear me crystal clear, I am not excusing anyone's behavior, okay? But as the -- as a mother, I can clearly understand if my child was allegedly called what this child was called. I can understand. I'm not offering an excuse. But I can understand it being heated. And now having said that, I did read the report that you did and the changes made as far as, you know, public comments and security and all those things that probably played into it. And let me commend, I think her name is Juliana. Am I saying your name correctly? Okay. Let me commend you and the officer, because they did -- they went out of their way to try to deescalate. And I think that speaks to the professionalism out of not only your department but the Fulton County Police Department. But on the other hand, I would be remiss if I didn't say, I watch those meetings all the time. I don't know why this particular meeting drew so many people. I don't know if this was -- and we know in today's political climate, sometimes people have a hidden agenda. I'm not saying they did. I'm saying the reality is, if somebody pushes my button, I may sound off on it. That's part of being human. So I just want to go on record saying, whatever Commissioner Hall wants to do with her appointee, because I understand from the Chair of the task force that she has been very beneficial, and she has information, and I know she sent out a resignation, but I, as a mother, I could -- I would -- I just understand that that would just made me -- I may have done the same thing. I can't say I wouldn't. So I think that if we have learned from this, we've learned from it, we need to put the protocol and procedures in place. If Commissioner Hall does not have a problem with her appointee staying on there to the duration of the end, I don't have a problem either. And so I just want to go on record saying that. Thank you."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So Ann Hill Bond is, I think, a great asset to this committee. She does a lot of work in the history sector. And her loss, I think, would not be in the best interest of the citizens of Fulton County. However, I don't believe -- we just went through this with a couple of different boards a couple different times. So resignation is not to the appointing Commissioner because the appointment -- the Commissioner nominates, the Board appoints."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So this Board would have to accept the resignation, I believe. And certainly, Madam County Attorney, you're free to provide us an opinion on that. Obviously, this is different than our Housing Authority Board, so maybe there are some different rules. But nonetheless, individual Commissioners simply nominate. This Board actually makes the appointment. And so no individual Commissioner, just like with the previous resignations or board situations, no individual Commissioner has the power to accept or deny a resignation from a board appointment that has been made by this full board. So I definitely want to put that on the record. You know, I wasn't at the meeting. I don't know exactly what happened. But I will apologize to Ms. Bond for any comments that were made, any -- any inappropriate comments that were made to her daughter. I have four daughters, and so I don't know what I could have -- what I may or may not have done if someone had said something inappropriate to my daughter. Nonetheless, when you come it is building and when you sit up here on this dais, there is still a level of decorum that must be displayed. And so hopefully, we can get past this, and we can get her back on the board or she remains on the board, because I don't think this Board has accepted that her resignation. And if she is willing to consider staying on the board, I think it would be important to have her. There are -- I think the root of the problem is that there are different people with different agendas. And certain people want to make sure -- and this is crazy because we don't even know what the recommendations are going to be, right? So I think people are fighting over potential money that doesn't even exist. So there's some groups -- there's one group, ADOS, that -- that wants their -- any potential funds to go to American descendants of slaves, and not to any other descendants of slaves. And, you know, maybe that makes sense for something, but maybe -- I think there are all different types of levels of money due for reparations from European countries, from the United States of America, from all different levels. And I think there's enough room for everyone to come together and talk about what those different levels of reparations are, and what they may or may not look like. I don't think there's any reason to try to exclude a group. Apparently, Ms. Bond is of Caribbean descent. And so the American descendants of slaves were saying they don't think that Caribbeans or anyone else should get anything. And you know, I think there are different -- I think there's different money owed for reparations from different people. And so Spain and France might more owe money -- owe more money to the Caribbean descendants than Fulton County does, and that's okay. The money should be coming from everywhere. The world owes money to -- to the descendants of slaves. And we shouldn't be arguing amongst ourselves about some money that may or may not even exist. There may not even be a recommendation for any money. What we need to be doing is talking and identifying who might owe whom. And so if you are an American descendant of slaves and you don't believe that Fulton County should pay money to Caribbean descendants of slaves, that's okay. But that doesn't mean it's France or Spain or Great Britain or Ireland might not owe them some money. It's okay to have a discussion about that. So I'll leave it there. But thank you to all of our volunteers for the Reparations Task Force for the work that they have done and are doing. You know, to some extent, I hate that this is even an agenda item to be discussed, because they've been meeting for over two years without any incident. And so the fact that there was one blow up at one meeting two,

three years down the road is frankly irrelevant to the great work that they're doing. So thank you to the members of the task force for taking your time, and you know, maybe it's getting a little contentious, and things are getting contentious around the country. And so maybe it's just the natural effect of what's going on in the world. But thank you to everyone that's serving in that task force. Thank you to the people that come and participate, and hopefully, everyone can be respectful of everyone's wishes and desires, and acknowledge that there may be other -- there may be other people that owe other people money. It might not have anything to do with you, and that's okay. Thank you."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. So before I even saw a resignation letter from an Ann Hill Bond, I received phone calls and text messages about the incident. And I'm going to put this on record because we should never ever allow people to act this way at any of our board meetings. I think unfortunately, we allowed some level of -- of this at our own Board meeting with people putting on skits and everything else, and this is what it has led to. So this young -- I see heads shaking, yes. This young lady when she spoke, she let it be known that she was 15 years old. And she spoke about reparations. After she spoke, it was told to me by several people that someone in the audience proceeded to call her a black bitch. Fifteen years old, having to endure that type of attack, that's verbal assault. But we've allowed it on our own Board, verbal assault by the public. I've even received calls from the public saying that sexual harassment, verbal sexual harassment, has happened at this BOC meeting. So it's something that we need to address. We need to address what is allowable by the public at meetings. There are other Chairwomen of other counties who have contacted me and said they would never allow the things that we've allowed in our BOC meeting to happen at theirs. They would ask the police to escort people out, and have. But I, unfortunately, I think that a precedent was set. And unfortunately, a 15-year-old girl was involved in a verbal attack. Not only did they attack her at the meeting, they proceeded to cyber bully her. And I see more heads shaking, yes. So this is not just information that was given to me. She continued to be verbally bullied, cyber bullied online on social media. Her mother had to take her pages down, intercept her DM's, for those of you who don't the acronym, direct messaging on Instagram, Facebook messaging, because people were attacking her following the meeting. Anyone who has children you know, there's no way you would sit back and allow your child to be treated like that. And I do want to thank the police officer and --

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Jordana, thank you. I was told how brave you were to try to get some order and regain some order. But unfortunately, the situation just had gone too far. We should probably have a decorum policy, Commissioner Arrington, for all of our boards and authorities that County Commissioners appoint people to. There should

probably be a decorum policy, just the same way that this Board has a decorum policy. But I would not fault a mother who is sitting, watching her child be attacked in that manner. And then to address them as immigrants, and say that Ann Hill Bond should be removed from the board because she's an immigrant. And then to go online and further attack her and her daughter, and say that they're immigrants, that behavior should not be allowed. So I just want to -- it was referenced a minute ago the Chair of the Reparations Task Force, Karcheik Alvarado, known as the Historian in Heels, sent a letter. She did send it to all of the Commissioners. She also sent it to our Clerk, Tonya Grier. And she sent it to Fran Calhoun and Jessica Corbitt. And this is what it says, for the record, Chairman Robb Pitts and Members of the Board of Commissioners, as Chair of the Fulton County Reparations Task Force, please accept this request to support Mrs. Ann Hill Bond's continued participation in this historic and inaugural task force. Mrs. Ann Hill Bond was nominated by Commissioner Natalie Hall to serve as the second appointee to represent District 4. Dr. Bernice King served in that position previously, and Mrs. Hill Bond became her successor. Before her appointment, I was familiar with Mrs. Hill Bond's impressive professional portfolio. Her work with the Equal Justice Institute, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, the 1906 Atlanta Race Massacre Project, Capital B News, and the Fulton County Remembrance Coalition, speaks volumes about her dedication and expertise. As you're aware, a successful task force requires a Body possessing diverse skills, experiences and talents if they are to work in concert and achieve one common goal. Mrs. Hill Bond was a perfect addition to the task force because of her commitment to racial healing and experience as a community organizer, mediator, journalist and researcher. Her good humor, spirit and laughter brought balance to our meetings. Although the task force has held nine monthly meetings, traveling during rush-hour and parking downtown are challenging for many individuals who've expressed interest in attending our meetings. To accommodate supporters, Mrs. Hill Bond not only recommended, but organized and led community convenings outside our standing meetings. Two meetings were well attended, and the remaining three meetings have been postponed for obvious reasons. Mrs. Hill Bond's role as the researcher tasked with documenting 39 persons lynched in Fulton County is of immense significance to our study. For nearly -- nearly a century, their names had been lost in reference only as unknown. Mrs. Hill Bond has brought these individuals back into the light by identifying the names of most of these victims of racial violence. Unfortunately, this portion of the research will not be included in this study if the recent acts of intimidation causes her to not remain a member. Serving on this task force is not easy, but as volunteers, we have committed ourselves to the assignment the Fulton County Board of Commissioners have asked us to perform. We have worked to conduct and present this research with dignity and care. And despite external and internal forces that we recognize are obvious attempts to obstruct our goals, we continue to press on. We believe maybe even naïvely that Fulton County can serve as the catalyst to repair past wrongs in the American South. I, as Chair, would like to encourage Mrs. Hill Bond to remain on the task force. We hope for the Board of Commissioners' support in ensuring her and her daughter's safety by endorsing her continued participation in the task force. Signed, Dr. Karcheik Sims-Alvarado. And I have not accepted Ann Hill Bond's resignation because she called me shortly after

sending the email, and she withdrew it. And I told her at that time, I had not even had an opportunity to read the email with her resignation, because I received so many phone calls about the incident that it kept me so tied up, I couldn't even get through my emails to see what everyone was talking about. So I have not accepted her resignation. Thank you, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So this, we have two more people want to be heard, Commissioner Thorne -- strike -- yes, Commissioner Thorne and Commissioner Barrett. But we need to address this issue of how a person -- I thought we'd done it, but apparently there's some confusion as to how one resigns. And Commissioner Arrington is absolutely correct. Give you another example today, I've not received a letter of record -- resignation from Senator Brandon Beach from the Development Authority, yet, Commissioner Ellis has nominated someone to replace him. So in fact, the position is not even vacant yet because we've not received that. So we -- I want to clarify that at our next meeting, just how we resign."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So, just to respond in this particular instance, the bylaws of the Reparations Committee require that a member resign by providing written notice to the appointing authority. So as Commissioner Arrington said, that would be the Board."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "And also to the Task Force Chairperson, that did not happen in this instance --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- so it's my opinion that she did not effectively resign."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct. Okay, Commissioner Thorne, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you. I did not watch the meeting, but like a lot of people in this room, I was awakened to text messages and links to social media things, and asking me what's going on with the Reparations Task Force. But I didn't even see the 240,000 views on Twitter. I saw something on Insta -- couple of things on Instagram that were sent to me. With that being said, I reached out to my task force member, he was not present. But he was disappointed that Ms. Hill Bond would resign, because she's a very -- although they disagree on a lot of things, she's a very easy person to work with, have discussions, have debate with. So I agree that I would probably like to see her remain on the board. As far as the recommendations, you put these recommendations forward for approval to the task force; is that correct?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "So Commissioner Thorne, I provided them -- Chairman Pitts asked me for an update. I provided them to him, and I communicated with the task force that these were measures that we recommended putting in place to provide a more secure and orderly environment. We also -- I had an opportunity to meet with the Chairwoman last week. The task force -- without me asking, but they chose to, I guess, adopt these as recommendations in their special-called meeting yesterday."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So when you say, we recommend, who's the we? Because I wasn't consulted on these recommendations until after they were already presented."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "These were recommendations -- so our office has been asked to support, provide staff support. I also had an opportunity to talk with Chief Yates, who all -- we had previously asked to ensure, because the meetings are after hours, we wanted to make sure there was still security in the building at the time. So these were staff recommendations, and again, our -- and also following up with the discussion with Dr. Sims Alvarado regarding compliance with the bylaws. So these were based on the staff support that we're already providing along with the support that the Police Department is providing."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Because the task force originally only met on online, on Zoom; isn't that correct?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "That is correct, Commissioner, they --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And it's only recently that they decided to meet in person. And I think for the safest --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's not true."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "That's not true? I used to watch them online before I was even a Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They originally started meeting here. They had some meetings online via Zoom. But it is not true that they originally started meeting on Zoom, and that they just recently started coming in here. That is absolutely not --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So if they meet on Zoom, and that seemed to work --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have the floor, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It seemed to work. And instead, we're trying to send in more support staff on taxpayer dollars for after-hours work for two External Affairs

people to be there the full time, the entire time, these meetings last a couple hours at least. We're asking for IT staff. We're asking for the attorneys, double up the security, parking. It's just getting to be a lot, and we can't control situations. But online, you can easily control situations by muting people out, kicking them out of the meeting. You can't hear -- a speaker can't hear comments being made about them. Because I still want to encourage everybody to be able to come and participate in the meetings and not being fearful. And I'm not so sure that that's really going to change. It may even after this, it might even be exasperated in future meetings. But it doesn't seem like that option was presented to them, that these recommendations were made, they approved them, and now it's a, we approve these recommendations."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "So just to clarify, Commissioner. I'm looking at the memo that I provided to Chairman Pitts, and I copied you all on. As you noted, the task force has met -- they held their -- they met first in October of 2021, at that time, we were still in sort of pandemic mode, and many meetings were virtual. I don't recall exactly their balance of in person and virtual meetings. But my understanding is recently, they've held a virtual meeting and an in-person meeting each month. So the recommend -- reading verbatim from the memo I sent, it says: Moving forward to ensure security and successful operation of any future in-person task force meeting. So we did not recommend that they only meet in person or that they only meet virtually. But that this is support that we would provide for meetings that are in person. I hope that clarifies."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah. I'm just -- I'm just saying it's so much additional staff, and it's after hours in the building. And if it were during normal hours, it would be one thing to provide a secure location. But the fact that it is after hours and it's numerous staff that would be involved, I just think it'd be safer to be all virtual again. And maybe at a later date, start bringing back in the meetings. But let things simmer down for the time being."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'll be quick, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to weigh in, because one of my two appointees on the Reparations Task Force, Mrs. Osby, who was not at the meeting in question, but was actually very upset at the July 11th meeting. So I -- wherein another instance occurred, sort of some lively debate, let's call it, that was, you know, inappropriate, she felt. And that people were not being treated appropriately, who were speaking to the -- to the task force. And I think the reason I'm bringing it up is only because I think it is more than a one meeting problem unfortunately. It's just she did not -- it didn't rise in the level of, you know, to the level of angst that caused all the videos to happen and all of that. So -- and there was no child insulted, that sort of thing. But she was upset enough to reach out to me following the July 11th meeting. She waited a couple of weeks to reach out, and reached out to me

and said, she was not sure she could continue to sit on the task force anymore because of the level of disrespect among the board members. And so I bring it up only because I think -- I'm not sure who said it, but that we have clearly had issues with several of our boards in terms of how they're operating from a decorum standpoint. And I see you, Commissioner Hall, sorry about that. And so I think, you know, my question, I guess, would be, can we add to this a recommendation that they update their bylaws, perhaps to have some more stringent decorum policy? And then my question, I guess, to the County Attorney, would be, is there some way to, in the future -- I mean, obviously, we can't control the bylaws of the Housing Authority, but when it's one that we create, can we just have a baseline of a decorum policy that is automatically sort of mandated for any new task force going forward, so that there is that built-in policy and, you know, ways to sort of -- to keep control of their meetings?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I imagine you probably can do that. But we'll look into whether there's any prohibition against allowing the boards that you create to create their own rules and self-govern and self-regulate."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So let's be real clear about what happened and what didn't happen. There were no acts of violence. There was no physical threat of any violence by anyone. Certainly, it's inappropriate for someone to call a young 15-year-old girl out of her name, or even a young 15-year-old boy out of their name. In this case, it was a young 15-year-old girl. But there were no acts of violence. And so let's not create something that was not there, and make this out to be something that it was not, okay? There was no chance of anyone -- there was no one -- no one tried to rush the young lady at the -- while standing at the podium speaking and -- and punch her, right? No one tried to assault her or attack her physically afterwards. So let's be real clear about what happened and what didn't happen. I don't really care about recommendations, whatever, but, you know, I think it's important that we control the narrative. Because if we allow this narrative to be spent by people that never even wanted a Reparations Task Force in the first place, then that is where we really start to lose control. And so, you know, for me, I frankly don't -- for someone that never even wanted a Reparations Task Force, I don't even really want to hear what you have to say. It's irrelevant to me. But we're not going to spend this thing like there was some violent physical attack and assault on someone or on a young lady or on anyone. There was no violent physical assault. There was no chance of that. It did not happen. Was something inappropriate said? Perhaps. I wasn't there. From all accounts, it appears that something inappropriate was said about a young child. And so that is certainly inappropriate. But I have to agree with Commissioner Hall. This starts from the top. See what -- see what's supposed to happen is, they're not supposed to be any personal attacks, not by the people sitting up here, or not by anyone out there. But Commissioner Hall is right. We've -- because we've allowed personal attacks on us

individually, people think they can do it to anyone. And so if we're going to do something, Mr. Chair, if we're going to set a decorum policy that we want to apply countywide, it's got to start with making sure that there are no personal attacks on the people that are on the dais. That's where it's got to start. Leadership starts at the top. If people feel like they can come in here and attack us, why would they not think they could attack a 15-year-old girl? So if we want to make some changes, if you got a decorum policy that you want to promote, start right there, with no personal attacks. Start with no personal attacks. If somebody has something to say about an item, an agenda item, about a policy, they're free to say that. But as long as we allow personal attacks, as long as we allow personal attacks, they will keep coming. See, I went to Frederick Douglass High School. Power concedes nothing without demand. It never has, and it never will. It never has, and it never will. And you show me the exact amount of injustice someone is willing to accept, and that's the exact amount of injustice that will be inflicted upon them. So as long as we continue to let people come down here and attack us, if you want to protect that 15-year-old young lady, protect the people up here. The way you protect them is by protecting the people up here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Commissioner Barrett, thank you for bringing up July 9th meeting. I do recall my appointee reaching out to me concerned about Ms. Osby was afraid that she was going to also resign. And Commissioner Arrington, if you want to talk about personal attacks, I remember the July -- I think it was of July 18th meeting, I reached out to your office because I heard I was personally attacked by a Reparations Task Force member up here on the dais in mockery terms. And I asked to see the video, but miraculously, the first 22 minutes of the video was deleted or not there. So I never got to verify exactly how I was mocked by a current Reparations Task Force member. So there is some code -- some kind of decorum that does need to be met with this group. You need the Chair of that task force to be able to implement it, to stop it. On that July 9th meeting, it was residents from Johns Creek that were down there to present work on a slave cemetery that they've worked for three decades on to preserve. And how they were treated was appalling, and that, I'm talking about how they were treated by the board, by representatives of Fulton County. So there is something we need to reel in, I don't know what the proper solution is. I just advocate probably for the online meetings for now. Thank you."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else, sir, for Ms. Corbitt regarding reparations? All right, next item."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "One, two, three, four."

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, that item that was voted on and did not pass at the last meeting."

CLERK GRIER: "You want to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "This automatically comes back. And we're just --"

CLERK GRIER: "Was it an action item?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, it was. We took it -- it was --"

CLERK GRIER: "It was a vote taken, yes, sir. But it was a discussion item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There was a -- let me preside. There was a vote taken. It did not pass. Since it did not pass, it comes back at the next meeting. This is the following meeting. This was the item that -- that -- to pay the out -- two outstanding invoices that the Sheriff had requested. So we can take it up today, or you can hold it until October the 2nd. But it's before us. What?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Hold it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's be clear, though. It is before us. The recommendation of three members is that it be held until the October 2nd meeting, need that -- needs to be on the agenda with that bunch of stuff for the Sheriff. And regarding the public comments, we've talked about that before. The public can say pretty much anything they want to say at a meeting. There's few exceptions to what they cannot say about us, and we do not respond. So if you're up here, you got to put on your big-boy pants and take it. So we'll discuss that as well. But go ahead, you're about to say something."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: Well, I thought you wanted to discuss it now."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Well, you can. I mean, is that -- I forget which one of those amendments that it is. But we cannot restrict."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There's nothing before us to vote on. If y'all need to leave, go ahead. The meeting has not been adjourned. If y'all going to let me preside, y'all want to preside? Thank you."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "And we've discussed before, as a general rule, under First Amendment, and also when you factor in that all of you are elected officials,

and therefore having placed yourselves into the public for public service, unfortunately, one of the downsides of that is that there is a heightened standard for what is beyond the pale, for what people can say about you related to your public service."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, yes. But there are counties that have stronger public comment policies than we do. I get that enforcement is always going to be a challenge. However, it is that we do restrict it now. We don't allow cursing. We limit the amount of time. It's not a free for all. And so it is possible for us to add more to our public comment policy, to say, you know, that personal attacks, derogatory statements, whatever -- whatever the legal terms are, are, you know, not allowed. Now, again, enforcement becomes the challenge, but we -- we certainly could make the policy."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes. As you mentioned, there is precedent in our current policy for some amount of restriction. And the type of forum that you have provided for public comment also allows for certain restrictions. For example, the two-minute time limit --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No signage --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- things -- but those all fall generally under the category of things that would keep order within the proceeding, as opposed to content restriction."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But again, we -- I have seen other county -- area counties that have more restrictive policies."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, let's --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I would agree with that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- let's do this. The decorum policy that I brought before us today, several of you, a couple of you are still here, you have issues with it. I held it to give you a chance to go through it from page, front to back. You can take all of October, all of November, all of December into next year, to come back. But it's up on y'all now to come back with something that -- that you can include, public comment, all of that is before us. So take your time and go through it. I had it before, so I think it's well written. I think it's -- it addresses the things that we've all say we're concerned about, but it wasn't acceptable to the majority, so I held it. Now, it's in y'all's court now. So we'll wait to hear."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "You can have a committee."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, I'm not on -- I've done my work. All right. Any other matters that come before us -- but that, that issue, the decorum policy, was held for the Board, individually and collectively, to review it, to discuss it, and bring something back to us at some point in the future, including my Deputy Chief of Staff. We are adjourned. Thank you."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.